

Panel Discussion: Meeting our Aspirations of 2025
Friday, 9 June 2017, 10:00 – 11:00

Concept Note

Topic

Meeting our aspirations of 2025 requires a concerted effort and increased cooperation among key actors. During this interactive thematic discussion operators will present their views on the remaining challenges and suggest concrete improvements.

Date and venue

Friday, 9 June 2017, 10:00-11:00, Room A, World Meteorological Building

Background

At the 2014 Third Review Conference, the States Parties adopted the *Maputo +15 Declaration* which emphasizes the aspiration of the States Parties to complete the respective time-bound obligations of the Convention with the urgency that the completion work requires. Meeting the 2025 aspirations of the States Parties requires a concerted effort and increased cooperation amongst the key actors.

During this interactive thematic discussion operators will present their assessments of the challenges they face and possible areas of improvement to ensure significant progress in implementation between 2017 and 2025 and to support States Parties in implementing mine clearance obligations under the Convention.

Focus and objectives

The focus of the panel will cover views concerning national and international coordination, operational approaches and the importance of communicating the successes of our mine clearance activities. The objective will be to facilitate and stimulate constructive, informed and transparent dialogue on the issues that are important to implement this core component of the Convention.

The panel is an opportunity for operators to share their expertise, experiences and views in an informal manner, and to consider how we as a community of States Parties in cooperation with civil society, can ensure that we can look back in 2025 at significant progress having been made in implementation.

Speakers and panellists

Moderation: **H.E. Thomas Hajnoczi**, President of the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties.

Panel:

- Richard MacCormac, Head, Danish Demining Group
- Camille Wallen, Head of Policy and Evaluation, the Halo Trust
- Chris Loughran, Director of Policy, Mines Advisory Group
- Christian Holmboe Ruge, Head of Policy, Norwegian People's Aid

Format

The panel will be held in an interactive format, with no presentation other than the opening statement, which will lay the ground for discussion and define the scope of the theme. The moderator will animate the discussion by asking a different question to each panellist, who will be given a 5 minute slot to answer the question. Each panellist will have the opportunity to offer her/his insight into the matter. This method will facilitate targeting the discussions on specific issues related to our aspirations of meeting 2025. This will be followed by interaction with the floor with comments and questions from States Parties and other participants, to which the moderator may ask the panellists to reply.

States Parties and other participants are encouraged to formulate their statements in terms of questions and sharing their experience in order to stimulate the debate.

Outcome

The discussion will gather ideas on practical ways and approaches to strengthen our efforts towards our 2025 aspirations

Background documents

- Maputo +15 Declaration
- Maputo Action Plan

Questions for consideration:

- Increased coordination between all the relevant actors on the ground is increasingly important. This includes national authorities, national and international NGOs as well as often the military forces of the State. How we can foster this coordination to help us in meeting our 2025 ambitions?
- How can we collectively improve in telling our story and demonstrating success? How can doing so play an important role in meeting our 2025 objectives?
- Cooperation and assistance has always been a key of our Convention. How can cooperation and assistance best be used in order for us to ensure that we look back in 2025 having met our 2025 ambitions?
- What operational best practices should be further explored to ensure we meet our mine clearance objectives under the Convention?
- What can we do differently? What will it take to achieve the 2025 deadline?