Joint Resolution: Concerning Antipersonnel Landmines

The UNPO General Assembly;

Concerned that antipersonnel landmines are frequently and widely used on indigenous lands and territories;

Noting that antipersonnel landmines are particularly indiscriminate and inhumane, killing or maiming civilians and combatants alike, above all innocent and defenceless people, even after the armed conflict has ended;

Recognising that antipersonnel landmine use is a violation of individual and collective rights as they terrorise people, deprive them of life, free movement and produce long-term suffering;

Acknowledging the devastation of antipersonnel landmines to the environment and how they deprive people of their land and natural resources;

Noting that the presence of antipersonnel landmines hinders socio-economic development and the return of displaced people;

Rejecting the notion that the desired ends 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 conflict;

Recognising the international norm prohibiting antipersonnel landmines as codified by the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, otherwise known as the Mine Ban Treaty

Recognising the Deed of Commitment Under Geneva Call for Adherence to a Total Ban on Anti-personnel Mines and for Cooperation in Mine action as a specific mechanism enabling non-State actors to commit to the mine ban and as a necessary complement to the Mine Ban Treaty.

Therefore the UNPO:

1. Considers the use of antipersonnel landmines as contrary to international humanitarian law and human rights law;

2. Denounces the use of antipersonnel landmines for any purpose and by anyone;

3. Commits ourselves to a total ban on antipersonnel landmines under all circumstances;

4. Urges all actors who continue to use, produce, acquire, stockpile, retain and/or transfer antipersonnel landmines, whether State actors or non-State actors, to cease immediately;

5. Calls on States who have not yet done so to accede to the Mine Ban Treaty;

7. Calls on all non-State actors to sign Geneva Call’s Deed of Commitment banning antipersonnel landmines.

8. Welcomes the commitments made by our member organisations to ban antipersonnel mines through such instruments as Geneva Call’s Deed of Commitment;

9. Calls on all people everywhere to join in the common task to eradicate these weapons and meet the enormous challenges of mine action, including victim assistance, and to provide the technical and financial assistance required.