

Statement of the Polish Delegation

*Madam President,*

At the outset let me thank the Presidency for its strong leadership with regard to the Convention. I assure Presidency of my Delegation's support and cooperation throughout this session.

We welcome Norway – host of the Oslo Conference to chair the Fourth Review conference and we wish to conclude it successfully.

Last year we celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the Ottawa Convention. We are very satisfied that the number of the States Parties to the convention raised to 164. We strongly encourage States not party to the Convention to consider ratifying or acceding to it as soon as possible.

*Madam President,*

We would like to take this opportunity to commend Ukraine for submitting the request for extension of deadline in accordance with article 5 of the Convention. We hope this would be welcomed by all States Parties.

The adoption of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention was a great achievement of international community. Poland has vastly contributed to the goals of the Convention by completing destruction of all its stocks of anti-personnel mines.

Having in mind suffering of all victims due to anti-personnel landmines we do not stop to work to decrease and help eliminate them. Poland has at its disposal training centers that offer demining programmes for military experts, which are also open to the international cooperation. Moreover we support the Convention annually through our financial contribution to Implementation Support Unit.

*I thank you, Madam President*