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United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action
**Fifth Review Conference of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling,
Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction**

Siem-Reap, Cambodia

Statement under agenda item 8 (a) Universalization

[delivered by Mr. Joseph Scheuer on Tuesday, 26 November]

Mr. President¹,

This statement is delivered on behalf of the United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action (IACG-MA)².

It is a pleasure to see First Vice President of the Cambodia Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority, Ly Thuch preside over the Fifth Review Conference. We thank you very much for your hospitality, your personal commitment to the Convention, and all the work that went into organizing the Summit and preparing the documents that will hopefully be adopted.

We are disappointed that no new states have adhered since 2017 despite efforts by the Presidents and States Parties to universalize the Convention.

The Siem Reap Angkor political declaration provides an excellent opportunity for the 164 States Parties to renew their commitment to intensify their coordinated diplomatic outreach. At a time with so many challenges to compliance and disregard for international norms,

¹ Dr. Ly Thuch, Senior Minister and First Vice President of the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA), President of the Fifth Review Conference “The Siem Reap-Angkor Summit on a Mine-Free Worlds”.

² The United Nations Departments and Offices of the Secretariat, specialized agencies, funds and programmes are: the United Nations Mine Action Service of the Department of Peace Operations, the Office for Disarmament Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) and the World Bank are observers.



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maintaining the momentum would be a positive sign of the value States Parties place in the stigmatization of these abominable weapons, which has been undisputably one of the lasting positive impacts of the APMBC.

The United Nations looks forward to working with Ambassador Tomiko Ichikawa during her Presidency in support of universalization.

END