

**Statement by
Representative of the Republic of Indonesia**

**At the 12th Meeting of States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
On General Exchange of Views**

Geneva, Switzerland, 3 December 2012

Mr. President,

Allow me first of all, to express our congratulations to you, Mr. President, upon your election as the President of the Twelfth Meeting of States Parties to Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. I am confident that under your able leadership, this meeting will strive to achieve its noble objectives and expectations. My congratulations also goes to the other members of the Bureau.

Allow me also at this opportunity to express our highly appreciation to H.E. Prak Sokhonn as the President of the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties, for his commendable endeavour, commitment and efforts in advancing the Convention.

Mr. President,

Throughout the year 2012, we have seen progress in the implementation of the Convention. There is an increasing number of States joining the Convention. A number of 155 States no longer hold stocks of anti-personnel mines. There are 20 States Parties that have completed implementation of their mine clearance obligations, out of the 56 States Parties that have reported mined areas.

This is an encouraging sign of progress. Yet, we must not neglect the fact that many States Parties still face persistent challenges in translating increased understanding on victim assistance into tangible improvements in the quality of daily life of mine victims.

We have witnessed that the anti-personnel mines mostly affect civilians in the developing countries, which at the same time also face competing priorities in their development needs. Therefore international cooperation is imperative in achieving the aims of the Convention including especially in providing assistance to victims, survivors and their families.

During the 21st ASEAN Summit which was held recently in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, ASEAN countries decided to establish ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) to be based in Cambodia. This demonstrates that countries in the Southeast Asia region share the grave concern of the impact of the use of anti-personnel mines, and the importance of international cooperation at regional and global level-in addressing the problem and impact of landmines.

Mr. President,

Indonesia was one among the first signatory states to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. Indonesia has not produced or used anti-personnel mines and has destroyed the last of its 14,127 stockpiled antipersonnel mines on 13 November 2008 and on 15 December 2009. We still retain 2,454 mines for training purposes.

In concluding, it is our hope that our deliberation in this Twelfth Meeting of States Parties will lead to a more strengthened commitment in the implementation of the Convention by enhancing cooperation and partnership. Indonesia is of the view that universal acceptance and implementation of the Convention will pave a clear path to achieving the ultimate goal of a world free from mines.

Thank you, Mr. President.
