

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

*DRAFT 11 November 09 1:20 p.m.*

**THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

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**VIDEO MESSAGE TO SECOND REVIEW CONFERENCE  
OF THE ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION  
Cartagena, 30 November 2009 (to be recorded on 24 November)**

[Salutations]

The Mine Ban Convention has achieved extraordinary results.

Its influence has spread worldwide. There is now no recorded trade in landmines.

The use of landmines has been reduced drastically. Vast areas of land have been cleared.

De-mined land can be used for farming.

De-mined roads are safe for local transport, for peacekeepers, and for humanitarian aid.

The Convention has changed the lives of villagers, schoolchildren, peacekeepers and traders. It has contributed to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Thanks to the Convention, our ultimate goal of a mine-free world is now a realistic possibility.

I congratulate all who have made this progress possible.

And yet, of course, there is more to do. Much more.

We need to clear more land, and destroy remaining stockpiles.

We need more funding.

And we need all countries to sign and implement the Convention.

The United Nations will support all these aims.

I look forward to the adoption of the Cartagena Action Plan.

And I wish you every success in your efforts to end, forever, the suffering caused by landmines.

Thank you.