Statement by Steffen Kongstad of Norway 28 June 2004

The task before us in Nairobi is to ensure continued and enhanced implementation of the Convention and to provide practical implementation measures to this end.

This is also set out in Article 12 of the Convention. Conclusions, as referred to in Art. 12.2.d, could appropriately be made operational through an Action Plan with concrete, specific and practical measures.

Past discussions and consultations among States Parties have demonstrated that focus should be on the practical implications of our shared commitments to the humanitarian objectives of the Convention. The Action Plan from Nairobi will have a different status than Action Plans of the past. It will cover a full 5-year period and will be an agreed document endorsed and issued by the States Parties. The States Parties may therefore wish to include language on implementation practices in the Action Plan itself.

As Friends of the President-designate, Nicaragua and Norway will explore what States Parties might find useful and relevant to secure the fulfillment of all objectives of the Convention.

Together with the President-designate and the other Friends, we will actively engage in developing a next draft of the Action Plan to be circulated in due time.