

Canada's leadership is making a difference



It gives me great pleasure to report to Parliament and the people of Canada on the activities undertaken during the second year of the Canadian Landmine Fund – in fiscal year 1999. *Measured Steps: 1999-2000 Report on the Canadian Landmine Fund* documents the Government of Canada's ongoing efforts to help address the humanitarian terror caused by landmines.

Canada provided important international leadership in achieving the Ottawa Convention banning anti-personnel mines. I am proud that we are continuing to demonstrate leadership in our work to universalize the Convention, to implement its terms and to ensure full compliance with it. While the Convention is a unique Canadian success story, its true significance lies in the manner in which it provides a comprehensive framework for addressing the global landmine problem. I remain personally committed to ensuring the success of the Convention because I am convinced that it is making a significant difference in the lives of countless individuals and communities around the world.

In fiscal year 1999, Canada continued to support every aspect of mine action to address the global landmine problem. Through disbursements of approximately \$22 million, Canada contributed to mine clearance, stockpile destruction, victim assistance, mine awareness and integrated mine action in more than 20 countries. We have supported important advances in mine action information and coordination, helped sustain the role of civil society mine action advocacy in Canada and abroad and made substantial advances in the development of appropriate technologies.

As the title suggests, this report tells of the measured steps that are being made in ensuring the effectiveness of the Convention. It is heartening that progress is being made in clearing mined land, reducing casualties and providing assistance to victims. And it is encouraging that support for the Convention continues to grow through states' formal acceptance of it and their increased contributions to mine action.

Canada's efforts are making a difference and I look forward to sharing reports of the ongoing success of the Convention in the years ahead.

John Manley

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