

***Memo for Government Delegates to the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World
Colombia, 29 November – 4 December 2009***

What is the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World?

It is the Second Review Conference of the *Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Antipersonnel Mines and on Their Destruction* (or Mine Ban Treaty). The Summit will take place in Cartagena, Colombia between 29 November and 4 December 2009. The official host is the President of Colombia, Alvaro Uribe Velez. The President-Designate of the Summit is Ambassador Susan Eckey, from Norway.

All States Parties and states not party to the Mine Ban Treaty, as well as relevant international organizations and non-governmental organizations have been invited to participate in the Summit, at the highest possible level. The main objectives of the Cartagena Summit are: to take stock of the progress made on treaty universalization and implementation since the First Review Conference in 2004; to assess remaining challenges; and to pave the way forward towards a mine-free world.

The Mine Ban Treaty was signed in 1997 and entered into force in 1999. As of today there are 156 States Parties to the treaty.

Official Documents

The Cartagena Summit will agree on and adopt three main documents:

- Review of the Operation and the Status of the Convention for the past 5 years
- Cartagena Action Plan for the next 5 years, and
- high-level Political Declaration.

The final documents will be formally adopted during the high-level segment on 3 and 4 December 2009. This will also be the moment where heads of state, ministers, secretaries of state, will have the opportunity to deliver their statements and then sign the Cartagena Declaration.

Practical Information

Sponsorship Programme

Sponsorship assistance is available for states affected by landmines and other developing states, to cover participation of one delegate to the Cartagena Summit at the highest possible level. Information on the Sponsorship Programme has been sent from the Delegation of the United Kingdom to the UN in Geneva and the Coordinator of the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Convention Sponsorship Programme to Permanent Missions to the UN in Geneva of all relevant states. Sponsorship requests need to be submitted by 12 October 2009.

For more information please contact:

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Invitations, UN Note Verbale, Programme and Draft Documents

- information is available at: www.cartagenasummit.org/

Registrations, Visas, and Conference Venue

- information is available at: www.cartagenasummit.gov.co

Messages and Calls from the International Campaign to Ban Landmines

- information available at www.icbl.org/cartagenasummit