

## **Australia**

13 February

Australia would like to thank you Mr President designate as well as the friends of the President for the thorough preparatory work you have done. Kenya has also been working diligently to ensure the success of the Nairobi meeting.

We support the planned documents for the Review Conference suggested by Canada, Mozambique, Nicaragua and Norway in their discussion paper. We agree with the need for a realistic action plan and a concise declaration.

We also welcome the excellent paper that Germany and Malaysia have prepared on the nature and timing of meetings after 2004. The utility of the Intersessional meetings is apparent to all here, this week's discussions have engaged a wide range of states and NGOs and allowed for comprehensive discussion of practical issues.

Nevertheless we agree with Turkey, Switzerland and others that there needs to be a reduction in meeting frequency. This would ensure that donor support for meeting attendance by mine affected states was able to continue; would acknowledge the fact that we have made progress in many areas, and would keep our focus undiminished over the coming five years. While we are of course flexible, we, like Mexico, see merit in the fourth suggestion – Exhibit 4 – in the paper by Malaysia and Germany: biennial states parties meetings and an Intersessional meeting every year.