Memo for Governments on the Mine Ban Treaty Intersessional Meetings Geneva, Switzerland, 19-20 May 2015



What is the Intersessional Meeting about?

The Intersessional Meeting provides an opportunity for the thematic Committees created at the Maputo Review Conference (June 2014) to share their preliminary observations on progress made by specific states implementing landmine clearance, victim assistance, and stockpile destruction activities. Committees will also share their observations and recommendations on matters of compliance, as well as cooperation and assistance. This year, a one hour and half session is allocated for thematic panel to discuss achieving completion: A Mine-Free World by 2025: The Last Stretch.

The meetings also provide a platform for informal discussion on challenges, plans and requirements for assistance and cooperation to achieve the objectives of the treaty.

The meeting is open to States Parties, states not party, relevant international organizations and non-governmental organizations.

The meetings will take place on 19 May from 10:00 to 13:00 and from 15:00 to 18:00 and 20 May from 10:00 to 13:30 and from 15:00 to 18:00 at the World Meteorological Organization's building in Geneva, Switzerland.

What are states expected to do at the Intersessional Meetings?

- 1. States are expected to condemn any new use of antipersonnel mines, and to highlight that the use of landmines is unacceptable under any circumstances;
- 2. States Parties should be prepared to discuss progress made over the last year to implement the Mine Ban Treaty and the <u>Maputo Action Plan</u>, as well as plans and challenges for the completion of treaty obligations;
- 3. States not party to the treaty are expected to report on steps that have taken to join the treaty;
- 4. States should also contribute to any other agenda item where they have expertise, questions, or observations to share.

How can governments register, prepare for and participate in the Intersessional Meetings?

Information related to invitation, registration and agenda are available on the Mine Ban Treaty's website: http://www.apminebanconvention.org/intersessional-work-programme/may-2016/

For any questions related to the meetings please contact the treaty's Implementation Support Unit at isu@apminebanconvention.org