



United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action

Group of Experts on **Amended Protocol II** to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons

Statement on Operation and status of the Protocol

Geneva, 7 April 2016

Delivered by Mr. Bruno Donat, Chief, Geneva office, UNMAS

Mr. Coordinator,

The following statement is delivered on behalf of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action (IACG-MA), comprising United Nations¹ entities involved in mine action.

The United Nations takes this opportunity to highlight the importance it attaches to amended Protocol II to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), as it is the only international treaty that expressly refers to anti-vehicle mines, booby traps and improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Nevertheless, the United Nations wishes to recall High Contracting Parties its position that existing international rules applicable to anti-vehicle mines, such as those in Amended Protocol II, do not address the humanitarian impact of these weapons in an effective manner, thus reiterating its call for strengthening them.

Unfortunately, no new accession to Amended Protocol II has taken place last year. The United Nations encourages non-High Contracting Parties to join APII as early as possible and welcomes any initiative in order to promote its universalization.

Since the issue of IEDs will be extensively discussed in the following sessions of this Meeting, the United Nations would like to share comments and ideas under this agenda item, aiming at focusing on Form F of the national annual reports on “Other relevant matters”.

The United Nations encourages High Contracting Parties to comply with reporting obligations and to improve the quality of the data therein contained. The United Nations is ready to support those High Contracting Parties facing challenges in the preparation and submission of their reports.

Thank you.

¹ The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) / United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) (Chair), UN Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), UN Development Programme (UNDP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) (Observer status), and the World Bank (Observer status).