



Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer
of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE OF THE FIRST REVIEW CONFERENCE

THE NAIROBI SUMMIT ON A MINE-FREE WORLD

BACKGROUND

- According to the Convention, a **Review Conference** shall be convened five years after the entry into force of this international treaty. The Convention entered into force on 1 March 1999, implying that a Review Conference would be held in **2004**.
- In September 2003, the Convention's States Parties agreed to hold the First Review Conference in **Nairobi** from 29 November to 3 December 2004. In addition, the States Parties designated Ambassador Wolfgang Petritsch, Austria's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva, as **President** of the Convention's First Review Conference and urged participation in the conference at the highest possible level.
- This First Review Conference is being referred to as the ***Nairobi Summit on a Mine Free World***, given the location of the event and the fact that the event will mark the most significant gathering of world leaders to discuss the global landmine problem since the historic December 1997 Convention signing ceremony in Ottawa.
- The ***Nairobi Summit on a Mine Free World*** is significant because it marks the midway point between the Convention's entry-into-force and the date when the first States that accepted the Convention will be required to have cleared their mined areas.
- At the ***Nairobi Summit on a Mine Free World*** leaders will assess the **enormous progress** made in ridding the world of anti-personnel mines since the Convention was established. In addition, they are expected to adopt a powerful declaration and action programme recommitting themselves to overcome the challenges that remain.

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