

STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA  
8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE MINE BAN CONVENTION  
On Agenda item 11 (a): Universalizing the Convention  
Dead Sea, 18-22 November 2007

Mr. Chairman,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

My delegation shares the happiness to see that more and more state join the Convention to bring dream into reality of having a mine-free world.

I would like to address the fact that Indonesia is the 6<sup>th</sup> member of the Association of South East Asian Nations, or ASEAN, that have ratified the Convention. At the time Indonesia ratified the Convention, 5 out of 10 member countries were already parties, namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand. After being a State party to the Convention, Indonesia is ready to play an active role to further universalize the Convention in the region and encourage those are still outside to join the family of anti-personnel mines.

In this regard, I wish to inform the Meeting that Indonesia, together with Australia and Canada will be hosting a regional workshop on Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction to be held at the beautiful island of Bali, Indonesia, in February 2008. The workshop will have a discussion on the implementation of the Convention in the region and invite the countries in the region to participate. The workshop is expected to further facilitate the universalizing of the Convention in the Asia-Pacific region.

In addition, Indonesia would like to emphasize that, despite the fact that Indonesia is a new State Party to the Convention, Indonesian military does have experiences in mine detection and clearance activities as it has been contributing to and participating in various missions of the United Nations Peace Keeping Operations.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman, let me say that Indonesia stands ready to work closely with other countries, international organizations, civil society, and the international community to contribute and play a role to universalize the Convention, particularly in the region.

I thank you.