

## IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT

### CO-CHAIRS' STATEMENT – KENYA

It was my pleasure to Co-Chair, along with Albrecht von Wittke of Germany, the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention.

During our term, in addition to other substantive areas covered by the Geneva Progress Report, we placed a heavy emphasis on ensuring that the implementation machinery of the Convention is in good working order.

In this regard, we were pleased to receive updates at our June meeting on the Implementation Support Unit, the Sponsorship Programme and the Coordinating Committee.

I can tell you that the Convention is well served by all three of these mechanisms.

I would like to express my appreciation for the manner in which His Royal Highness, Prince Mired, presided over the Coordinating Committee.

This was yet another one of the many contributions he made to our Convention in 2008.

I wish to also express my appreciation to the Sponsorship Programme Donors Group, and, in particular, its Coordinator, Mr. Guy Pollard of the United Kingdom.

My thanks also go to Susanne Rihys and her colleagues at the GICHD for administering this programme in an efficient manner.

Finally, I would like to thank those States Parties that have contributed to the Implementation Support Unit since we last met.

Friends: One of the important tasks that, by tradition, falls to the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention is propose a new list of Co-Rapporters.

In doing so in 2008, we tried to keep in mind principles that have become customary to the Convention – principle like ensuring a regional balance, a balance between States Parties in the process of implementing key provisions of the Convention and other States Parties, and a balance between the need for rotation and the need for continuity.

We are confident that the list we proposed, in the document we distributed on Monday, fulfills these principles.

I know Albrecht shares with me my appreciation for the excellent cooperation we received in undertaking the task of developing this proposal.