

**Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
Standing Committee on the General Status
and Operation of the Convention**

**Intervention by the Delegation of Thailand
Evaluation of the Implementation Support Unit**

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21 June 2010

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Co-chairs,

First, I wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the President of the Second Review Conference – Ambassador Susan Eckey and the Director of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, Ambassador Stephan Husy for organizing the meeting of the Standing Committees and for their statements earlier.

We commend Ambassador Eckey for her leadership and hard work in maintaining the momentum following the Second Review Conference. This week will be a good opportunity to take the first stock of progress made and challenges ahead in implementing the Cartagena Action Plan.

We would like to thank Co-chairs for your introduction to the work of the Committee and Ambassador Eckey for both the update on the pursuit of the Cartagena Action Plan and the preliminary report on the evaluation of the ISU.

Co-chairs,

We commend the President's efforts in following up on the decision in Cartagena to establish the task force with a mandate to develop terms of reference for an evaluation of the ISU. After a few meetings and with the preliminary report the President just presented, we see that the task force is making significant progress.

In general, Thailand appreciates the work performed by the ISU in helping affected States to fulfill their obligations under the Convention. For Thailand, we have benefited from the ISU support especially in mine clearance and victim assistance areas. We applaud their work and are supportive of strengthening the ISU in every way we can.

We welcome the preliminary report and wish to thank Ambassador Tim Caughley for his hard work. We wish to offer a few comments.

First, we emphasize that the evaluation process of the ISU should be inclusive, balanced, comprehensive, and transparent. The evaluation should also take the views of all stakeholders into account.

In this regard, in order to thoroughly evaluate the tasks and responsibilities of the ISU, we encourage Ambassador Caughley to take advantage of the presence of experts during this week, especially from the affected States, in order to hear their views of the ISU. The views of the experts, will offer a perspective from the grounds which will be essential for framing the recommendations in the final report.

The Thai delegation looks forward to the opportunity to share our views with Ambassador Caughley later this week. We urge other delegations to take the same advantage as well.

Second, we request that the final report include a list of stakeholders interviewed during the preparation of this report in order to enhance its credibility and transparency.

Third, the final report should take into account the types of services the States Parties would like to receive from the ISU in their attempt to make progress under the Cartagena Action Plan and beyond. In other words, the revision of the mandate of the ISU, if any, should be demand-driven by the States Parties, especially the affected States.

Fourth, given the evolving nature of the operation of the Convention, reprioritization of the tasks and responsibilities may be necessary. For example, the demand by States Parties may be reduced over the years for assistance on stockpile destruction and may increase for mine clearance in order to meet either the original or the extended deadlines. At the same time, how will the ISU be able to respond to the rising demand for cooperation and assistance?

Co-chairs,

In closing, the Thai delegation looks forward to contributing further to the task force in completing the final phase of the evaluation.

Thank you.

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