

## INTERVENTION BY THE PHILIPPINES

### International Cooperation and Assistance

Our delegation commends the remarkable efforts undertaken by Switzerland and the Netherlands in developing the work plan on International Cooperation and Assistance. The initiative to map existing country coalitions within affected states represents a strategic step forward. This endeavour promotes meaningful exchanges and fosters the sharing of invaluable experiences and best practices among donors, operators, and affected States Parties. Such collaboration is indispensable to enhancing the collective impact of our shared commitments.

We reaffirm that international cooperation and assistance remain vital in the effective implementation of the Convention. The support of donors, international organizations, and other partners has been pivotal in fulfilling the Convention's obligations, particularly in critical areas such as mine clearance, risk education, and victim assistance. Their contributions not only address immediate needs but also lay the foundation for long-term recovery and resilience in affected communities.

As we move forward, we emphasize the importance of adopting a holistic approach to international cooperation and assistance. This approach must prioritize the strengthening of national capacities, enabling affected states to independently sustain their implementation efforts. By investing in institutional and human resource development, we can ensure that the principles and objectives of the Convention are integrated into national systems and practices, creating a robust framework for sustainability.

Furthermore, we underscore the value of fostering transparency and accountability in all cooperative endeavours. By establishing clear mechanisms for monitoring progress and sharing outcomes, we can build trust and encourage greater participation from all stakeholders.