

Concept note on Fourth Review Conference substantive documents

Submitted by the President of the Fourth Review Conference

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1. Introduction

The Fourth Review Conference will adopt three key substantive documents: 1) a Review Document detailing the status of implementation, 2) the Oslo Action Plan for the years 2020 – 2024 and 3) a political declaration. This concept note outlines the presidency's initial vision for these substantive documents as well as the process and timeline for their development. The concept note further offers guidance on how States Parties and other stakeholders can contribute to the process.

The process of developing these documents will be an inclusive one and all States Parties and other stakeholders are invited to share their views, analysis and input to the development of the Oslo Action Plan and associated documents. The presidency aims for all three substantive documents to be clear, concrete and concise. The documents should focus on overall, global analysis and seek to respond to trends and challenges through concrete actions and commitments. Importantly, the three substantive documents should reflect today's realities and remaining challenges.

2. The Review of the Status and Operation of the Convention ("Review Document") will be a comprehensive – but concise - review of the status and implementation of all thematic areas of the Convention, including universalization, victim assistance, mine clearance, stockpile destruction, cooperation and assistance and transparency and the exchange of information.

The Review Document will be structured thematically with the aim to:

- detail and analyse progress made in fulfilling Convention obligations since the 2014 Third Review Conference;
- identify areas where progress may be lagging behind expectations;
- identify new challenges that have emerged since 2014 in the fulfilment of the obligations and goals of the Convention; and
- Identify areas where improvements can be made to ensure the efficient and effective implementation of the Convention.

The Review Document will focus on a global trend analysis rather than country-by-country analysis, seeking to capture and reflect the reality the Convention is facing today.

States Parties and other stakeholders are welcome to share their analysis of progress and challenges in fulfilling Convention obligations and achieving its goals in the period 2014 – 2019. Input should be provided on the implementation of the main thematic areas of the Convention (i.e. universalization, compliance, victim assistance, mine clearance, stockpile destruction, cooperation and assistance and transparency and the exchange of information) by addressing the following questions:

- What progress has been made in the implementation of the Convention's obligations since the Third Review Conference?
- In what areas has progress in implementation been slower or not sufficient?
- How have changes in the global context hampered effective and efficient implementation of the Convention's obligations?
- What are the remaining challenges, including new challenges, which are/will be confronted by the mine action community in the implementation of the Convention's obligations?

All analysis submitted should focus on identifying overall, global trends since the Third Review Conference in 2014, but may use country examples if these are particularly suited to illustrate a global trend. Written input should be succinct and simple to understand.

All written suggestions and input for the Review Document should be submitted by emailing the ISU isu@apminebanconvention.org and copying the presidency team using the email mineban@mfa.no.

3. The Oslo Action Plan will build on and respond to the analysis in the Review Document. The Oslo Action Plan will detail the concrete actions States Parties will need to take to respond to remaining challenges in order to fulfil the obligations and achieve the goals of the Convention during the period of 2020 - 2024. The Oslo Action Plan will build on previous action plans but will seek to capture new developments, progress and challenges. The aim will be for the Oslo Action Plan to be clear and simple to understand. It will contain concrete actions, which should be measurable where possible.

The Oslo Action Plan will consist of an introductory section, followed by thematic actions areas. This outline should be considered a provisional one, as the analysis in the Review Document may still indicate a need to review this proposed outline.

Introduction: The introduction will include actions that are crosscutting for all areas of implementation of the Convention, including for example gender, national ownership, efficient use of resources, transparency reporting etc.

Thematic action areas: Each thematic area will include a very brief introduction (to cover only issues not addressed in the introduction section), followed by concrete, tangible and, to the greatest extent possible, measurable actions. The main areas which are likely to be included as thematic sections are the following:

- Universalization
- Victim assistance
- Mine clearance
- Mine risk education
- Cooperation and assistance
- Stockpile destruction
- Compliance

States Parties and other stakeholders are encouraged to submit written suggestions for actions relating to one or more thematic sections of the Oslo Action Plan in line with the proposed outline. States Parties and other stakeholders are also encouraged to suggest actions relating to cross-cutting issues that are

relevant to all aspects of Convention implementation. Input should focus on actions that support the goals of the Convention, while not repeating what is stated in the Convention.

Input to the Oslo Action Plan should suggest concrete, tangible and, to the greatest extent possible, measurable actions States Parties should take in order to fulfil the obligations and reach the goals set forth by the Convention. Some actions may be identified as only relevant to certain groups of States Parties (i.e. affected states, states in a position to provide assistance etc.), and others as applicable to all States Parties. Language should be simple to understand, allowing the reader to quickly and easily grasp the core of the suggested action to be undertaken.

All written suggestions and input for the Oslo Action Plan should be submitted to the presidency team using the email mineban@mfa.no.

3. The Political Declaration will aim to strengthen and express the political commitment of States Parties to implement the Oslo Action Plan and to recommit to increasing their efforts to fulfil the Convention's obligations and its aims as soon as possible.

Detailed guidance on input to the Political Declaration will be provided at a later stage. Any suggestions at this point can be emailed to mineban@mfa.no

4. Timeline for the development of documents

The three substantive documents will be developed within a timeline that will allow the Review Document to inform the Oslo Action Plan and, subsequently, the Oslo Action Plan to inform the political declaration. In doing so, the Presidency will aim to observe the following key dates and deadlines:

30 April	<u>Deadline for submission of analysis and input to the Review Document from States Parties and other stakeholders</u>
Mid May	A first informal draft of the Review Document will be circulated to all States Parties
22-24 May	Intersessional meetings with one informal day including thematic panels to inform the Oslo Action Plan and the informal draft of the Review Document
24 May	First preparatory meeting for the Fourth Review Conference. States Parties and other stakeholders will have the opportunity to share their views on the informal draft of the Review Document and the outline of the Oslo Action Plan
17 June	<u>Deadline for submission of written input to the Oslo Action Plan from States Parties and other stakeholders</u>
Late July	Draft documentation for the second preparatory meeting circulated to all States Parties, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Draft Review Document- Draft Oslo Action Plan
Early Sept.	Elements for a political declaration circulated informally to all States Parties

- 18 September** Second preparatory meeting. States Parties and other stakeholders invited to share their views on the draft Review Document, the draft Oslo Action Plan and elements for a political declaration
- 1 October** Deadline for submission of input to the political declaration
- Mid-October** First draft of the political declaration circulated to all States Parties for their comments. Consultations continue towards the Review Conference.