



UK Mission
Geneva

**ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION
18TH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES**

**AGENDA ITEM 9(C) COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE: CONCLUSIONS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO THE MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE ON
THE ENHANCEMENT OF COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE**

STATEMENT BY THE UNITED KINGDOM

H.E Ambassador Liddle
Geneva, 16-20 November 2020

Mr President,

The UK was one of the founding signatories of the Convention, and is one of the world's leading donors on mine action. We assist States to deliver the objectives of the Convention by supporting the clearance and destruction of anti-personnel landmines, the delivery of risk education, and provision of capacity development for national and provincial authorities.

Under the UK's current global mine action programme, since 2018, over 206 million square meters of land have been cleared and confirmed safe, and 2.2 million people have received risk education.

While the UK is now mine-free, our commitment to helping other States to clear their landmines continues. I am pleased to announce that this year the UK is investing a further £36m in our current global mine action programme. This funding allows our partners to continue their lifesaving work in fourteen of the most heavily mined countries in the world up to March 2021. We are currently considering funding options beyond March.

As well as continuing to invest in our global mine action programme, the UK is also contributing to work to strengthen our collective efforts to achieve the goals of the Convention. We support finding innovative sources of funding to supplement investment from traditional donors. This should include consideration of social impact bonds, variations of public-private partnerships and blended finance, and corporate social responsibility support.

The UK will be funding research to investigate and provide recommendations on these and other innovative financing options. We look forward to sharing the findings of this research when it is complete.

We are also exploring opportunities, including through the Mine Action Support Group, to align donor approaches to measuring the impact of mine action. This will enrich the evidence base underpinning our work, helping us to design more effective programmes that better support those most at risk from landmines.

The UK is proud to offer substantial assistance to support the Convention's goals and mine action globally. We encourage all States Parties to work together to tackle the scourge of land mines.

* * *