Elements for the consideration of the Plan of Action for 2015 – 2019

President-Designate of the Third Review Conference

27 November 2013

1. The Convention and its Articles is the primary source for directing States Parties’ actions towards the aim of a mine-free world. Compliance with the Convention’s provisions is the most effective way towards that aim, although the challenges faced by a number of States Parties indicate a need for guidance in meeting these requirements in the most efficient and effective manner. The action plan should complement the Convention, by providing a set of actions that can facilitate States’ full and timely compliance.

2. The two previous action plans were highly detailed. While they have been important in identifying many obstacles and helped focus international discussions, the level of detail combined with a global scope may have led to plans that have been difficult to implement and monitor in an effective manner.

3. The new action plan should address the actual implementation challenges as they remain in 2014, with a particular focus on clearance, victim assistance, stockpile destruction and compliance with the ban.

4. Emphasis should, to the extent possible, be on articulating time-bound and specific objectives, while allowing for tailored and context-specific approaches at the national level.

5. The new action plan should be focused, concrete, and concise. It should spell-out a (non-exhaustive) road map, identifying the most important actions States should take to realise the vision of a mine-free world. The authors should seek to limit the number of action points, to, for example no more than 20, so as to ensure that the plan clearly articulates a prioritised set of actions.

6. The new action plan should only contain such actions that, if fulfilled, would make a real, measurable contribution towards addressing the landmine problem by the end of the action period. Actions not passing such a test should not be included.

7. In addition to guiding States in their efforts to implement the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, another objective of the new action plan should be the articulation of concrete commitments to which other stakeholders can hold States Parties accountable.

_____//______
I. Universalizing the Convention

All States Parties will:

1. Promote ratification of and accession to the Convention by States not Parties.

2. Promote adherence to the norms established by the Convention, and condemn and discourage in every possible way the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines by any actor.

II. Destroying Stockpiled Anti-Personnel Mines

States Parties that have missed their deadlines for completion of obligations under Article 4, and thus remain non-compliant with the Convention, will:

3. Comply, without delay, with Article 4, by destroying all stockpiles of anti-personnel mines.

4. Develop, announce and implement a plan to ensure compliance with Article 4 as soon as possible, and no later than by XXXX.

All States Parties yet to complete their obligations under Article 4 will:

5. Develop as soon as possible, and no later than by XXXX, the national policies, plans, legal frameworks, and destruction capacity necessary to comply with Article 4.

All States Parties will:

6. When previously unknown stockpiles are discovered after stockpile destruction deadlines have passed, report such discoveries in accordance with their obligations under Article 7, and destroy these anti-personnel mines as a matter of urgent priority.

III. Clearing Mined Areas

States Parties that have been granted an extension to their initial Article 5 deadlines will:

7. Complete implementation of Article 5 as soon as possible, and by no later than their extended deadlines.

States Parties that have reported mined areas under their jurisdiction or control will:

8. Identify, if they have not yet done so, the precise perimeters and locations, to the extent possible, of all areas under their jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or are suspected to be emplaced, report this information as required by Article 7, no later than by XXXX, and incorporate the information into national action plans and relevant broader development and reconstruction plans.
9. Facilitate access to all mined border areas where access may be difficult or contested, without prejudice to potential border delineation, to ensure that survey and clearance can proceed as soon as possible.

10. Retain, or develop, the procedures and capacities necessary to address residual contamination after reporting compliance with Article 5(1).

IV. Assisting the Victims

States Parties accountable to and responsible for the wellbeing of mine victims will:

11. Ensure the inclusion of and full and active participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in victim assistance related activities.

12. Develop and implement, as soon as possible, and no later than by XXXX, a comprehensive plan of action, with a corresponding budget, that addresses the human rights and needs of mine victims through objectives that are specific, achievable, relevant, time bound, and integrated into broader policy and legal frameworks.

13. Collect and make available, as soon as possible, and no later than by XXXX, all necessary data, disaggregated by sex and age, in order to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate adequate national policies, plans and legal frameworks.

V. International Cooperation and Assistance

States Parties with obligations to destroy stockpiled anti-personnel mines, identify and clear mined areas, and assist mine victims, will:

14. Without delay, and by no later than XXXX, develop or update national plans, map the national resources available to meet their obligations, and the needs for international cooperation and assistance.

States in a position to provide international cooperation and assistance will:

15. Promptly assist States Parties that have communicated needs for support, and base the assistance provided on the priorities for assistance articulated by mine-affected States Parties in their national plans.

16. Endeavour to continue supporting States Parties that have completed their Article 5 obligations in their efforts to establish institutions to address the humanitarian consequences resulting from explosive remnants of war contamination.

All States Parties will:

17. Develop and promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation, in sharing and effectively using national experiences and good practices, resources, technology and expertise to implement the Convention.

V. Compliance
18. All States Parties will, in case of alleged or known non-compliance, work together with the States Parties concerned to resolve the matter expeditiously in a manner consistent with Article 8(1)