

**Statement by Sweden 28 February 2017 at the Second International Pledging Conference for  
the Anti-Personnel Landmine Convention**

Mr President,

Allow me first to congratulate you on the important role as President of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and assure you of my delegation's full support for your important task this year.

We would also like to thank Austria for organizing this conference. We thought that last years pledging conference was very useful and expect similar result this year, providing impetus for states to commit themselves financially to the ISU and the implementation of the convention, as well as the principles of the convention.

We would also like to put on record our appreciation of the excellent service delivered to the convention and its member states by the Implementation Support Unit, a key actor, tasked with facilitating and overseeing the implementation of the convention and the Maputo Action Plan.

Mr President,

Due to national financial regulations I am neither able to make a multi-year commitment, nor, at this early time of the year, a formal commitment for funding to the ISU. However, Sweden has over the past few years been one of the major contributors to the ISU, providing at least 500 000 Swedish Kronor per year, corresponding to some 60-70 000 Swiss Francs depending on the exchange rate, all as core funding.

While we are currently unable to make a formal commitment, it is our firm intention to continue our voluntary contributions to the ISU. We expect to be able to take a decision later in the year on allocating a sum of up to 500 000 Swedish Kronor – at present approximately 60 000 Swiss Francs - to be used in 2017 for the running activities of the ISU.

Mr President,

We have also received the invoice from UNOG for conference costs for 2017 and it is currently being prepared for payment in Stockholm. We strongly call upon all states that have yet to pay in full their outstanding invoices from previous years, to carry out the payment without further delay. Their inaction damages the convention and the work we all seek to carry out to accomplish the goals of the convention.

Mr President,

With regard to other support for mine action, Sweden has contributed over 100 million EUR to mine action worldwide over the last decade. In mine affected countries, Sweden has also supported sustainable health care, infrastructure and personnel and to medical education, training and services, exceeding altogether 100 million EUR over a recent five-year period. Sweden is firmly committed to the principles of the convention, implementing our own obligations as well as providing substantial practical support to other states parties to do likewise. We expect to continue this until we have a world free of anti-personnel land mines. Thank you.