



KENYA

**STATEMENT BY KENYA
DURING THE CEREMONY FOR
THE DESTRUCTION OF STOCKPILED
ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES**

**2ND – 3RD DECEMBER 2003,
NICOSIA, CYPRUS**

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EXCELLENCIES

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA, I WISH TO CONGRATULATE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS ON ITS RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION, IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, AND ON THIS CEREMONY WHICH MARKS THE BEGINNING OF THE FIRST PHASE OF THE DESTRUCTION OF THE STOCKPILED ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES.

EXCELLENCIES

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

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AS THE COUNTRY THAT WILL HOST THE FIRST REVIEW CONFERENCE AT THE END OF NOVEMBER 2004, KENYA WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE ITS COMMITMENT AND DETERMINATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE REALIZATION OF THE NOBLE OBJECTIVES OF THE CONVENTION. KENYA RECOGNIZES THAT OUR REGION, AFRICA, REMAINS THE MOST HEAVILY MINED AND MINE-AFFECTED REGION, AND OUR HOSTING OF THE CONFERENCE IS A GESTURE OF SOLIDARITY WITH MINE-AFFECTED PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES NOT ONLY IN AFRICA, BUT ALL OVER THE WORLD.

EXCELLENCIES

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

I WISH TO CONCLUDE BY INFORMING YOU THAT PREPARATIONS ARE UNDERWAY FOR THE FIRST REVIEW CONFERENCE AND WITH THE COMMITMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF KENYA AND OUR PARTNERS INVOLVED IN THE PLANNING OF THIS NOBLE CONFERENCE, WE CAN ASSURE YOU OF A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE.

THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF KENYA LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU ALL TO KENYA IN NOVEMBER, 2004.

THANK YOU.

C.K.