

MONDAY 02ND JUNE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION.

Intervention by Vanuatu

Thank you Mr. Co Chairs,

The Government of Vanuatu takes this opportunity to show its appreciation to have the chance to attend the Standing Committee Meeting.

Mr. Co Chairs,

As stated by my colleague from Marshall Islands, Vanuatu hosted and co-chaired with Australia *Towards a Mine Free Pacific: Workforce to advance the aims of the Convention on the Prohibition of the use, Stockpiling, Production and transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on their Destruction* last May.

One of the main objective of the workshop was to promote the universalisation of the Convention within the Pacific. The Workshop was attended by Tonga, Samoa, Palau, Kiribati, Australia, new Zealand and Vanuatu. It was after the workshop that Palau acceded to the Convention.

The republic of Vanuatu is pleased to assist in the universalization process of the Convention within the Pacific with assistance from development partners like Australia and New Zealand and we take this opportunity to thanks them for their assistance.

Thank you Mr. Co chairs