

Mine Ban Convention – Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, 25 June 2010

Norwegian statement on compliance

Check against delivery

Thank you.

In the Cartagena Declaration, we agreed that “Compliance makes a difference”. The Mine Ban Convention itself provides us not only with the final end results that we have agreed to reach, but also with the tools to achieve those results. When all States Parties comply with all of the Convention’s obligations, we will reach our ultimate aim – to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines.

The Mine Ban Convention is a legal international instrument. Its provisions contain individual legal obligations for each State Party, and each State Party must take national responsibility for complying with the Convention.

However, the state of non-compliance of individual States Parties – and even allegations of violations of the Convention – have implications for all States Parties – and for the state of the Convention. We must therefore address such situations in comprehensive ways, together. We must consult and cooperate on the implementation of the Convention, and work together in a spirit of cooperation to facilitate compliance – to quote from the Convention’s Article 8, paragraph 1.

By complying with obligations to support States Parties with expressed needs for assistance in order to comply with their individual obligations – we will achieve concrete results. We will prevent new victims through compliance with the obligation to destroy stocks and with the obligation to clear all mined areas as soon as possible, and we will ensure that victims and survivors can enjoy all human rights and fundamental freedoms through compliance with our commitment to provide victim assistance.

Compliance does make a difference.

Thank you.