



ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION TENTH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT UNIT

Statement by Australia

Statement delivered by HR Mr Peter Woolcott, Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Geneva

3 December 2010

Australia thanks Norway and in particular Ambassador Susan Eckey, for the hard work putting together the report of the Task Force on the review of the Implementation Support Unit. We would particularly like to thank Norway for the transparent, inclusive and comprehensive way in which they led the review. We consider that the final report contains a number of recommendations that will do much to make the Implementation Support Unit even more effective in its work.

We appreciate the comprehensive evaluation of the Implementation Support Unit undertaken by Mr Tim Caughley. His report was extremely helpful in that it provided a clear picture of the work of the Implementation Support Unit and in laying out options to be considered by States Parties.

Mr President

Australia supports the recommendations on the report related to the Implementation Support Unit for the Convention, including asking the President to establish an open ended working group to elaborate a new model of financing for the ISU. We have all dedicated significant time and resources to this review and we call on all States Parties to endorse the report, so that we can move further forward with our implementation of the Convention.

Australia also supports the draft decision on this item. We appreciate the President's efforts to provide clarification, however, we consider the decision is sufficiently clear. In our view the President's statement does not imply that the agreement of all states is required in order to progress our work next year on the ISU.

Australia is grateful to the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining for its excellent support to the Convention. We particularly appreciate the very high quality and professional support provided by the Implementation Support Unit to States Parties and we look forward to this support continuing in the future.