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Permanent Mission of Italy to  
the Conference on Disarmament  
Geneva

**Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC)**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of States Parties**  
***International Cooperation and Assistance***

*3 December 2025*

Madam Chair,

First of all, I would like to join other delegations in expressing our appreciation for the work carried out by you and the other members of the Committee on the Enhancement of International Cooperation and Assistance throughout the year.

Italy aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. I would like to add the following remarks in my national capacity.

International cooperation and assistance are essential to achieving the goal of a world free of anti-personnel mines. This overarching goal also contributes to the effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Pact for the Future. The Siem Reap–Angkor Action Plan provides a clear roadmap for the coming years for both donors and affected States, outlining ways to strengthen partnerships and improve coordination. We also support the Plan’s emphasis on the sustainability of national capacities and the principle of localization.

In Italy, we established a dedicated Trust Fund for Humanitarian Demining in 2001, channeling our support not only toward the immediate objectives of clearance and stockpile destruction but also toward the longer-term goals of victim assistance and

raising awareness of the risks associated with Explosive Remnants of War (ERW). Since then, we have allocated approximately 100 million euros to mine action programs.

The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) have long been Italy's partners in implementing projects characterized by a holistic approach.

In 2024, we supported projects in Afghanistan, Libya, Mali, Palestine, Somalia, Syria, and Ukraine. Most of our efforts focused on demining activities in Ukraine, through technical and non-technical surveys, paying particular attention to the needs of women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, minorities, as well as environmental and climate issues, including the mitigation and management of natural disasters. Following Russia's full-scale war of aggression, Ukraine today is one of the most mine-contaminated areas in the world.

We are strengthening multilateralism by fostering collaboration with the UN, other international and regional organizations, civil society, and survivors' organizations. We consider this an effective way to fully implement the Convention, maximizing the contribution and impact of all available expertise and knowledge. In this regard, I would like to highlight the work of the Italian Centre of Excellence (CoE) C-IED for countering all types of explosives. It is a leading actor in explosive ordnance disposal, both nationally and abroad, and has over the years contributed personnel, equipment, and expertise to humanitarian demining programs.

Italy stands ready to contribute to all cooperation efforts, enhancing the effectiveness of international assistance through greater coordination among all relevant stakeholders at both the local and international levels.

Thank you, Madam Chair.