



**INTERVENTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE DURING THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON
PROPOSED POST-THIRD REVIEW CONFERENCE MACHINERY AND
MEETINGS**

**Second Preparatory Meeting for the Third Review Conference of the
Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention**

Geneva, 10 April 2014

Thank you Mr. President-Designate.

Our delegation alligns itself with the statement made by EU and we wish to briefly highlight two points.

As an affected state, we strongly believe that States Parties must do all they can to ensure the convention is fully respected. We strongly support the idea to establish a committee on cooperative compliance. We think that the proposed committee strikes the right balance between taking known or alleged violations with the seriousness it deserves, and continuing the convention's well-known cooperative and transparent approach to problem solving.

We would also like to strongly support the proposal by Costa Rica and Austria to set up a committee on victim assistance, a committee which in our view, should absolutely include experts from the ICRC and ICBL. We feel strongly that there is important work to be done on VA in the context of this convention. We believe that such a committee could effectively support VA within each affected state in accordance with the Maputo Action Plan. The committee could also be a vehicle to advance discussions on VA among a broader group of participants and it could furthermore tackle questions on how best to integrate victim assistance into broader frameworks in a way that ensure that survivors truly benefit from them.

Last but not least, Mr. President-Designate, we thank you for the work you are doing in preparing us for the 3rd Review Conference in Maputo.

Thank you.

