

**MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO
THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION
OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION
AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL
MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

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ENGLISH ONLY

Seventh Meeting

Geneva, 18 – 22 September 2006

Item 11 (d) of the agenda

**Consideration of the general status
and operation of the Convention:
Universalizing the Convention**

**AN ACTION PLAN TO UNIVERSALISE AND IMPLEMENT THE
MINE BAN CONVENTION**

Presented by the President

1. Universalising the Mine Ban Convention is a core aim of the States Parties. With 151 states parties to the Convention, we have made significant progress towards our goal. But intensified efforts are needed to ensure that the humanitarian and disarmament goals of the Convention are fully realised. States Parties recommitted themselves to take action on universalisation at the First Review Conference, through the Nairobi Action Plan, and did so again at the Sixth Meeting of States Parties in Zagreb. As President-Designate of the Seventh Meeting of States Parties, Australia recognises the role it can play to promote universalisation of the Convention. During its Presidency, Australia, in cooperation with other states parties and international and non-government organisations, will:

- (i) Call on states that have not acceded to the Convention to do so without delay.
- (ii) Encourage three remaining signatory states, Indonesia, Poland and Marshall Islands, to ratify the Convention as soon as possible, including through visits by Australia's Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Special Representative for Mine Action.
- (iii) Undertake universalisation outreach in regions, including the Asia-Pacific, where the level of acceptance with the Convention remains low.
- (iv) Promote adherence to the Convention in relevant multilateral fora, e.g. the UN General Assembly, assemblies of regional organisations and disarmament bodies, including at the political level.
- (v) Seize opportunities to promote the Convention in bilateral contacts and help to identify and address the obstacles to ratification.

- (vi) Encourage and support the universalisation efforts of other states parties, international and regional organisations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and other non-government organisations.
 - (vii) Continue to support the promotion of universal observance of the Convention's norms.
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