

NEWS RELEASE



Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer
of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE OF THE FIRST REVIEW CONFERENCE

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Momentum builds ... but Nobel laureate demands more action in advance of landmines summit

Geneva—**1997 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Jody Williams** has called for action in advance of *the 2004 Nairobi Summit on a Mine Free World*. “We are hoping that more countries will embrace the Convention banning anti-personnel mines and that its existing members will intensify their work to build a truly mine-free world,” said Williams.

Williams, who is the Ambassador of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), was speaking at a press briefing on *the 2004 Nairobi Summit on a Mine Free World, or First Review Conference of the Convention*, which takes place from 29 November to 3 December 2004.

“The road to *the Nairobi Summit* will spur increased efforts in the landmine movement and will be a rallying point for our campaign”, said Williams. Echoing the State Parties’ decision to encourage participation at the highest possible level, Williams said, “I expect heads of state and foreign ministers to gather in the Kenyan capital for this important global event.

Also at the briefing, **Austrian Ambassador Wolfgang Petritsch** – the diplomat charged with leading preparations for *the Nairobi Summit* – outlined his expectations for *the Nairobi Summit*. “This event will be a platform for commitments and a springboard for action,” said Ambassador Petritsch. “At *the Nairobi Summit*, I expect high level leaders to renew political and resource commitments, further seize the responsibility to clear mined areas and assist victims and establish a concrete action plan to fulfill the Convention’s aims.”

Williams and Petritsch were joined by **Kenyan Ambassador Amina C. Mohamed**. “The Government of Kenya is committed to the success of this major international event,” said Ambassador Mohamed. “All relevant Government Ministries have started work aimed at fulfilling Kenya’s important role as host of *the Nairobi Summit*.”

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