



# Foreign & Commonwealth Office

## **UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

### ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION: 17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF STATES PARTIES

UK Statement on the President's Report on the financial predictability and sustainability of UN assessed contributions, under agenda item 10a on Friday 30 November

Madam President,

I wish to thank the President for her Report on the financial predictability and sustainability of UN assessed contributions. The UK aligns itself with the statement of the European Union and offers some comments in a national capacity.

The report is a useful summary of the measures taken since the 15<sup>th</sup> MSP in 2016. The measures have reduced the meeting costs, increased the efficiency of UN managed meetings, and enhanced transparency of assessed contributions. It is regrettable that the failure by some States to pay their contributions necessitates such measures.

Like many States Parties, the UK is deeply concerned about the financial state of the Convention. The report tells us that 95% of the contributions are owed by eight States and sizeable arrears are due by five States. The UK underlines the absolute importance of states paying their financial contributions in a timely manner. We call upon all States Parties that have not yet paid or have arrears to address this promptly.

In particular, we want to avoid non-payment impeding a successful Fourth Review Conference in 2019.

The UK also maintains a keen interest in working with the President and other States Parties to improve financial stability. We note that measures were put in place at the 2016 and 2017 MSP, and some time is needed to examine if these measures will have a long-lasting impact on the financial status of the MSP. These measures should not be a long-term solution. We should carefully monitor the flow of contributions in the run up to the Fourth Review Conference and use that meeting to continue to address the underlying problem of arrears and non-payment.

I assure you of our continued support on this issue. Thank you.