



The Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World

A Shared Commitment • Cartagena / Colombia • 30 November - 4 December / 2009

28 August 2009

To: The Permanent Missions to the United Nations (Geneva) of the States Parties to the Convention

The Permanent Missions to the United Nations (Geneva) of the States not parties to the Convention

Relevant international and non-governmental organizations

Excellencies, dear friends,

I look forward to seeing you on 3-4 September at the Second Preparatory Meeting in advance of the Second Review Conference of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention / Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World. The Second Preparatory Meeting will be an important opportunity for us to have a thorough discussion on the documents I distributed to you on 17 July (i.e., a draft review, a draft action plan and proposed decisions on future meetings) and on a draft declaration, which I distributed to you last week.

In order to help you prepare for the Second Preparatory Meeting, I wish to share the following thoughts on how I intend to proceed as well as some other pertinent information:

- The Second Preparatory Meeting will begin at 10:00 on Thursday 3 September in Room XIX at the Palais des Nations. We will hold morning and afternoon sessions (i.e., from 10:00 to 13:00 and from 15:00 to 18:00) on 3 September and do the same on Friday 4 September if necessary.
- The Vice President of the Republic of Colombia, Francisco Santos, who has taken on a leading interest in preparing for the Cartagena Summit, will again be present and will speak at the opening of the meeting.
- Following the address by the Vice President of the Republic of Colombia, I will briefly elaborate on the programme for the Second Review Conference, which was recommended for acceptance at the First Preparatory Meeting. I wish to highlight in particular how we intend to proceed with the high level segment.
- With respect to the high level segment, I would like to thank those delegations which have already informed me or Colombia of their expected level of participation in this part of the Cartagena programme. I would encourage other delegations that intend to be represented at the level of State Secretary, Minister or higher to inform us so to assist in our planning.
- The main purpose of the Second Preparatory Meeting is to exchange views on the draft substantive documents that have been distributed to you. These can be found at www.cartagenasummit.org. Translations of these documents will be made available at the meeting if not sooner.

President-Designate of the Second Review Conference

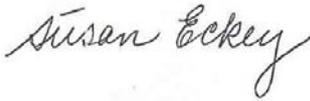
c/o AP Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit
Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining

- With respect to the draft documents, I intend to begin with the draft Review of the Operation and Status of the Convention, proceeding section-by-section. As such, I would ask that you prepare your interventions accordingly.
- After going through each section of the draft Review, I intend to proceed similarly, section-by-section, through the draft Cartagena Action Plan. This will be followed by a discussion of the entirety of the draft Cartagena Declaration and then the proposed decisions on future meetings.

My hope is that, on the basis of a rich discussion at the Second Preparatory Meeting, I will receive clear direction on how I might adapt the draft documentation for the Second Review Conference in order that I may submit improvements for our consideration in Cartagena. As I have previously mentioned, I would be pleased to convene additional informal meetings prior to Cartagena should there be a need for further discussions on particular matters.

Once again, I look forward to seeing you on 3-4 September at the Second Preparatory Meeting. Should you have any questions or comments before that time, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Eckey".

Susan Eckey
President-Designate