



# Geneva CALL

APPEL de Genève

LLAMAMIENTO

de Ginebra



## annual report 2002



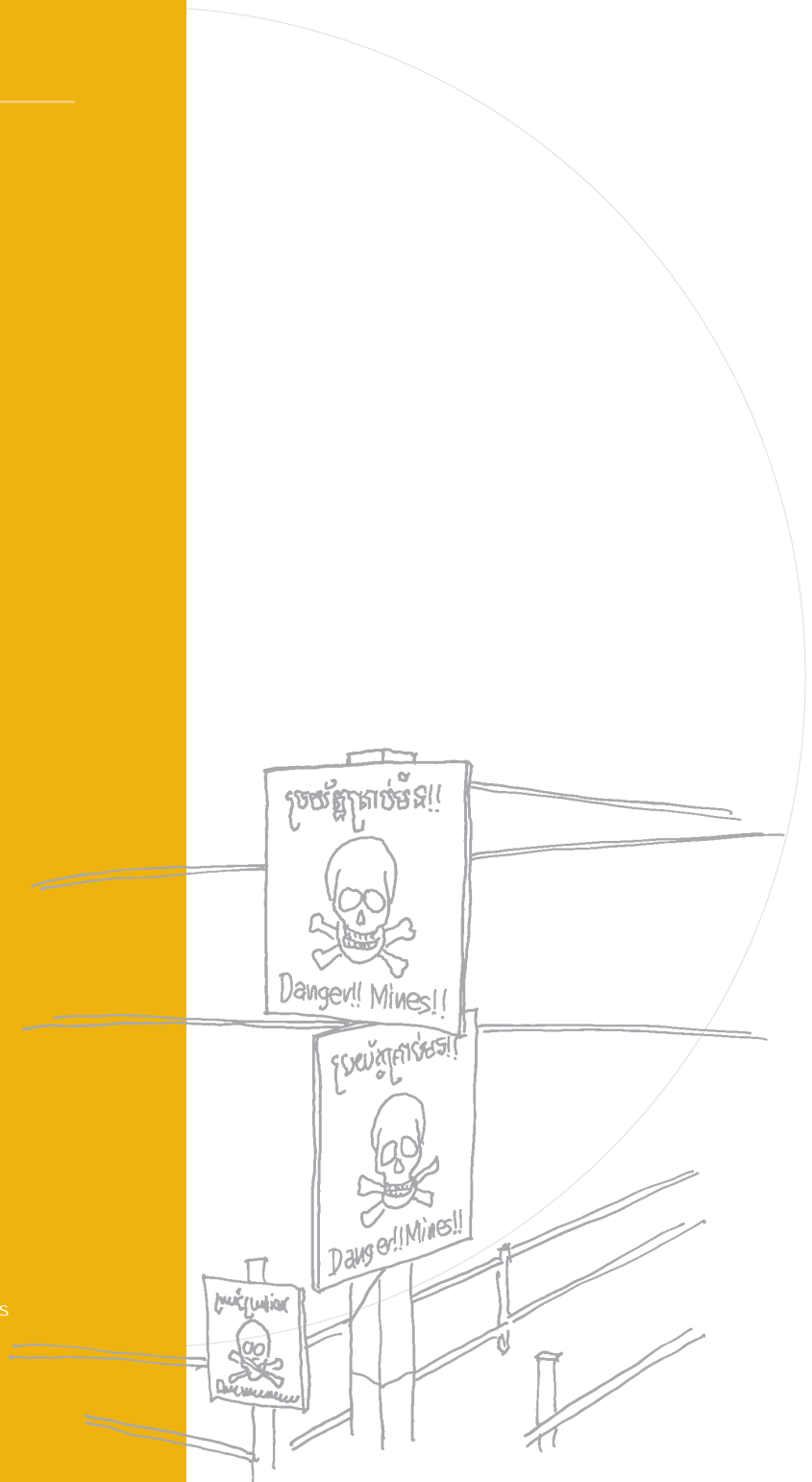
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## Message of the President

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The international treaty banning antipersonnel mines (AP mines), signed by two thirds of the world's States, is without doubt a great success. However if we are to fully realize our ambitions to end the scourge of landmines, it is not enough. The Mine Ban Treaty applies only to States and its limitations can be found in its diplomatic, institutionalized frames of reference.

Our ambitions regarding the mine ban norm drive us to be both pragmatic and innovative; they require that we look in many directions at the same time and they force us to direct our thinking beyond the traditional paradigms of diplomacy and inter-State mechanisms.

When a mine brutally ends the life of a child and the future of a generation are blasted into oblivion, when refugees cannot return to their homes or farmers to their fields, and when families are forced to live in conditions of war and terror - even as peace treaties are signed and the accords upheld - we must be bold, to challenge ourselves and others. We must be leaders and intervene. Failure to do so everywhere that mines are used is a failure to appreciate fully the drama of entire lives lived in places where we would not think to walk. This human drama compels us to

intervene with all who use AP mines, whatever their ideals or their ideology, regardless of the names they call themselves or the titles they give to each other.

This human drama empowers us to do everything possible so AP mines, these "hidden killers," are not used anywhere, by anybody, for any reason. The majority of armed conflicts today are internal and involve one or more Non-State Actors (NSAs), or armed groups many of whom manufacture, stockpile and use landmines. NSAs are active in or exercise de facto control over mined land. In these areas, people often find themselves without the assistance afforded to others living with landmines. The existence of NSAs has an adverse impact on States' mine policy - some governments cite NSA activities within their borders as reasons for not acceding to the Mine Ban Treaty. Still others justify their abstention due to the presence of landmines in territories under NSA control, which makes it difficult, if not impossible, for States to meet treaty obligations.

The mission of Geneva Call is to persuade those who use mines, and who do not have access to the support mechanisms provided to States through the Mine Ban Treaty, to cease use of this weapon and to facilitate NGO assistance to civilian populations

through mine clearance, victim assistance and mine awareness programs.

Geneva Call provides an innovative mechanism to engage NSAs in adhering to the mine ban and other humanitarian norms NSAs. It is a humane response to the unfolding drama of those living in mined areas under the control of NSAs. Geneva Call is the only organization today offering to NSAs the possibility to join the mine ban movement through signature of a document deposited with the authorities of the Republic and Canton of Geneva. Geneva Call ensures the follow-up of signatories commitments and seeks the necessary assistance to carry out clearance, stockpile destruction and other mine action initiatives in areas under their control.

Since its inception in 2000, Geneva Call has strived to convince not only NSAs of the importance of its work, but also governments, the European Union and UN agencies. The success on these fronts has enabled the implementation of new mine action programmes in areas traditionally neglected by the international community. The work of Geneva Call and its partners has made it possible for the people in NSA controlled areas to live in a more secure social and economic environment.

The experience of Geneva Call shows the AP mine issue can be applied to broader peace

and disarmament discussions with NSAs. At times, the mine issue is the only common ground on which NSAs agree to meet and Geneva Call efforts can become confidence building measures in larger peace building initiatives.

This annual report describes the work undertaken by Geneva Call over the past year (January through December 2002), work that has been described as "pioneering", "cutting edge" and "precedent setting." These efforts, facilitated through the strong partnerships forged throughout the year and strengthened by increased political and institutional commitments are central to achieving a universal ban on AP mines and a future without mines.

We look forward to that future and to the very exciting work ahead of us. We would like also to thank our donors and partners without whom our work would be impossible.



*Elisabeth Reusse-Decrey,  
President of Geneva Call  
April 25, 2003*

# Geneva Call's mission

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Geneva Call is an international humanitarian organization dedicated to engaging NSAs in respecting and adhering to humanitarian norms, starting with a landmine ban, thereby contributing to peace building. Geneva Call facilitates this process through the provision of a complementary mechanism whereby NSAs, which are not eligible to sign or accede to the AP mine ban treaty, can sign a "Deed of Commitment for Adherence to a Total Ban on Anti-Personnel Mines and for Cooperation in Mine Action" (DoC) or, deposit their own mine ban declarations. The Government of the Republic and Canton of Geneva serves as guardian of the DoCs and similar unilateral declarations.

Under the DoC, armed groups commit themselves:

- To a total prohibition on the use of AP mines and other victim-activated explosive devices under any circumstances;
- To undertake, to cooperate in, or to facilitate, programs to destroy stockpiles, to clear contaminated areas, to provide assistance to victims and to promote awareness programs;
- To facilitate the monitoring and verification of their commitments by Geneva Call;
- To ensure that the ban is communicated to the rank and file.

Importantly, signatories to the DoC recognize the instrument "as one step or part of a broader commitment in principle to the ideal of humanitarian norms, particularly of international humanitarian law and human rights, and to contribute to their respect in field practice as well as to the further development of humanitarian norms for armed conflicts." Thus, the DoC is a mechanism to hold armed groups accountable to an AP mine ban and provides a stepping-stone towards other humanitarian commitments.

*" The work done by Geneva Call and other involved NGOs has produced positive results in a number of concrete cases and we believe that such action must be sustained and supported. "*

**Bob van den Bos, member of the European Parliament,  
Chairman of the Working Group on Involving Non-State  
Actors in the Mine Ban Campaign**

# Highlights of 2002

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- Iraqi Kurdistan's two regional governments and 15 Somali factions signed the Geneva Call Deed of Commitment (DoC) in 2002;
- Geneva Call conducted its first-ever verification mission under the DoC in the southern Philippines;
- Geneva Call initiated consultations between the Government of Sudan, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army and the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), which resulted in a Memorandum of Understanding for emergency mine action support in Sudan;
- Following a meeting hosted by Geneva Call, members of the European Parliament launched a Working Group on NSAs and landmines;
- After lobbying by Geneva Call and members of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty reiterated the importance of engaging NSAs at the Fourth Meeting of States Parties (4MSP);
- Geneva Call and the ICBL's Non-State Actors Working Group organized a roundtable discussion at the UN in conjunction with the 4MSP in which representatives of States and their opposition groups sat side-by-side to discuss the landmine problem for the first time in a public forum;
- After several joint field missions, Geneva Call signed a partnership agreement with the Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD).

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## Universalizing the AP Mine Ban and the humanitarian response

Cornelio Sommaruga, President of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, and former head of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), in late 2002 at an international conference organised to address the challenges of achieving a mine free world, noted that the prohibition against AP mines has become a norm of international humanitarian law with significant impact on the actions of both signatories and non-signatories, whether States or NSAs.

"Even Non-State Actors have started to make commitments against the use of mines... Compliance with the core provisions of the Convention is good, due not to verification, but to the ongoing commitment of governments, inter-governmental organizations, and NGOs in this field. Future compliance will likewise depend on this strong commitment and close cooperation.... I wish for all of us to continue vigorously and relentlessly our engagement in this movement and to do it by taking into account the Chinese proverb: 'Be not afraid of going slowly. Be afraid only of standing still.'"<sup>1</sup>

1. Cornelio Sommaruga, remarks to the conference "Without Reservation, an international symposium addressing the challenges of achieving a landmine free world," Ottawa, 30 November 2002.

Importantly, through the Geneva Call DoC, 20 NSAs have committed themselves to a ban on AP mines so far, while still others have made unilateral declarations to the same effect. Aware of the complexities and sensitivity of working with NSA groups, Geneva Call recognizes that these commitments will take time to implement and that monitoring and verification could, in many cases, be difficult. Nonetheless, Geneva Call views these commitments as important and significant steps towards the universalization of the mine ban norm. Furthermore, commitments made by both the government and the NSAs in support of a mine ban can become a point of common concern and provide a crucial confidence building measure for both parties engaged in or considering peace talks.

## Philippines

In April 2002, in response to Geneva Call efforts, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) reaffirmed its commitment under the DoC. Within three months, the Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPA-ABB) of the Philippines did likewise.

## Iraqi Kurdistan

The summer of 2002 culminated with Geneva Call's August mission to northern Iraq, following more than 13 months of dialogue. Kurdistan's two regional governments, led by the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) and the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), signed the DoC. In an unilateral declaration, the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan gave its support to Geneva Call's work and agreed to cooperate "in its sacred campaign aimed at putting a total ban on the production, stockpiling and use of such deadly, inhumane devices."



Iraqi Kurdistan.  
Photo credit:  
Geneva Call,  
Pascal Bongard,  
2002

Iraqi Kurdistan continues to be one of the most heavily mine- and UXO-affected areas in the world, with the number of mines estimated at between 8 and 12 million. While governmental forces laid most of these mines during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq War, the 1991 Gulf War and decades of internal conflict, various Kurdish factions have, to a lesser extent, also used mines. According to UNOPS, reported UXO and mine explosions caused an average of 30 casualties per month in 2001.

In addition to securing mine renunciations from Kurdish opposition groups, an important element of the Geneva Call mission was to assess the extent of technical assistance needed by signatory groups to implement the DoC and conduct mine action. A technical advisor and mine action specialist, provided by the Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD), assisted in this regard. The mission also met with humanitarian organizations operating in the region, visited minefields and clearance operations and facilitated the launch of a Kurdish Campaign to Ban Landmines.<sup>2</sup>

2. The recent war in Iraq has dramatically changed the situation in the country. Geneva Call will monitor developments closely and encourage Kurdish groups, if they become members of the new government, to urge Iraq to accede to the Mine Ban Treaty.

## Somalia

Another highlight of Geneva Call's activities in 2002 unfolded in Eldoret, Kenya on the sidelines of the Somali National Reconciliation Conference. The conference, convened by the East African regional organisation, Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), provided an excellent opportunity for Geneva Call to advocate a mine ban among participants. Events progressed rapidly after Somali warlords, some of whom had refused for months to be together in the same room, participated in a workshop organized by Geneva Call to discuss the land-mine problem in their respective areas of control. On 11 November, 15 factions, including the Transitional National Government, Puntland, and key members of the Somalia Reconciliation and Restoration Council, signed the DoC.

*" Our own mines are often  
our worst enemies. "*

Somali warlord  
General Aden Abdullahi Nur, "Gabyow",  
Chairman of the Somali Patriotic Movement (SPM)

The level of mine contamination in Somalia, due largely to the 1977-78 war with Ethiopia and an ongoing civil war between factions, has left a significant mine problem. The full extent of the problem is unknown, as are the locations of affected areas. Between 1995 and 2000, an estimated 4,400 people have been killed or injured here.



Eldoret, Kenya, Somali faction leaders.  
Photo credit: Geneva Call, 2002

## Sri Lanka

In autumn 2002, the Government of Sri Lanka expressed its willingness to accede to the Mine Ban Treaty if the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) made a similar commitment, as in signing the DoC. Representatives of Geneva Call met with Mr. Anton Balasingham, chief advisor and political negotiator, and the peace delegation of the LTTE in Bern, Switzerland on 9 December. The meeting was facilitated by the Government of Switzerland. The LTTE said they were seriously considering the possibility of signing the DoC.

## Others

Throughout 2002, Geneva Call continued discussions with representatives of the Polisario Front who, while considering a mine ban, continue to speak of the need for mines due to the fragility of the cease-fire and continued postponement of the UN referendum on the status of Western Sahara. In January 2002, in a letter to Geneva Call, the Presidential Council of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) declared its readiness to commit itself to a total ban on AP mines. Geneva Call also established contact with Chechen groups, Angola's Front for Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda (FLEC) and the Aceh-Sumatra National Liberation Front (ASNLF) in Indonesia. ASNLF denied use of AP mines and invited Geneva Call to conduct a verification mission.



# More than just signatures Implementation of the DoC

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## Launch of mine actions programs

Many regions under the control of NSAs, with a few notable exceptions, are areas of severe hardship that have received little support from the international community. There are currently few, if any, mine clearance or victim assistance activities in these areas. For this reason, Geneva Call is committed to promoting the implementation of humanitarian mine action programmes in areas controlled by signatory groups to the DoC. In September 2002, Geneva Call initiated consultations between the Government of Sudan, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army and the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), which resulted in a Memorandum of Understanding for emergency mine action support in Sudan. Under the agreement, UNMAS will assist both parties in the joint development of a cross-conflict mine action strategy that meets the immediate humanitarian needs of the country. This project is envisioned as one that lays the foundation for a long-term response to the landmine problem in Sudan and will eventually lead to a mutually agreed upon national mine action plan. The MoU was signed 19 September in Geneva during the 4MSP.

## Verification missions

The ultimate indicator of progress made with NSAs and universalizing the AP mine ban norm is not the number of DoCs signed, but the implementation of an effective ban and the practice of humanitarian mine action in the areas

under NSA control. The first verification mission under the DoC occurred in Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF)-controlled areas in Central Mindanao, southern Philippines, in April 2002. The mission was undertaken in response to reports, made by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), of MILF use of AP mines during the period April - July 2000, after they signed the DoC in March 2000.

Last-minute restrictions placed by the Department of Defense on the movements of non-Filipino mission members prevented a thorough investigation and independent verification of the allegations of MILF use, particularly as the mission's foreign technical advisor was not allowed to visit the sites in question. However, in two separate meetings with the MILF - Filipino mission members met with the MILF's military chief in Mindanao and later a three-person MILF delegation met with all mission members in Manila - it was possible to obtain a MILF response to the allegations. These meetings also proved useful in the determination of future efforts to monitor the implementation of the DoC, in particular independent, onsite, third party verification of allegations.

The mission revealed an important lesson regarding the need to ensure a clear understanding of the obligations and correct interpretations of the technical concepts used in the DoC, especially the concept of a total ban and the types of mines covered by the ban. In the period April-July 2000, the MILF employed what they described as "string-pulled command-detonated" improvised landmines around their camps, which were then under assault by the AFP. The MILF justified the use of these weapons on "defensive and discriminate" grounds in response to the "excessive use of force" shown by the AFP. The MILF compared these improvised devices to Claymore mines which, when used in command-detonate mode, are legal under the 1997 Convention. The "string-pull" devices, however,

were used with mortar rounds and were not kept under permanent surveillance and could have been detonated by passers-by. Under the DoC, signatories commit to a complete and unconditional ban on AP mines, understood to be any explosive device that is victim-activated. The mission noted that the MILF should no longer employ “string-pulled” improvised landmines even in attempted or purported “command detonated” mode. This was agreed to by the MILF who, on 7 April 2002, through its Vice-Chairman for Military Affairs, Commander-in-Chief and Peace Panel Chairman, Al Haj Murad, reaffirmed its commitment under the DoC.

**Under Article 1** of the DoC, anti-personnel mines are defined as those devices which effectively explode by the presence, proximity or contact of a person, including other victim-activated explosive devices and anti-vehicle mines with the same effect whether with or without anti-handling devices. The commitment to a “total ban” is taken to mean a complete prohibition on all use, development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, and transfer of such mines under any circumstances and includes an undertaking to destroy all such mines.

This is the **total ban clause**, which is the main commitment under the DoC. Most significant is the effect- or impact-oriented definition of APMs, which is superior to the design-oriented definition in the 1997 Ottawa Treaty. A landmine designed as an anti-vehicle mine may have the same effect as an AP mine. Note that the effect-oriented definition includes “other victim-activated explosive devices and anti-vehicle mines with the same effects”.

Beyond assessing the veracity of these allegations, Geneva Call and the MILF were able to determine the technical assistance needed by the MILF to implement the DoC and to agree upon ‘next steps’ in four areas: implementing guidelines, verification mechanism, mine clearance and training. Under Article 4 of the DoC, Geneva Call works to provide support or assistance in implementation of the DoC.

This first verification mission demonstrates that such a mission is possible and, while the movement of foreign members was restricted by the Philippine Defense Department, it does respond to the concerns raised about how DoC commitments can be monitored. The mission also showed that NSAs, at least some of them, are willing to comply with humanitarian norms. Through its cooperation, the MILF has indicated its readiness to be accountable, beginning with the AP mine ban, to humanitarian norms and provided an example for other rebel groups in the Philippines and elsewhere in the world. <sup>3</sup>



Miriam Coronel Ferrer of the Philippine Campaign to Ban Landmines and Soliman Santos of Geneva Call meeting with MILF representatives in Central Mindanao, Philippines, on Geneva Call's first verification mission, April 2002.

Photo Credit: PCBL, 2002

3. A copy of the Mindanao mission report is available on request.

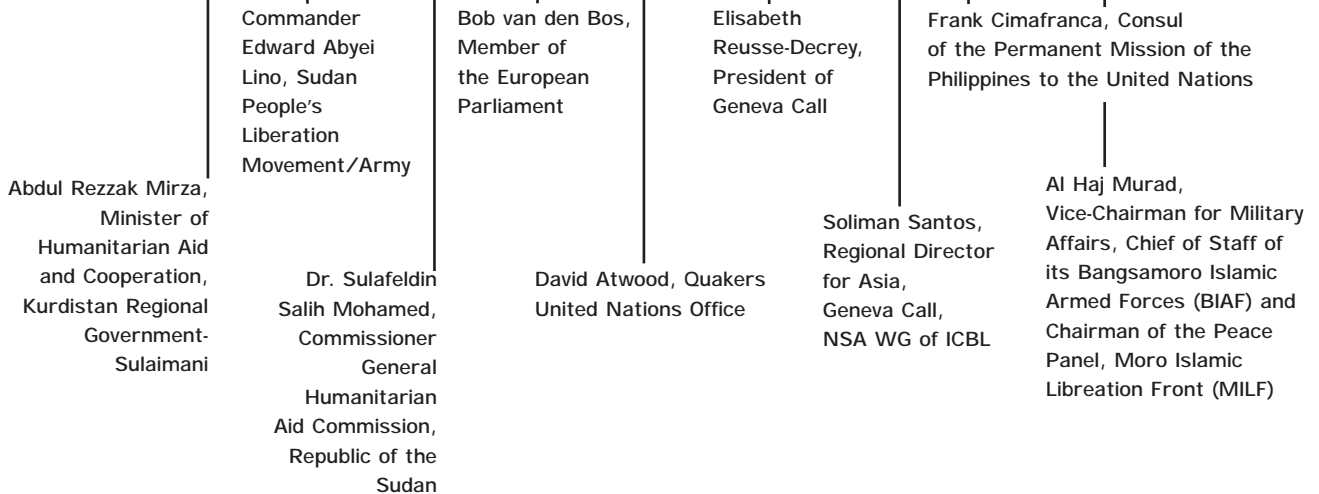
# Reaching critical mass

True universalization of the AP mine ban norm is dependent upon the engagement of NSAs in a complementary and parallel process to the Mine Ban Treaty, such as that provided through Geneva Call's DoC. Not surprisingly, efforts to solicit the support of governments and the international community at large has also been difficult.

Due largely to the persistent efforts of Geneva Call and national campaigns within the ICBL network, it appears the tide is turning. The relevance of the NSA issue to the establishment of this universal norm has increasingly appeared on the agendas of the international community.



Round table discussion, 4MSP  
Photo credit: Geneva Call, Pascal Bongard, 2002



- **ON 7 MARCH**, Geneva Call hosted an information meeting on NSAs in the European Parliament (EP) attended by approximately 40 people. Panel members included representatives from Handicap International-Belgium, the ICBL, Iraqi Kurdistan's two regional governments and the SPLM/A. As a result, members of the European Parliament established the Working Group on NSAs and landmines, chaired by EP member Bob Van den Bos with Geneva Call serving as a resource organisation. The creation of the Working Group builds upon an earlier European Parliament resolution of September 2001 to support efforts to engage NSAs in a ban on AP mines.

- **IN JULY**, the Human Security Network recognized the importance that NSAs assume in building human security and "acknowledged the importance of devising strategies for use at the field level that can encourage respect for human rights and international humanitarian law."

- **IN SEPTEMBER**, the EP Working Group sought clarification of the European Union's policy on NSAs. In a written response Chris Patten, the European Commissioner for External Relations, confirmed the European Commission's support for actions banning AP landmines - including activities to engage NSAs - through the financing of impact surveys, mine clearance, awareness raising and other actions, dependent on "the capacity of actors concerned to best perform the activities." The Commissioner went on to recognize the success of Geneva Call's efforts in Sudan. "The Commission believes that Geneva Call has achieved a high degree of beneficial impact in Sudan. This is a country that has been a priority for Community support in the fight against AP

[mines] since early 2000. The Commission takes the view that all the ingredients for further cross-line confidence building activities exist there and its continued support will be essential."

- **IN SEPTEMBER**, during the Fourth Meeting of States Parties (4MSP), Geneva Call in collaboration with the NSA Working Group of the ICBL organized a roundtable discussion which brought together representatives of NSAs who have signed the DoC and their government representatives to talk about the importance of including NSAs in the mine ban for the benefit of the civilian population. For the first time, such an event was able to take place in the United Nations in Geneva in parallel to a major governmental event. This roundtable was attended by approximately 100 delegates and proved once more that it is possible to discuss mines and come to an agreement on humanitarian action even if the parties are still in conflict.

*"It is not necessary  
to have peace in order  
to save lives."*

Edward Lino,  
Representative of Sudan People's Liberation Army

Following the lobbying efforts of Geneva Call, national campaigns of the ICBL and a group of like-minded governments, States Parties to the AP Mine Ban Treaty restated the need to involve NSAs in the universalization of the ban in the final declaration adopted at the 4MSP. "We reaffirm that progress to free the world from anti-personnel mines would be promoted by the commitment by non-State actors to cease and renounce their use in line with the international norm established by this Convention. We urge all non-State actors to cease and renounce the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines according to the principles and norms of International Humanitarian Law."

The Governments of Switzerland and Italy expressed their strong support for the work of Geneva Call during the 4MSP in September and announced their contributions to Geneva Call's activities in 2003. Italy's public statement was followed up with a motion passed on 15 October by the Italian Senate acknowledging the importance of engaging NSAs in a mine ban and supporting NGOs engaged in this task.

- **ON 24 OCTOBER**, the European Parliament adopted an amendment to the EU budget for 2003 that increased the budgetary allocation for European Commission mine action by € 3,150 million (4,630,500 CHF), totalling € 17,5 million (25,725,000 CHF). It is understood these funds will be also available for NGO activities to engage NSAs in the mine ban process.

- **THE INCREASED NUMBER OF INVITATIONS GENEVA CALL RECEIVED IN 2002** to present its work at international meetings, workshops, conferences and academic seminars further illustrate the growing

recognition of NSAs as an essential component to the establishment of international humanitarian norms. Geneva Call made presentations at the ICRC's third Ecogia Seminar on the Protection of Civilians and to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum; the UNMAS Steering on Mine Action; the Geneva Forum; the Geneva International Peace Research Institute; the Foreign Affairs and Defense Policy Committee of the European Parliament; the Colombian Colonels' Escuela Superior de Guerra, the Landmine Monitor 2002 Global Researchers Meeting and an International Peace Bureau book launch. The work of Geneva Call was referenced in specialized publications, such as the Journal of Mine Action edited by James Madison University and in seminars by Harvard University and the ICRC.

## Establishing a reference point

Deciding which NSA groups to engage and then to design an effective plan of action for each requires expert knowledge and thorough analysis. It is imperative to have reliable and impartial information. It is for this reason that in 2002, Geneva Call finalized the concept and design of an electronic database on NSAs. The database will include general information on each NSA, its practices in accordance with international humanitarian norms and its relation to the landmine problem. In late September, with a team of volunteers, Geneva Call began the process of populating the database. Plans to launch the database online are underway.

*"The Mine Ban Treaty has become a norm of international humanitarian law much faster than we could expect it to have five years ago. It is important to note that the Convention has even changed the behaviour of those who have not yet ratified it. And even Non-State Actors have started to make commitments not to use anti-personnel mines under the Geneva Call."*

Dr. Cornelio Sommaruga, President of the GICHD,  
Fourth Meeting of States Parties, September 2002

## Working with others

Geneva Call works in close collaboration with the ICBL NSA Working Group and its national campaigns as well as with Landmine Monitor researchers, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and other UN agencies, several governments, the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), the mine action community at large and specialized NGOs or NGO coalitions. These partnerships and collaborations range from field missions to co-organizing workshops and implementing programs. During 2002 Geneva Call:

- **CO-ORGANIZED** with the ICBL NSA Working Group an unprecedented roundtable discussion with DoC signatory groups from Sudan, the Philippines and Iraq, and State representatives, on the landmine problem. The meeting was held in the UN in Geneva during the 4MSP and was attended by approximately 100 participants.

- **ENTERED INTO A CROSS-CONFLICT ADVOCACY PROJECT** in Sri Lanka directed at both the Government and the LTTE. The partnership with the Sri Lanka Campaign to Ban Landmines and Landmine Action was formalized in December.

- **FORMALIZED** its relationship with the Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD) and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) calling for increased collaboration between the two organizations, particularly the provision of technical assistance. The MoU was signed following FSD's participation in Geneva Call missions to the Philippines and Iraqi Kurdistan.

## 2002 mission delegations

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- **PHILIPPINES:** Retired Indian Major General Dipankar Banerjee, Executive Director of the Regional Centre for Strategic Studies in Colombo, Sri Lanka and a member of the ICRC Advisory Council; Atty. Soliman Santos, Regional Director for Asia, Geneva Call; Prof. Miriam Colonel-Ferrer, Co-Coordinator, Philippine Campaign to Ban Landmines; Alfredo Lubang, Program Coordinator, Gaston Z. Ortigas Peace Institute; André-Marc Farineau, Operations Officer, FSD; Faiz Mohammad Fayyaz, Coordinator, Pakistan Campaign to Ban Landmines.

- **IRAQI KURDISTAN:** Elisabeth Reusse-Decrey, President, Geneva Call; Mehmet Balci, Regional Director for the Middle East, Geneva Call; Patrick Hirard, FSD; Pascal Bongard, Program Officer, Geneva Call.

- **ELDORET, KENYA:** Elisabeth Reusse-Decrey, President, Geneva Call; Lare Okungu, Regional Director for Africa, Geneva Call.



© ICRC,  
Marc Bouvier,  
1997

## Visions for the year ahead

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Geneva Call has developed new programs and initiatives, such as a conference aimed at women members of NSAs, a travelling exhibit tentatively scheduled to be launched at the Fifth Meeting of States Parties and a more formalized approach to its networking and communications strategies. The organization's work in 2003 will build upon the experiences gained and the successes celebrated in 2002. Special emphasis will be placed on providing support to DoC signatories for the implementation of their obligations. Field missions, the further development of monitoring and verification efforts and facilitation of workshops and dialogue will continue while new challenges for work – Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nepal, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Colombia and Iran – await detailed exploration.

# Geneva Call BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31.12.2002

<b>ASSETS</b>		<b>TOTAL in swiss francs</b>
Post office cheque 17-695277-4		20'549.05
UBS 240-382702.01 Q		68'818.95
Guarantee rent Brussels		2'215.40
Anticipated tax to be recuperated		133.35
Temporary assets		9'619.55
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>101'336.30</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Loan Swiss Campaign		45'000.00
Liability Turkish Campaign		7'204.80
ICBL workshop provision		4'363.25
Temporary liabilities		29'230.80
Surplus carried forward	77'425.75	
Loss 2002	-61'888.30	15'537.45
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>101'336.30</b>

1USD = 1.39 CHF



# Geneva Call INCOME STATEMENT

01.01.2002 - 31.12.2002

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>TOTAL in swiss francs</b>
<b>Grants and gifts</b>	
Non-earmarked gifts	120 200,00
Non-earmarked Grants	156 400,00
Earmarked Grants	62 650,00
	<b>339 250,00</b>
<b>Other Income</b>	8 653,15
	<b>8 653,15</b>
<b>Capital Income</b>	181,80
	<b>181,80</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>348 084,95</b>
<hr/>	
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Operating Expenditures	
<b>Personnel Expenditures</b>	
Salaries and Social Charges	144 410,00
Social Security Benefits	15 307,55
	<b>159 717,55</b>
<b>Rent and Charges</b>	
Rent and Charges in Geneva	13 395,40
Brussels Rent	5 645,30
	<b>19 040,70</b>
<b>Maintenance, Repairs and Replacements</b>	215,00
	<b>215,00</b>
<b>Insurance and Tax Premiums</b>	2 758,10
	<b>2 758,10</b>
<b>Specific Financed Programs</b>	
Handbook	3 449,00
Database	20 729,80
Asia	335,85
	<b>24 514,65</b>
<b>Specific Non-Financed Programs</b>	
Kurdistan	19 639,80
European Union	27 648,60
Africa	58 951,00
Latin America	300,00
Asia	29 120,95
Middle East	11 639,00
Roundtable	19 787,55
	<b>167 086,90</b>
<b>Office and Administrative Expenditures</b>	16 271,85
	<b>16 271,85</b>
<b>Promotion and Representation</b>	15 196,35
	<b>15 196,35</b>
<b>Other Operational Expenditures</b>	5 172,15
	<b>5 172,15</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>409 973,25</b>
<b>TOTAL DEFICIT</b>	<b>- 61 888,30</b>

1USD = 1.39 CHF

# Deed of Commitment Under Geneva Call for adherence to a Total Ban on Anti-personnel Mines and for Cooperation in Mine Action

WE, the (NAME OF THE NON-STATE ACTOR), through our duly authorized representative(s),

*Recognising* the global scourge of anti-personnel mines which indiscriminately and inhumanely kill and maim combatants and civilians, mostly innocent and defenceless people, especially women and children, even after the armed conflict is over;

*Realising* that the limited military utility of anti-personnel mines is far outweighed by their appalling humanitarian, socio-economic and environmental consequences, including on post-conflict reconciliation and reconstruction;

*Rejecting* the notion that revolutionary ends or just causes justify inhumane means and methods of warfare of a nature to cause unnecessary suffering;

*Accepting* that international humanitarian law and human rights apply to and oblige all parties to armed conflicts;

*Reaffirming* our determination to protect the civilian population from the effects or dangers of military actions, and to respect their rights to life, to human dignity, and to development;

*Resolved* to play our role not only as actors in armed conflicts but also as participants in the practice and development of legal and normative standards for such conflicts, starting with a contribution to the overall humanitarian effort to solve the global landmine problem for the sake of its victims;

*Acknowledging* the norm of a total ban on anti-personnel mines established by the 1997 Ottawa Treaty, which is an important step toward the total eradication of landmines;

**NOW, THEREFORE, hereby solemnly commit ourselves to the following terms:**

**1.** TO ADHERE to a total ban on anti-personnel mines. By anti-personnel mines, we refer to those devices which effectively explode by the presence, proximity or contact of a person, including other victim-activated explosive devices and anti-vehicle mines with the same effect whether with or without anti-handling devices. By total ban, we refer to a complete prohibition on all use, development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, and transfer of such mines,

under any circumstances. This includes an undertaking on the destruction of all such mines.

**2.** TO COOPERATE IN AND UNDERTAKE stockpile destruction, mine clearance, victim assistance, mine awareness, and various other forms of mine action, especially where these programs are being implemented by independent international and national organisations.

**3.** TO ALLOW AND COOPERATE in the monitoring and verification of our commitment to a total ban on anti-personnel mines by Geneva Call and other independent international and national organisations associated for this purpose with Geneva Call. Such monitoring and verification include visits and inspections in all areas where anti-personnel mines may be present, and the provision of the necessary information and reports, as may be required for such purposes in the spirit of transparency and accountability.

**4.** TO ISSUE the necessary orders and directives to our commanders and fighters for the implementation and enforcement of our commitment under the foregoing paragraphs, including measures for information dissemination and training, as well as disciplinary sanctions in case of non-compliance.

**5.** TO TREAT this commitment as one step or part of a broader commitment in principle to the ideal of humanitarian norms, particularly of international humanitarian law and human rights, and to contribute to their respect in field practice as well as to the further development of humanitarian norms for armed conflicts.

**6.** This Deed of Commitment shall not affect our legal status, pursuant to the relevant clause in common article 3 of the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949.

**7.** We understand that Geneva Call may publicize our compliance or non-compliance with this Deed of Commitment.

**8.** We see the desirability of attracting the adherence of other armed groups to this Deed of Commitment and will do our part to promote it.

**9.** This Deed of Commitment complements or supercedes, as the case may be, any existing unilateral declaration of ours on anti-personnel mines.

**10.** This Deed of Commitment shall take effect immediately upon its signing and receipt by the Government of the Republic and Canton of Geneva which receives it as the custodian of such deeds and similar unilateral declarations.

## 2002 Donors

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Government of Switzerland (DFA)

Republic and Canton of Geneva

City of Geneva

City of Lancy / Geneva

Karl Popper Foundation, Switzerland

Binladin Foundation, Switzerland

Pro Victimis Foundation, Switzerland

Oltramare Foundation, Switzerland

Loterie Romande, Switzerland

United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)  
for logistical and administrative support.

Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD)  
for technical expertise.

## Board

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- **Elisabeth Reusse-Decrey**  
Geneva Call President; Co-Chair of the ICBL NSA Working Group, Coordinator of the Swiss Campaign to Ban Landmines, Former President of the Parliament of the Republic and Canton of Geneva
- **Eric Sottas**  
Geneva Call Vice-President; Director of the World Organisation against Torture
- **Tom McCarthy**  
Former Senior Advisor, Office of the UN High Commissioner of Human Rights
- **Andrew Clapham**  
Professor of Public International Law at the Graduate Institute of International Studies
- **Pierre Hazan**  
Reporter for Le Temps and Libération

## Regional Directors

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- **Africa:** Lare Okungu
- **Asia:** Atty Soliman Santos
- **Latin America:** Eduardo Marino (until July)
- **Middle East and the EU:** Mehmet Balci

## Staff

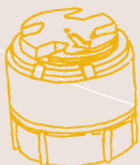
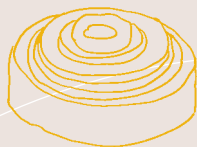
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- **Pascal Bongard**, Program Officer
- **Katherine Kramer**, Program Officer & Database Manager
- **Nino Manaog**, Program Assistant for Mindanao Mission

## Volunteers

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- **Philippe Chalverat**, Information Technology
- **Antoinette Masur**, Accountant
- **Sylvie Droz**, Database
- **Agnieszka Király**, Database
- **Edward Maeder**, Database
- **Melanie Tremblay**, Database
- **Tom Grant**, Volunteer
- **Yvan Koenig**, Volunteer
- **Olivier Mutter**, Volunteer



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