

18th MSP to the Convention on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines and on their destruction

Statement

Cooperation and assistance

Mister President,

Please allow us to thank Colombia, Germany, Turkey and the United Kingdom for having prepared the discussion on this agenda item. Cooperation and assistance, together with strong national ownership, are of utmost importance for the implementation and continued success of the Convention. Only joint and coordinated efforts between affected States, donor States, and international, regional and non-governmental organisations will lead us to a mine-free world without new victims.

In the framework of the Oslo Action Plan, we have committed ourselves to enhance cooperation to meet the Convention's obligations. We welcome the status of implementation of the Oslo Action Plan that has been issued. This document will be very useful in tracking progress year in year out, and it already provides us with information where efforts may be necessary:

- It is positive to observe that more than 50% of affected States Parties have made national financial commitments and that these contributions have been increasing;
- Monitoring of the Oslo Action Plan also underlines that more efforts could be invested in exploring alternative sources of financing and that more States could employ the Article 7 transparency reports to articulate their needs for assistance;
- Moreover, we invite affected States Parties to exploit the possibilities offered by the *Individualised Approach* and to set up national platforms promoting dialogue among national and international stakeholders. These measures allow for a better understanding of the needs on the ground and allocation of resources.

These priorities have also been identified by the Coordination Committee and are important to pursue to achieve the aims contained in the Oslo Action Plan.

To conclude, Mr. President, allow us to call among all donor States and organizations to maintain their engagement in the mine action sector despite the pressure on limited

resources and the many challenges and priorities we are confronted with. Humanitarian needs and protection challenges have become more acute following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. So, despite the remarkable resilience shown by the mine action sector, affected communities, survivors and persons with disabilities have become more vulnerable facing more difficulties than usual in accessing basic services and exercising their basic rights. This is only one example reminding us of the importance of remaining engaged in this sector and of leaving no one behind.

Thank you.