

ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION INTERSESSIONAL MEETINGS

25-26 JUNE 2015

MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION

Background on the Committee:

The Maputo Review Conference established inter alia the Committee on Article 5 Implementation, the purpose of which is “to intensify efforts, particularly those outlined in the Maputo Action Plan, to ensure that Article 5 is fully implemented as soon as possible, while acknowledging local, national and regional circumstances in its practical implementation.” The Review Conference agreed that “the Committee will fulfil its purpose by providing feedback to States Parties having submitted information on the location of all mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines and on mine clearance programmes as well as their results.” Furthermore, the Committee will ensure, as agreed to by the States Parties, that a cooperative engagement of Article 5 implementing States Parties continues after requests have been granted.”

The mandate of the Committee includes that it will do the following:

- “review relevant information on Article 5 implementation submitted by States Parties, including in the context of Article 7 obligations and on efforts undertaken under Article 6 on international cooperation and assistance, seek clarity when required and provide advice and support in a cooperative manner to States Parties on the fulfilment of their obligations to report on Article 5 implementation,”
- “prepare and submit to the States Parties in advance of Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences an analysis of each request for an Article 5 extended deadline, taking into account, as relevant, the decisions on the analysis process as agreed to by the Seventh and the Twelfth Meetings of the States Parties,” and,
- “engage relevant States Parties, after any extension requests have been granted, on the implementation of their commitments as contained in requests and related decisions on their request.”

In carrying out its mandate, “the Committee will present preliminary observations at intersessional meetings if need be, and conclusions and recommendations at Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences” and “remain transparent and accountable, including by reporting on activities at both intersessional meetings and Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.”

Matters pertaining to the Committee’s mandate at the intersessional meetings:

To take into account the Maputo decisions, the agenda item pertaining to the Committee’s mandate will be organized as follows:

- The Committee will present its activity report and its preliminary observations, fulfilling its purpose of “providing feedback to States Parties” by including observations that are specific to State Parties that are in the process of implementing Article 5. States Parties mentioned in the Committee’s observations and other delegations may wish to comment on these report and observations, or otherwise share views on the implementation of Article 5 of the Convention.

Unlike in the past, the States Parties that are in the process of implementing Article 5 will **not** be asked to deliver presentations as the Maputo Action Plan commits States Parties to provide detailed information on implementation in their Article 7 reports, which were due on 30 April.

- The States Parties that have submitted requests for extensions to be considered at the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties will be invited to briefly elaborate on the main elements of their requests, if possible addressing in a concise manner the three questions:
 - a. What are the circumstances impeding completion by the current deadline?
 - b. What remains to be done to complete implementation of Article 5?
 - c. How much time is being requested and what is the State Party's plan to complete implementation during this time-frame?
- The floor will be open for any delegation that wish to share views on the issue related to Art. 5 implementation.
- The agenda item will be concluded by the Chair's closing remarks and information on what next steps the Committee intends to take.