



**3RD REVIEW CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE
PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-
PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

Maputo, 23 June 2014

Intervention on Universalization by Germany

Mr. President,

as Germany takes the floor for the first time, I would like to thank Mozambique and the ISU for the preparation of the Third Review Conference of the Mine Ban Convention and the valuable work carried out during the past months. Please let me ensure you of our full cooperation in your endeavour to lead this conference to a successful outcome. I would also like to express my gratitude to Belgium, the Coordinator of the Universalization Contact Group.

This Review Conference marks 15 years since the Convention's entry into force and since the First Meeting of States Parties in 1999, which was also held in Maputo. We have come a long way with currently 161 States Parties adhering to the principles of the Convention. We welcome the decision taken by the Sultanate of Oman to accede to the Convention as soon as possible, thus bringing the number of States Parties up to 162 in the near future.

The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction has been and will remain a land-

mark treaty in international humanitarian law. But we must step up our efforts to further promote its universalization.

Germany welcomes a systematic outreach-approach towards the remaining 36 states not yet parties to the Convention. However, past experiences have shown that some states that own, produce or even use anti-personnel mines are not willing to accede to the Convention any time soon because they cling to the view that the military utility of anti-personnel mines outweighs the devastating effects of those weapons on civilians. We need to convince those states to commit to at least some of the prohibitions of Article 1 Clause 1 of the Convention such as discontinuing the production of anti-personnel mines, stopping the export of anti-personnel mines and being transparent about their stocks.

Thank you, Mr. President.