

Ending the Use, Production, Export and Stockpiling of AP Mines

Progress toward universalization of the Convention continues at a steady pace. By November 2002, 130 states had formally joined the Convention. Some encouraging additions during the year included the severely mine-affected countries of Angola and Afghanistan.

Other noteworthy progress, as reported in the *Landmine Monitor 2002* (for the period May 2001 through July 2002):

- Six more countries have completed their stockpile destruction—Albania, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Peru, Sweden and Yemen—bringing the total number of countries to 33.
- While there are still 14 countries that have not formally declared a halt to production, there are indications that three of these—Egypt, South Korea and the United States—no longer produce AP mines. Overall, country producers have dropped from 55 to 14 as a result of the Convention.
- There is no evidence of AP mine imports or exports by states parties or signatories.

The Value in Partnership

Civil Society

Non-governmental organizations have played an essential role in addressing the problem of AP mines. International organizations, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), were among the first to draw international attention to the plight of mine-affected populations around the world. In 1992, many civil society groups came together to form an international NGO coalition, the ICBL, thereby launching a coordinated movement to ban AP mines, to clear mined land and to assist landmine victims.

States, including Canada, responded by joining this movement, which evolved into a state-civil society partnership focused on the successful negotiation of a global ban on AP mines. Since the signing of the Ottawa Convention, the ICBL has played an instrumental role in encouraging universalization of the Convention, and in supporting mine action programs in the field. Canada continues to promote civil society's participation in this process through this coalition.

DFAIT, through its Mine Action Partnership and Mine Monitoring Programs, provided \$484,744 in 2001-2002 to support the ICBL's ongoing work toward the universalization and implementation of the treaty. This includes \$210,000 for the research, production and distribution of the annual *Landmine Monitor*, which tracks and reports on individual nations' implementation of and compliance with the 1997 Convention. The *Landmine Monitor* involves a global network of non-governmental, independent researchers whose efforts produce a key monitoring tool on states' policies and practices with respect to AP mines.

The Canadian member of the ICBL is Mines Action Canada (MAC), a coalition of more than 40 Canadian NGOs that delivers domestic and international mine action education and outreach activities, and works to universalize the Convention and to increase Canadian capacity in humanitarian mine clearance and victim rehabilitation. MAC is a member of the ICBL Coordinating Committee and the international Core Group of the *Landmine Monitor*, and the Canadian-based Youth Mine Action Ambassador Program (YMAAP) Steering Committee. MAC also coordinates the Americas region input to the *Landmine Monitor*. DFAIT provided \$317,400 to support MAC's programming in 2001-2002.

Regional Conferences

Canada continues to use a strategy of regional/joint conferences as a catalyst for regional and country-specific partnerships around mine action:

- *Warsaw, Poland, June 14-15, 2001*: DFAIT provided \$40,803 for a seminar, cohosted by Poland and Canada, on the challenges facing Eastern European countries and the Baltic states in implementing the Ottawa Convention. Working sessions focused on