Lusaka Progress Report

Thank you, chair.

As I mentioned at the opening yesterday, the statements made during this meeting will constitute an important source of information in the preparation of the Lusaka Progress Report.

The Lusaka Progress Report is intended to be a short, fact-based summary of progress made by States Parties implementing various operative commitments of the Convention, operationalized in the Vientiane Action Plan. It will take stock on where the Convention stands towards the end of the third presidency and capture the progress made in the period between the third and fourth Meeting of States Parties. The Progress Report will also reflect input from civil society, the UN and the ICRC. The annual transparency reports are a second major source of important information for the drafting. In line with past practice this Report will not be a negotiated document, but a document that is the responsibility of the Presidency. This does not prevent us from listen to the views of all States Parties in the process of its drafting, and to discuss the Report with the members of the Coordination Committee.

We will make one small change in the Report this year as compared to the Oslo Progress Report, namely that we will use the date of the entry into force of the Convention (1 August 2010) as the benchmark for measuring progress, instead of the last Meeting of States Parties. This has, as we see it, at least two advantages. Firstly, it enables us to see more clearly the full impact of the Convention in the longer run, as the Report will lay out what has been done under the various thematic areas during the lifetime of the Convention. Secondly, we think this way of organising the document and the data makes it easier to review and update the Report from year to year, thus making future Progress Reports easier to draft. The Report will however have the same setup as the earlier reports, going through implementation progress of the various chapters of the Vientiane Action Plan, as well as outlining remaining challenges and potential questions for discussion at the 4MSP.

Thank you