

Geneva, 16 December 2002

To: The Permanent Missions in Geneva of
the States Parties to the Convention on
the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling,
Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel
Mines and on Their Destruction

Interested non-governmental and international
organizations

From: Permanent Mission of Canada

Re: Dialogue on means to facilitate the clarification of concerns about compliance

In their 2001-2002 Final Report of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, the Co-Chairs recalled the work that Canada had been requested to undertake with interested parties on a dialogue on means to facilitate the clarification of concerns about compliance and on the operationalization of Article 8. In addition, the Co-Chairs recommended that this dialogue continue in an open-ended format with Canada continuing in its role in facilitating this dialogue.

In this context, Canada would be pleased to invite all States Parties and interested organizations to an informal discussion at which the non-governmental organization VERTIC will present and answer questions related to its *Guide to Fact-Finding Missions Under The Ottawa Convention*.^{*} This informal discussion will take place as follows:

Friday 31 January 2003

15:00 to 16:30

**Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
3rd Floor, WMO/OMM Building, Avenue de la Paix 7bis**

Please indicate your intention to attend by contacting Ms. Véronique Movilla by email at v.movilla@gichd.ch. Please contact Ms. Emmanuelle Lamoureux of the Permanent Mission of Canada (emmanuelle.lamoureux@dfait-maeci.gc.ca) should you have any questions about this informal discussion or if you would like to propose future topics to be discussed in the context of this ongoing informal dialogue.

^{*} A draft of this guide was provided by VERTIC at the Fourth Meeting of the States Parties. It can be found on the Internet at: http://www.gichd.ch/pdf/mbc/4msp/Update_day3_docs/4MSP_VERTIC_Guide_180902.pdf.