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United Nations Mine Action Service

Thirteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions

Statement under agenda item 10 (f) - International Cooperation and Assistance

Geneva, 18 September 2025

Delivered by UNMAS

Mr. President,¹ Excellencies,

As the Director of the Service which coordinates mine action in the UN system, I would like to thank our partners: United Nations entities, national and international mine action NGOs, the national mine action authorities, and the Member States that have contributed to the UN Voluntary Trust Fund (UN VTF) for mine action, helping UNMAS and the UN to conduct its crucial work.

I also would like to thank the entities and donors that have ensured that mine action is built into and implemented as part of humanitarian and development efforts for which it is a precursor. In 2024, 20 countries contributed over US\$ 40 million to the UN VTF allowing the return of productive land in communities in 13 countries². Unfortunately, as conflicts proliferate and as mine action needs continue to increase, more funding is required to support and facilitate the delivery of the UN's mine action mandate and to secure the future of hundreds of millions of people in secure, productive settings, free from the risk of explosive ordnance and its remnants.

¹ Ambassador Carlos D. Sorreta, Permanent Representative of the Philippines.

² UNMAS 2024 Annual Report.



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We thank Switzerland for hosting the 28th International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors and United Nations Advisers which took place from 9 - 11 April 2025 in Geneva. The event strengthened cooperation among mine action national directors, UN, NGOs, donors and commercial operators.

As I hope has been evident from the Statements in previous sessions, the UN remains committed to supporting national authorities to eliminate the physical, psychological, economic, human rights and social costs of explosive ordnance.

As the UN moves through its own period of reform and re-organization under the Secretary-General's UN 80 process, we look forward to working with your governments to ensure a coherent, effective, supportive and well-resourced UN mine action structure that is able to contribute to global peace and security, human rights, humanitarian and development progress.

Thank you.

END