

Statement on Transparency
16th Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty
20 December 2017



Thank you, Mr. President.

The 20th anniversary of the treaty offers a perfect opportunity to assess states' progress in implementing their obligations, and to identify remaining challenges and needs towards achieving a mine-free world. In this context, transparency reporting provides an indispensable tool to monitor compliance and effectiveness of the treaty.

However, to date, only half of the States Parties have submitted their annual reports providing information for 2016. This is similar to last year's level, and remains far too low.

Indeed a total of 84 States Parties have not submitted their annual report for 2016. Most of them have not submitted reports in two years or more. As we celebrate this 20-year anniversary, let's bear in mind the importance of transparency reporting as an indicator of the health of our treaty and a powerful confidence-building measure.

Seven states with core treaty obligations have not yet submitted their annual transparency report. In order to finish the job by 2025, we need to receive regular and accurate information on the status of clearance and stockpile destruction programmes, as well as the measures taken to provide adequate assistance to mine victims. We urge states with stockpiles, contamination or victims to submit a report that includes any available data without any further delay.

Transparency reporting is an obligation for all States Parties, and it is useful for a wide range of actors of the mine action community, notably potential donors.

For states where there have been no changes in the past year on treaty implementation, the submission of a cover page is sufficient.

The ICBL, along with the ISU, UNMAS and other partners, stands ready to assist with the preparation and submission of your annual transparency reports.

Thank you.