

APMBC | Cooperation & Assistance | Individualised Approach

Individualised approach

In order to advance the goals of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the specific aspiration agreed at its Maputo Review Conference, to accomplish all outstanding obligations under this Convention, to the fullest extent possible, by 2025, the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance is supporting interested affected states to engage in an individualised approach. This approach aims to facilitate a platform for individual affected states to provide – on a voluntary, informal basis – detailed information on the challenges it faces and its needs with the aim of fulfilling the remaining obligations of the Convention in an effective and expedient way. It provides an opportunity to connect with the donor community (including possible partners for South-South or regional cooperation), mine action operators, and other stakeholders. National ownership by the interested affected States Party is of the essence.

The interested affected state, with support from the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance, decides how the individualised approach will be organised. It determines who should participate in the meeting(s) and what the format will be. It can also decide where to hold the meetings. The meetings could be held on the margins of the Intersessional Meetings or Meetings of States Parties (MSPs) or Review Conferences, or even outside of Geneva and not in connection with international meetings, although Committee support may be limited due to resources in this latter instance. The Committee can offer suggestions on the basis of previous experience and lessons learned. At each meeting, the affected state will have the opportunity to take stock of the current situation in its country and shed light on outstanding issues and challenges, thereby increasing transparency and supporting information exchange. This could then help to facilitate possible new partnerships toward completion of the affected states obligations and commitments.

An example of a structure of a meeting

- I. Introduction by the Chair of the Committee on the individualised approach
- II. Presentation by the interested/affected States Party on the status, needs and challenges in implementation of its obligations and commitments under the Convention and Maputo Action Plan
 - A. Circumstances, needs and challenges in mine clearance
 - B. Circumstances, needs and challenges in stockpile destruction
 - C. Challenges and needs in providing mine risk reduction and education programmes
 - D. Challenges and needs in implementing Victim Assistance
 - E. Action the interested/affected States Party undertakes nationally to advance the norms of the Convention and to ensure compliance with it
 - F. Sharing the expertise of the interested/affected States Party in mine action through bilateral, regional and international cooperation
- III. Discussion with participants on the information presented
- IV. Conclusion

Follow up to these meetings could include, at the discretion of the affected state, outcomes such as reports which can be shared with participants, subsequent meetings (in Geneva and/or the affected state), information sharing, development of contact lists, enhancement of national reporting and/or the platform for partnerships.

Background

With the common 2025 goal in mind, States Parties have to look carefully both at the progress made and at the remaining challenges. As of present, 32 States Parties have outstanding mine clearance obligations (article 5) and 29 have indicated to have a responsibility for a high number of mine survivors and are faced with the challenge to provide assistance to victims in accordance with the Maputo Action Plan. Affected States Parties face a number of challenges, which differ widely between states, of a financial, technical, and/or political nature. There is no 'one size fits all' approach and, as such, it could be useful to support individual States Parties through tailored approaches. On this basis, the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance recommended in its report submitted for the 15th MSP to engage in individualised approaches. This recommendation was subsequently adopted by the MSP.

Contact

Interested States Parties / Questions? Please contact the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance c/o the Implementation Support Unit: isu@apminebanconvention.org