

CCM 8MSP

Statement by Sweden

Agenda item 9 (e) International cooperation and assistance

Mr President,

Gender issues are high on the agenda of my government. Sweden seeks to promote equal opportunities for the representation of women in all decision-making processes with regard to matters related to disarmament. In the context of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, gender is an important aspect not least for development cooperation including for mine action. Sweden pursues an active and ambitious feminist policy with a focus on rights, resources and representation. Our goal should be to link our work in mine action to the broad agenda of women, peace and security and UNSC resolution 1325. It should also be noted that increased universalization and full implementation of the convention, especially relating to activities on international cooperation and assistance, will be positive contributions to achieve Agenda 2030 and its sustainable development goals.

All in all, Sweden has contributed over 100 million EUR to mine action worldwide over the last decade. In later years our support has for example funded efforts in Iraq and several other countries through the Danish Demining Group and MAG and the Norwegian People's Aid on demining in Cambodia with special focus on cluster munitions which led on to successful pilot projects in Lao PDR and Vietnam.

Our support is administered mainly by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and is directed towards mine action in its wider sense - to clear all Explosive Remnants of War, including cluster munitions.

Sweden also decided on a voluntary contribution to the Convention's ISU of 600 000 kronor, approximately 61 000 Swiss Francs, including and above our mandatory contribution.

Thank you, Mr President.