



**Thematic Session: Integrating the Diverse Needs of Affected Communities
in Operational Planning and Prioritization**

Tuesday, 22 June, 16:00 – 17:45 CEST

**Gender Focal Points
(Germany, Norway, Spain, Sweden)**

Background

The objective of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention is to “put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines”. In adopting the Oslo Action Plan (OAP) the States Parties reemphasized this person centered approach to implementation emphasizing the importance of “integrating and mainstreaming gender considerations and taking the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account in mine action programming”. Furthermore, the OAP obliges States Parties to report on their efforts in this regard and States Parties in a position to provide assistance to support evidence based national strategies and work plans that respond to the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities and are built on sound gender, age and disability analysis.

Therefore, to effectively deliver on the promise of the Convention and the OAP, National Mine Action Programmes need to ensure the integration of gender and diversity into operational planning and priority setting mechanisms. Likewise, States in a position to provide assistance have an important role to play by ensuring that their support to mine action programmes furthers this objective of the Convention and the OAP.

To continue promoting the important of gender and diversity and support the efforts of States Parties, the Gender focal points, representing the Convention’s four thematic Committees, will hold an introductory discussion to continue promoting efforts in this regard and invite States Parties and organizations to contribute to the discussion.

Objective

The panel discussion aims to:

- provide examples and best practices on how to ensure that gender and the diverse needs of affected communities are integrated into operational planning and prioritization setting mechanisms;
- provide information on the tools and support available to States Parties to achieve this objective;

- provide a donor perspective on what States in a position to provide assistance can do to further support the implementation of this objective; and
- Offer an opportunity for States Parties to pose questions to panelists and comment on their national efforts in this regard.

Format

The thematic discussion will be held in an interactive format, beginning with introductory remarks by the presenters. The floor will then be open for brief (3-5 minutes) interventions from delegations concerning their efforts to implement the gender and diversity actions of the Oslo Action Plan.

Discussion

Moderator: Juan Manglano, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Spain to the United National at Geneva

- **Jesus Martinez**, founder of *La Red de Sobrevivientes y Personas con Discapacidad* (Survivors and Persons with Disabilities Network) of El Salvador
- **Tine Mørch Smith**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations at Geneva
- **Frozan Darwish**, Gender & Diversity Mainstreaming Manager, Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority, Directorate of Mine Action Coordination
- **Céline Cheng**, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education specialist, Humanity and Inclusion
- **Erik B. Pettersson**, Senior Project Manager, The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- **Dominic Wolsey**, Advisor, Gender and Diversity, Gender and Mine Action Programme, GICHD

Background documents

- [The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Oslo Declaration, and the Oslo Action Plan](#)
- [Achieving the Aims of the Oslo Action Plan: Draft Progress Report 2019-2020](#)
- [Oslo Action Plan: Status of Implementation](#)