Statement by Norway on Article 2 Geneva, 31 May 2002

We would like to point out that the definition in article 2 of an anti-personnel mine specifies that mines designed to explode by the presence of vehicles and not persons, and that are equipped with anti-handling devices, are not considered AP mines as a result of being so equipped. This creates, as we see it, a clear distinction between AVM and APM.

The purpose of the Ottawa process and the objective of the negotiations of the Mine Ban Convention in Oslo were to end the human suffering caused by anti-personnel mines. This is why the definition of an AP mine in the Mine Ban Convention was deliberately drafted to cover the humanitarian impact. We would like to add our voice to those have said that we must focus on this as our crucial goal.