



**THE
UNITED
NATIONS
MINE ACTION**

**Statement of the United Nations Mine Action Team
to the 9th Meeting of States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty
(Geneva, 24-28 November 2008)**

Cooperation and assistance (Actions #40-50 of the Nairobi Action Plan)

Field programmes now input data on-line to the Portfolio of Mine Action projects and are able to monitor and update content throughout the year. The 2009 Portfolio will be launched this week and we are organizing a side event during this 9MSP (Tuesday, 1:00 to 2:00 pm in Room XI).

Contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action reached US\$ 93 million approximately in 2007. We appreciate this support from the donor community and encourage continued commitment.

As mentioned, and for the first time out of eleven meetings, the International Meeting of Mine Action Programme Directors and UN Advisors was this year convened, at least partially, in a mine-affected State Party: Croatia. Our annual meetings have proved to be a unique opportunity to exchange views and experiences among mine action field operators, and advancing the capacity of the United Nations to assist and cooperate in mine action. Once again we saw active participation from all parties among them, the Director of the ISU, Mr. Kerry Brinkert, who contributed by reminding us of the importance to continue using the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty as an effective framework for international assistance and cooperation for mine action.