

STATEMENT BY THE NETHERLANDS

MASG MEETING, 9 OCTOBER 2015

*The Netherlands aims to contribute to a world free from the threat of Landmines, Cluster Munitions and other Explosive Remnants of War by an un-earmarked contribution to the VTF of UNMAS for global Mine Action coordination and secondly through direct funding of NGO Partners MAG, Handicap International, The Halo Trust and Danish Church Aid.*

*The Netherlands is currently evaluating the Dutch multiyear programme Mine Action and Cluster Munitions Programme 2012-2016 of EUR 45 million and looking at continuing with a new four year programme, starting mid-2016.*

*The evaluation (which has not been completed yet) indicates some important points. There are some preliminary findings I would like to share with you today.*

*Providing NGO's with predictable, four-year funding allowed to make more efficient use of resources that resulted in greater impact with less input, saving time and money and provide better job security for staff.*

*The four year funding created opportunities to work on innovative approaches and improving internal processes, forge new relations and plan post-impact assessments.*

*Four year funding provides flexibility to deal with changing situations in unexpected circumstances. And the secure funding allowed NGO's to attract additional funds.*

*The Netherlands will use the best practices and learned lessons for the new Mine Action and Cluster Munitions Programme and is open to share these with other interested donors and actors.*