Canada since landmines are considered to be an integral part of Canada's military doctrine. Training on landmines is an essential component of Canadian military training. DND has taken the position that a total ban on APMs should only be supported when suitable, humane alternatives are available.

While in past, Canada has taken the position that we support an eventual ban on APM which is a noble, if unrealistic goal, and we cannot back down from this position, the military has its operational requirements to be considered. Therefore, we would rather not take a public position on this issue.

With respect to the issue of detectability, we agree that both APM and AVM should be detectable.

POSITIONS OF OTHER MAJOR PLAYERS/GROUPS ON THE ISSUE:

The US, New Zealand, Australia and Scandinavian countries (among others) have supported the statement that the ultimate goal is to ban APM. They realize that this is not possible in the near future and, therefore, we should continue the work on improving and strengthening the Convention and Protocols.

The UK and France do not support this statement as the ultimate goal of the negotiations. The Mexicans have taken the position that if it is not possible to ban all APM at this time, that nothing should be done.

See above and brief for Article 5bis on the issue of detectability.

LIKELY AREAS OF COMPROMISE:

Unknown.