Clearing mined areas – Australia's Intervention Tuesday 19 September 2006

Thank you Madam President

It is clear that the fulfilment of Article 5 obligations is vital for achieving the Convention's humanitarian aims.

While primary responsibilities rest with mine-affected States, all States have a role.

Australia is continuing to play its part in this regard.

Over the past 12 months, Australia has allocated A\$6.4 million for mine clearance, including to A\$2 million to the UNDP's 'Clearing for Results' initiative in Cambodia.

This project has a focus on results and cost-efficiency. It dedicates funds to the integration of mine clearance with national and provincial development plans and programs, through a government-led process.

With mine clearance deadlines not too far away, Australia finds this kind of project, focussed on achieving results and cost-efficiency, particularly interesting.

Thank you