



**Intervention of the Netherlands**  
**on**  
**Cooperative Compliance**  
**2023 Intersessional Meetings of the States parties**  
**To the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention**

Thank you Chair / President.

In addition to the statement delivered by the EU, the Netherlands would like to add the following in its national capacity.

In a wave of aggression that is unprecedented in Europe in our times, for the first time in history of the Convention we see a state not party blatantly attacking a state party. Since February 2022, we have seen ever-escalating violence. It is important to be mindful that we would not be having this discussion in the first place if it were not for Russia's aggression and its decision to violate the sovereignty of its neighbour.

As a state party to APMBC, The Netherlands condemns the use of anti-personnel mines anywhere, at any time, and by any actor, including by armed non-state actors. In times of war as in peace the norm against these weapons must be respected by all parties in conflict. We therefore take seriously a report by Human Rights Watch about the alleged use of anti-personnel mines by members of the Ukrainian armed forces. We welcome the Convention's Committee on Cooperative Compliance, to use the established procedures to seek clarification. We also welcome Ukraine's commitment to the Convention and we call on Ukraine to investigate the alleged events with the utmost priority and report to the Convention on its findings in a transparent manner and we are confident that we can continue to fully rely on Ukraine's cooperation in this respect,

Thank you Chair.