Statement on the Draft Dubrovnik Action Plan

Geneva, 22 June 2015

Delivered by Mr. Bruno Donat, Chief, Geneva Office, UNMAS

Mr. President,

The following statement is delivered on behalf of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action (IACG-MA), comprising 14 United Nations entities involved in mine action.

As this is my first time to take the floor on behalf of the IACG, I would like to congratulate Ms. Sheila Mweemba on her appointment as Director of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) for the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). The United Nations wishes her success during her tenure on this important endeavor and also offers its full support to her and the enhanced Implementation Support Unit, or ISU. The United Nations is encouraged that Ms. Mweemba is already overseeing the organizational support to Croatia in preparation for the Dubrovnik Review Conference and looks forward to the full handover of the ISU responsibilities by that time. In the meantime, please note that UNDP will continue to provide its operational support to the ISU throughout the Presidency of the 5MSP during the transition process.

The United Nations acknowledges the work put into developing this draft Dubrovnik Action Plan, in particular by the Coordinators of the different Working Groups. The current document represents a good basis for a final text. It reflects effective preparation based on the review of the Vientiane Action Plan and the various documents circulated earlier. As subsequent points will be discussed over the next three days, focus will be on the following three points.

First, the draft Dubrovnik Action Plan may be improved with a section on partnerships, as contained in the Vientiane Action Plan. If States Parties decide not to incorporate specific actions on partnerships, they should at least be highlighted elsewhere, including in the introduction.

Second, the United Nations considers that an additional effort ought to be made in several thematic sections by stressing the role of the United Nations.

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1 The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) / United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) (Chair), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UN Development Programme (UNDP), Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) (Observer), and the World Bank (Observer).
Third, the United Nations supports adding systematically throughout the text, criteria and indicators of success.

The United Nations remains available to assist the Presidency, the Coordinators and overall all States Parties in the process of finalizing the Dubrovnik Action Plan.

Thank you.