

NAA's beslutning (Resolution 259 on Landmine Eradication Measures)

AM 270
DSC/AF (95) 5
Annex 3

ANNEX 3
RESOLUTION 259

on

LANDMINE ERADICATION MEASURES*

The Assembly,

1. *Recalling* Resolution 249 on Landmine Eradication Measures adopted unanimously by the Assembly in 1994;
2. *Convinced* that the 100 million or more unexploded mines scattered around the world in over 65 countries continues to constitute one of the most widespread, lethal and long-lasting forms of pollution that the international community needs to assess as a matter of urgency;
3. *Aware* that in many countries around the world several hundred people are killed or maimed every week, and countless thousands severely injured, and that these figures include a disproportionate and unacceptable level of innocent civilians, especially children;
4. *Noting* that some 157 nations have ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and that the use of anti-personnel mines violates many of the core provisions of that Convention;
5. *Aware* that year upon year the total budget allocated for education and eradication has been exceeded dramatically by the amounts expended on deployment, frequently in random fashion, of additional new mines and that in 1993 it is estimated that while approximately 80,000 pieces of explosive ordnance were cleared, some 2,500,000 were being laid elsewhere;
6. *Convinced* that this enormous and pressing humanitarian problem can only approach resolution by establishing an effective internationally-agreed control regime that places strict limitations on the design, production, use and transfer of all landmines and other such explosive ordnance, *and* by devoting resources for eradication, education and medical assistance commensurate with the scale of the problem;
7. *Welcoming* President Clinton's September 1994 UN initiative urging the conclusion of a new international control regime designed to reduce progressively the number of mines and their availability thereby saving "the lives of tens of thousands of men, women and innocent children in the years to come", *and commending* the US Senate's one-year moratorium of US forces' use of anti-personnel landmines, the Belgian government's decision to outlaw the production, use and export of anti-personnel mines, as well as the export moratoriums announced by Cambodia, Columbia, France, Ireland, Mexico and the United Kingdom;
8. *Welcoming also* the European initiatives from the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament committing additional resources to mine clearing efforts and restricting the sale and use of anti-personnel

* Presented by the Defence and Security Committee, and adopted by the North Atlantic Assembly in Turin, October 1995.