



The **NAIROBI SUMMIT**
on a Mine-Free World
29 Nov 3 Dec
2004



Nairobi Summit President Wolfgang Petritsch presents a copy of the *2004 Nairobi Declaration* – signed by representatives of over 100 States – to “representatives of the public conscience” Tun Channaret and Song Kosal of Cambodia. Observing this presentation are the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kenya, Chirau Ali Mwakwere; 1997 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Jody Williams; and, former President of the International Committee of the Red Cross and current President of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, Cornelio Sommaruga.

**Nairobi Summit on a Mine-Free World
29 November – 3 December 2004**

Highlights

- At the Nairobi Summit, for the first time since 1997, the international community gathered at a high political level to examine the humanitarian problems caused by anti-personnel mines and what is being done to address these problems. Summit participants included: 5 Heads of States or Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents or Deputy Heads of Government, and 20 Ministers:

States represented by a Head of State or Head of Government:

Canada	Malawi	Somalia
Kenya	Rwanda	

(In addition, President Karzai of Afghanistan delivered a taped video message to the Summit.)

States represented by a Deputy Head of State or Deputy Head of Government:

Cambodia	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	Tajikistan
Colombia	Swaziland	Thailand

States represented by a Minister:

Bosnia and Herzegovina	Guinea Bissau	Sierra Leone
Burkina Faso	Lesotho	Slovakia
Burundi	Mali	Slovenia
Chad	Mozambique	Sudan
Congo	Namibia	Tanzania
Djibouti	New Zealand	Zambia
France	Nigeria	

- Other high level participants included the following:
 - 1997 Nobel Peace Prize co-recipient, Jody Williams
 - 2003 Nobel Peace Prize recipient Shirin Ebadi
 - 2004 Nobel Peace Prize recipient, Wangari Maathai
 - Executive Director of UNICEF, Carol Bellamy
 - President of the ICRC, Jakob Kellenberger
 - Former President of the ICRC and current President of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, Cornelio Sommaruga
 - UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, who addressed the Summit via live video link
- 135 States participated in the Nairobi Summit, including 110 member States of the 1997 Ottawa Convention banning anti-personnel mines and 25 States that have not yet joined the Convention

States not parties to the Convention that attended the Nairobi Summit:

Bahrain	Iraq	Poland
Brunei Darussalam	Israel	Saudia Arabia
Bhutan	Kazakhstan	Singapore
China	Kuwait	Somalia
Cuba	Kyrgyzstan	Sri Lanka
Egypt	Lebanon	Ukraine
Finland	Libya	Vanuatu
India	Mongolia	
Indonesia	Morocco	

- The Nairobi Summit featured the largest ever gathering of representatives of non-governmental organizations concerned about the global landmine problem. Over 350 NGO representatives from dozens of countries participated in the event.
- On the first day of the Nairobi Summit **Ethiopia** announced that it had become **the 144th State to join the Convention**.
- Positive signs of growing acceptance of the Convention were heard from other key States that have not yet joined the Convention, including **China, Indonesia** and **Somalia**:

Excerpt from the statement by China:

Both China and States Parties to the Ottawa Convention share the same objective. China closely follows the Ottawa process and has been enhancing exchanges and cooperation with States Parties to the Convention (...) We stand ready to further expand our cooperation with the States Parties to the Convention, in order to contribute to the early elimination of landmine problems.

Excerpt from the statement by Indonesia:

Having not ratified the Convention as yet in no way indicates our lack of commitment to the principles and objectives of the Convention and our commitment towards the universalization of this Convention. Despite not having ratified the Convention, we have actively promoted the eradication of these horrendous weapons.

Excerpt from the statement by the Prime Minister of the Transitional Government of Somalia:

My government will pursue the ratification of the Treaty, but please bear in mind we have a country to re-establish so it may not be immediate. We will aim however that before the next Meeting of the States Parties Somalia will be in a position to accede to the treaty.

- The conference examined an **80+ page review** of the operation and status of the Convention since it entered into force on 1 March 1999. The conference concluded that since it was adopted on 18 September 1997, the Convention's unique spirit of cooperation has been sustained, ensuring the Convention's rapid entry into force and over five successful years of implementation. This comprehensive review also contained a record of essential work that lies before the Convention's member States in ensuring that the Convention indeed lives up to its promise.
- To overcome challenges that remain, the Convention's member States adopted ***Ending the suffering caused by anti-personnel mines: Nairobi Action Plan 2005-2009***, concluding inter alia that for the period 2005-2009:
 - the pursuit of universal adherence to the Convention will remain an important object of cooperation among States Parties;
 - they would ensure the expeditious and timely destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines under their or jurisdiction or control;
 - successfully meeting deadlines for clearing mined areas will be the most significant challenge to be addressed during this period and will require intensive efforts by mine-affected States Parties and those in a position to assist them;
 - consistent with the Convention's vital promise to mine victims, the States parties will enhance care, rehabilitation and reintegration efforts;
 - fulfilling their obligations will require substantial political, financial and material commitments;
 - transparency and the effective information exchange will be crucial to fulfilling their obligations;
 - they will continue to be guided by the knowledge that individually and collectively they are responsible for ensuring compliance with the Convention; and,

- their implementation mechanisms will remain important, particularly as key means to implement the Nairobi Action Plan.
- The conference adopted *Towards a mine-free world: the 2004 Nairobi Declaration*, emphasizing that this declaration contains the renewed commitment of the Convention's member States to achieving the goal of a world free of anti-personnel mines, in which there are no more new victims.
- A symbolic copy of *the 2004 Nairobi Declaration* was signed by States participating in the Summit. The President of the Nairobi Summit, Ambassador Wolfgang Petritsch of Austria, presented this copy of the declaration to two Cambodian landmine survivors – Song Kosal and Tun Channaret – as representatives of the global public conscience. In making this presentation, Ambassador Petritsch stated that the role of the public conscience remains as important as ever in that civil society around the world must hold States true to the commitments that they have made through the Nairobi Declaration.
- The conference adopted a *Programme of meetings and related matters to facilitate implementation 2005-2009*. In doing so, the conference took the following decisions:
 - (a) To hold annually until 2009 a Meeting of the States Parties to take place in the second half of the year, in Geneva or, when possible or appropriate, in a mine-affected country.
 - (b) To convene annually, until 2009, informal intersessional meetings of the Standing Committees to be held in Geneva in the first half of the year, for a duration of up to five days.
 - (c) As a general rule, however not excluding exceptions for specific reasons, to hold meetings of the Standing Committees in February / March and Meetings of the States Parties in September.
 - (d) To hold the Second Review Conference in the second half of the year 2009.
 - (e) In keeping with the States Parties' practice of being flexible and pragmatic in addressing changing circumstances, to review decisions regarding the 2005-2009 programme of meetings at each Meeting of the States Parties prior to the Second Review Conference.
- With regard to the next meeting of the States Parties, the conference took the following decisions:
 - (a) The next Meeting of States Parties will be held in Croatia and take place 28 November to 2 December 2005.
 - (b) Meetings of the Standing Committees will take place during the week of 13-17 June 2005 with the length of individual meetings and their sequencing, and duration of the entire period meetings to be established by the Coordinating Committee.
 - (c) Consistent with the practice of past Meetings of the States Parties, the Coordinating Committee shall be chaired by the President elected by the Review Conference until the States Parties elect a subsequent President. The chair of the Coordinating Committee will continue the practice of keeping the States Parties apprised of the Coordinating Committee's functioning.
 - (d) The following States Parties shall serve as the Standing Committee Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs until the end of the next Meeting of the States Parties:
 - Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies: Algeria and Sweden (Co-Chairs), Jordan and Slovenia (Co-Rapporteurs);
 - Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration: Nicaragua and Norway (Co-Chairs), Afghanistan and Switzerland (Co-Rapporteurs);
 - Stockpile Destruction: Bangladesh and Canada (Co-Chairs), Japan and the United Republic of Tanzania (Co-Rapporteurs);
 - The General Status and Operation of the Convention: New Zealand and South Africa (Co-Chairs), Belgium and Guatemala (Co-Rapporteurs).