

Mine Ban Convention  
Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Integration  
6 June 2008  
Statement by Norway

Thank you, Mr./Madam Co-Chair,

I would once again like to thank the current Co-Chairs of this Committee for the efforts they have made and for the way in which they have succeeded in engaging participating victim assistance experts in cooperation with the ISU. I would also like to commend those experts for the work you have all done in the parallel programme this week. As a former Co-Chair of this Committee, in 2005 when the questionnaire for victim assistance was developed, we are extremely pleased to see how the work has been taken forward and further developed. I am certain that the active inclusion and involvement of survivors themselves and of victim assistance experts has contributed to this. This involvement provides increased credibility to the Co-Chairs' work.

Today you have presented some of the outcome of your work, a suggested set of indicators to measure progress made within the field of victim assistance, based on the Nairobi Action Plan. You have suggested that the baseline from which progress could be measured is each State Party's initial response to the victim assistance questionnaire from 2005.

We would like to express our support for this approach, and underline the importance of looking ahead towards the Second Review Conference, as you are doing. Such a set of indicators will assist in determining the status and the progress of victim assistance in each State Party, and thus in developing even better – and SMARTer – objectives.

Thank you.