

REFERENCE:

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Representatives of Member States and Non-Member States to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (APLC), which entered into force on 1 March 1999.

Article 11(1) of the Convention states that the “States Parties shall meet regularly in order to consider any matter with regard to the application or implementation of this Convention [...]”. The Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention (Maputo, 23 to 27 June 2014) agreed that, beginning in 2015, a Meeting of the States Parties will be convened each year at the end of November or beginning of December until the end of 2018.

Pursuant to Article 11(1) and the decision taken by the Third Review Conference, the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention (Vienna, 18 to 21 December 2017) agreed to hold the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties in Geneva, during the week of 26 to 30 November 2018.

Furthermore, the General Assembly, in paragraph 10 of its resolution 72/53 of 4 December 2017, requested the Secretary-General “in accordance with Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention and, on behalf of the States parties and in accordance with Article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations, to attend the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties as observers”.

In accordance with these provisions, the Secretary-General has the honour to convene the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention to be held during the week of 26 to 30 November 2018 in Geneva.

The Secretary-General also has the honour, on behalf of the States Parties, to invite the States not parties to the Convention, as well as the relevant international organizations or institutions and non-governmental organizations to participate in the Meeting as observers.

The Secretary-General takes this opportunity to recall that Article 14, paragraph 1, of the Convention provides, inter alia, as follows:

“The costs of the Meetings of the States Parties shall be borne by the States Parties and States not parties to this Convention participating therein, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately”.

The composition of delegations to the Seventeenth Meeting should be submitted by **Friday, 16 November 2018**, to the Executive Secretary of the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, at the following address:

APLC Secretariat
Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties
United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch)
Palais des Nations, office C-113.1
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Fax: 41 (0) 22 917 00 34
E-mail: aplc@unog.ch
Website: <http://www.unog.ch/aplc>

Further information on the arrangements for the Meeting will be communicated to Permanent Missions and to Permanent Observer Missions by the Secretariat in due course.

The Secretary-General avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Representatives of Member States and Non-Member States to the United Nations the assurances of his highest consideration.

25 January 2018