

# Fact Sheet



## The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the 11MSP\*

### The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention:

- The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (AP Mine Ban Convention) is the short reference to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, also known as the Ottawa Convention or Mine Ban Treaty.
- The Convention is the international community's comprehensive response to the humanitarian problems caused by anti-personnel mines, weapons that are indiscriminate and that last for decades after conflicts have ended.
- The Convention was adopted in Oslo on 18 September 1997 and opened for signature in Ottawa on 3 and 4 December 1997 at a ceremony that featured the participation of dozens of world leaders. The Convention entered into force on 1 March 1999.
- The purpose of the Convention is "to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel (AP) mines" through the pursuit of four core aims:
  - Universal acceptance of a ban on AP mines
  - Destruction of stockpiled AP mines
  - Clearance of mined areas
  - Assistance to mine victims
- For their determination in calling for the Convention, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines including the Cambodia Campaign to Ban Landmines, and its coordinator Jody WILLIAMS were awarded the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize.
- The Cambodian Campaign to Ban Landmines was present during the 1997 Nobel Award ceremony represented by Sister Denise Coghlan, landmine survivors SONG Kosal, TUN Channareth and other campaigners.

### The Eleventh Meeting of the States Parties (11MSP):

- The 11MSP will be the first time Cambodia hosts and presides over a Meeting of the States Parties. The 11MSP will take place in the International Conference Center, Peace Palace, in Phnom Penh from 27 November to 2 December 2011.
- The 11MSP is a formal, diplomatic meeting of the 156 States which have accepted the Convention. They include most of the States that at one time used, stockpiled, produced or

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transferred AP mines and the vast majority of States that are or have been affected by AP mines. Several States that are not part of the Convention are expected to attend as Observers.

- The 11MSP is particularly significant because the Convention is returning to a place where it all started two decades ago. As such, it is an opportunity for the international community to recall how far the world has come in pursuing a comprehensive end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines.
- The 11MSP is a springboard to further action and an opportunity to state that the commitment to this cause will not end until the task is complete.
- Over 1,000 diplomats representing over 100 States and delegates from dozens of international and non-governmental organisations are expected to attend.
- It is expected that South East Asian countries will be represented at a high political level.
- This is the second time a Meeting of the States Parties has taken place in South East Asia. In 2003, Thailand hosted the Fifth Meeting of the States Parties.

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Connect with the Convention through our Website: <http://www.apminebanconvention.org>, [Facebook](#), [Flickr](#) or [Twitter](#). Find out about mine clearance, mine risk education, survivor assistance, and related mine action activities in Cambodia, through the Cambodia Mine Action Authority website: <http://www.cmaa.gov.kh/>.

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\* As of 28 September 2011.