

Statement on Transparency
17th Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty
26-30 November 2018



Thank you Madam President.

Dear delegates we kindly invite you to turn your attention to the back of the room where the ICBL delegation is sitting.

Speaking on behalf of all those who spend a significant amount of time going through Article 7 reports, we, the ICBL nerds, would like to present our manifesto on transparency.

Transparency is a treaty requirement, and, more concretely, transparency reporting is an essential and strong tool to measure the effective implementation of the treaty.

We rely mostly on *you*, the States Parties, to provide us with complete, accurate and the most up-to-date data on the landmine situation in your country. Without it, we would *not* be able to accurately monitor progress, challenges and needs.

We deplore that for 2017, 85 States Parties have not submitted their reports. Silence should not be an option. It is *your* responsibility as States Parties to keep us informed on the status of clearance and stockpile destruction programmes, progress in implementing victim assistance, and/or the provision of international cooperation and assistance.

We therefore call on all States Parties to submit a written report each year. If need be, assistance to complete your report can be provided by a range of actors present here in this room, including the ISU, UNMAS and NGOs.

We count on you to act, and to do better when it comes to transparency reporting. We need you!

As this is our last statement of the MSP we wish to bid farewell to Katy Donnelly, of New Zealand, whose assignment to Geneva is coming to an end. Katy, you are a pillar of the mine ban community, we wholeheartedly thank you for your personal commitment on disarmament issues, and we wish you all the best.

Thank you.