

STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AT THE CARTAGENA
SUMMIT.

Madam President

Excellencies

Distinguished delegates

Ladies and gentlemen

As Kenya takes the floor for the first time, I wish to join those who had spoken before me by congratulating you on your election as the President of the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production, and transfer of anti-personnel mines and on their destruction.

Madam President, let me, on behalf of my government, convey our deepest appreciation to our host, the Government of Republic of Colombia for the very warm welcome they extended to me upon my arrival and the hospitality we all continue to enjoy. Equally, I wish to congratulate all those who contributed immensely to the success of this historic moment. We are proud to have hosted the first review conference five years ago in our capital city, Nairobi.

This global social movement showed citizens taking responsibility for their fellow citizens and alerting all of us to the dangers posed by landmines. The Kenya government wishes to reaffirm her commitment towards ensuring that the Mine Ban Treaty's articles are fulfilled.

Kenya strongly supports the gender sensitive approach of demining that that has also been alluded to by some delegates. We are therefore saying that we fully support all efforts being made to attain a mine free world.

The government of Kenya applauds the significant accomplishments to date by the Convention in addressing the harmful effects of indiscriminate landmines and is committed to a continued leadership role in humanitarian mine action.

We wish to clarify that no antipersonnel mines were discovered along the Kenya-Somalia border since 2008.

We continue to support and seek international support for the International Mine Action Training Centre (IMAC) in Nairobi. This regional centre continues to provide valuable demining training to the entire great lakes region. We also seek support for various rehabilitation centres in Kenya.

Madam President, as the purpose of the Convention is to put an end to the suffering and casualties by anti-personnel mines, Kenya would like to strongly urge countries that continue to produce, acquire, use, stockpile or transfer anti-personnel mines to put an end to these deadly weapons which claim thousands of lives.

Thank you.