

Press Release The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

Special Envoy calls on Korea to join landmine ban

Seoul, Korea and Geneva, Switzerland, 15 April 2011 - HRH Prince Mired Raad Al Hussein of Jordan, Special Envoy of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, has concluded a mission to Seoul by calling upon the two Koreas to build confidence through the removal of anti-personnel mines.

"South and North Korea could show each other their intention for peace by removing landmines," said Prince Mired during a press conference following his visit to the Demilitarized Zone.

During his three-day trip to the Republic of Korea, Prince Mired and the Director of the Convention's Implementation Support Unit, Kerry Brinkert, met with senior officials and military officers.

This was Prince Mired's first visit in 2011 to a State that is not a party to the landmark Convention.

Since 2008, Prince Mired has visited several States that have not yet joined the Convention including Finland, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Poland, Singapore, and the United States of America.

At the Convention's 2009 Second Review Conference, it was recognised that there is a "dire need" for the type of high-level engagement led by Prince Mired in order to achieve further progress toward universal acceptance of the Convention, which seeks to eradicate the use of landmines and assist the survivors everywhere.

Background: A total of 156 States have ratified or have acceded to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. There remain 39 States that have not. The AP Mine Ban Convention is the prime humanitarian disarmament treaty.

###

For more information visit http://www.apminebanconvention.org/