



Ugandan landmine survivor Margaret Arach Orech opens the Seminar on Universalization and Implementation of the Ottawa Convention in Africa.

- *Seminar on Universalization and Implementation of the Ottawa Convention in Africa, Bamako, Mali, February 15 and 16, 2001*
The DFAIT Mine Ban Initiatives Program provided \$219,000 to support this continent-wide meeting on the universalization and implementation of the Ottawa Convention in Africa. Organized by Mali, with the support of Canada and France, the seminar featured African expertise and experience, and aimed to identify mine action needs and develop relevant action plans. The political momentum generated by the seminar contributed significantly to recent formal acceptance of the Convention by 10 African states.
- *Universidad del Rosario Conference on Colombia's Obligations under the Ottawa Convention, Bogota, Colombia, February 26 and 27, 2001*
The DFAIT Mine Ban Initiatives Program provided \$6,800 for a conference held at Universidad del Rosario in Bogota, Colombia on Colombia's obligations

under the Ottawa Convention, which entered into force for the country on March 1, 2001. The seminar brought together members of civil society, international organizations and government and military officials to encourage dialogue and to develop a Convention implementation working plan.

Other examples of Canada's country-specific initiatives, funded through the DFAIT Mine Ban Initiatives Program in fiscal year 2000 included:

- \$16,000 to the Mines Advisory Group for a multi-media education program in Angola aimed at sustaining public and diplomatic support for mine action in the country.
- \$30,000 to the Indian Institute for Peace, Disarmament and Environmental Protection for workshops on the Ottawa Convention in the Jammu and Kashmir region of India, and for the Fourth National Conference on Landmines, held in New Delhi in May 2000. This series of grassroots activities raised the profile of the issue in India and strengthened the network of activists in the country.
- \$60,000 to support the work of a Boston, Massachusetts-based "Mine Action Scholar-in-Residence." Dr. Christopher Kirkey carried out a discussion tour and led faculty development workshops at universities and colleges in the United States. He also facilitated the design and creation of college and university courses that feature the Ottawa Convention. An additional \$29,000 was provided to Dr. Kirkey for research on the establishment and implementation of the Ottawa Convention. One output of his efforts was the journal article, *Washington's Response to the Ottawa Landmines Process*, which appeared in the August 2001 edition of *Canadian-American Public Policy*.
- \$18,000 to the San Rafael, California-based organization Roots of Peace for a major awareness-raising event in Palo Alto, California which featured United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Canada's Consul General in Los Angeles Kim Campbell and representatives from