

Oral statement victims assistance

June 2018

DEAR CHAIRS

Ladies and Gentlemen

Sudan's victim assistance programme adopts a set of perceptible procedures tailored specifically to meet the immediate and long-term needs of the victims of mines and explosive remnants of war as well as for persons with disabilities in an organized, institutionalized and professionalized manner. The programme undertakes whatever necessary action to ensure that essential services have been adequately provided to the victims and their families as well. The programme serves as guidance orientating the victims to their rights and duties and also works as source of information by providing statistical information on the victims whenever it required. Sudan has affirmed its seriousness and commitment towards resolving the issues of the disabled persons including the victims of landmines and explosive remnants of war by executing the signature of the International Agreement of the Disabled Persons in 31st March 2007. And even went further beyond that and expedited the ratification of the agreement in 2009. By doing so, Sudan becomes one of the first states who signed the agreement and literally abide by its stipulated articles which as the matter of fact mirroring the Sudanese's the deep entrenched traditions and inheritances of being stretching helping hand to the needy.

2- Since its commencement, the victim assistance programme managed to register a total of, 2,115 victims, 1,503 out of the total victims were injury afflicted meanwhile 612 were killed. The programme will continue collecting statistics on victims who are in the far away areas to outreach them delivering support and services.

3- The national victim assistance strategy has been charted and developed in March 2017 with validation up to 2019. The programme primary objective was to provide consensus and statistics on victims and accordingly categorize them based on aggregated criteria. After long stagnant in the donation towards the victims' assistance, in 2017 the programme has received significant support from Japan, Italy, and the United States of America besides, support being received from the Government of Sudan. Consequently, numerous mine/ERW victims were

benefited from the services granted by the funds in areas considered of urgent priority; medical treatment, health care, prosthetics fitting, physical and psychological

rehabilitation, , social reintegration, training and micro-economic income generating projects have been immediately addressed

4- Various workshops aimed to raise awareness on the rights of persons with disabilities and advocate of their cases were convened in Blue Nile and South Kordofan states. Service institutions and facilities providing package of services such as prosthetic limbs, mobility aids and micro-economic projects were established in the afflicted states; Kassala, North Darfur, Blue Nile and South Kordofan. The President of the Republic, Minister of Social Welfares, General Director of the High Council for the Disabled Persons and NMAC Director along with numerous organizations and other concerned bodies have all participated in the events commemorating the International Day for the Disabled Persons. Within the course of the celebration His Excellency President of the Republic announced that the year 2018 would be marked as a year of the disability to advocate for the disabled persons in the country. His Excellency called upon the governors of the states to directly supervise the affairs of the disabled. He also directed to expedite the completion of construction of the prosthetic centres in all states to serve the disabled. Furthermore, he instructed the concerned ministries to orchestrate their efforts as well as employ their resources to construct centres for early detection of the disability in all hospitals and parturition centres in Sudan. He also ordered the Ministry of Education and Guidance and Governors of states to implement integrated projects involved the building of rehabilitative centres, institutions and schools for the disabled persons in the whole states of the country. And he also directed the gradual inclusion of health aids (prosthetics) for the disabled persons under the umbrella of the health insurance according to a funding program to be immediately implemented. On the other hand, she/ the Minister of the Security and Social Development considered the issue of disability is the case of the whole society and partnership and she called upon enabling the slice of the disabled and reintegrating them in education and partnering them in development and other national affairs. In her

statement she pointed out that her ministry is pursuing to include the health equipment and artificial limbs under health insurance and creating developmental projects for the disabled. She further announced the establishment of the disabled's Councils in all states, besides headquarter based in Khartoum to care for the disabled's training and rehabilitation.

5 - Mine risk education programs have a significant role in behavioral change, and to mitigate the risk of Mines/ ERW accidents, the National Mine Action Center (NMAC) in collaboration with the National and International NGOs (FPDO, JSMAR, SIBRO, AAR, Hope, Global Aid Hands and NADA Alazhar) Mine/ ERW risk education activities have been conducted to 3,706,789 persons from the beginning of the programme in all affected states (Darfur , Sk ,BN , Eastern state and North Abyei) .

6- last December 2017, National Mine Action Center (NMAC) in collaboration with Geneva Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), and Arab Regional Programme conducted workshop on Mine/ERW Risk Education for affected Arab countries in the region , the workshop held in Khartoum Grand holiday Villa Hotel from 12th to 14th December 2017, Arab countries were participated including (Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Algeria, Jordon, Iraq and Palestine in addition to representatives from GICHD and Halo Trust besides Sudan as host country for the event, the representatives from different countries were able to benefit from the workshop and it was great opportunity to exchange their experiences.