



**PERMANENT MISSION OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA**

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14th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES

**"Convention on the prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, production and Transfer of
Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction"**

(30 November – 4 December)

Mr. President,

Slovenia aligns itself with the EU statement and would like to make some additional remarks in our national capacity:

The Convention is definitely a success story in the area of international instruments of disarmament and humanitarian law. A comprehensive ban on anti-personnel mines has become a global standard, reaching beyond the commitments of States Parties.

However, there are still challenges ahead of us. That is why we have to pursue with determination our ultimate goal - the world free of anti-personnel mines. One of the remaining challenges is universalisation. In fact, except the UN Charter, there are not many international legal instruments being universally accepted. This is not unusual, since not all international legal instruments are interesting for all states in the world. However, the case of the Convention is indeed specific: the ultimate goal of our Convention is complete elimination of anti-personnel mines. This goal cannot be achieved without universalisation of the Convention. For this reason, universalisation remains crucially important challenge of the States Parties of our Convention, which in our view, needs to be addressed more comprehensively.

Slovenia has always attached great importance to victim assistance. For us, victim assistance always represented true embodiment of the spirit of the Convention.

We would also like to stress the importance of promoting cooperation and synergies with other international instruments, such as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Slovenia has always been a part of these endeavours. As a staunch supporter of the concept of human security and member of the Human Security Network, in 1998 Slovenia established the ITF Enhancing Human Security, designed to solving humanitarian crises caused by anti-personnel mines and other unexploded remnants of war in our neighbouring region of South-

Eastern Europe. Outstanding results in the countries of South-Eastern Europe have encouraged further engagement and today the ITF is actively engaged in many other mine-affected regions and countries in the world.

Finally, Mr. President, let me assure you of our unwavering respect and support for the principles and commitments of the APLC.

Thank you.