

17MSP ANTI PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION

Agenda item 9 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

(c) Cooperation and Assistance: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance

Statement Austria

Austria aligns itself with the EU statements. In a national capacity we would like to add the following remarks.

We wish to thank the members of the Committee on Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance Algeria, Canada, Sweden and Thailand for their work and efforts throughout the year.

International Cooperation and Assistance is one of the signature mechanisms of our Convention. It is critical to achieving our joint goal of a landmine free 2025. The Maputo Action Plan emphasizes that successful international cooperation and assistance should be a sustained partnership based on national commitment and ownership of the receiving side, and targeted support by the donor on the other.

Austria fully supports the country tailored effort and engagement particularly through the individualized approach to clearly identify needs and challenges as well as opportunities and thus to increase efficacy. We welcome the most recent meetings held with Serbia, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe and hope that these will lead to increased progress on the respective implementation of the Convention.

Our Convention is born out of a cooperative spirit and the individualized approach is following the same practice of sharing national experiences and good practices, resources, technology and expertise to better implement the Convention. Austria agrees with the Committee's observation that cooperation and assistance is a key element of meeting our goal of a mine free world by 2025

I thank you.