



United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action

12th Meeting of States Parties to the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Convention

Statement on Transparency and the exchange of information

Agenda item 10 (g)

Geneva, 7 December 2012

**Delivered by Ms. Agnès Marcaillou, Director, UNMAS
on behalf of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group for Mine Action (IACG-MA)**

I deliver the following statement on behalf of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group for Mine Action (IACG-MA), comprising the 14 United Nations Departments, Agencies, Funds, and Programmes involved in mine action.

The United Nations would like to reiterate that the preparation and submission of Article 7 transparency reports is not only an important obligation in the Convention, but also a way through which States Parties communicate the challenges they are facing in implementing key articles of the Convention. We encourage all States Parties to submit detailed and well-substantiated reports in a timely manner.

The United Nations continues to assist States Parties to fulfill their responsibility to report under Article 7, especially in the identification of all areas under their jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be placed and on the reporting of progress in destroying antipersonnel mines in mined areas. The United Nations remains available to assist, as required.

The UN also acknowledges the fact that a number of non-States Parties have submitted transparency reports. In addition, just six-months after its establishment this year the Palestinian Mine Action Center, again with UN support, has prepared and submitted a transparency report, now available in the UN Article 7 database.

Finally, the UN would like to thank Belgium for its leadership in moving forward the issue of Article 7 transparency reporting and effective implementation.

Thank you.