

Anti-Personnel Min Ban Convention
Intersessional Meetings – 30 June – 2 July 2020
Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance

Thank you Mr. President, it's a pleasure to join you in welcoming participants to the 2020 Virtual Intersessional Meetings.

The United Kingdom Chairs the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance and works together with representatives from Colombia, Germany and Turkey.

The Committee was established to assist the States Parties in the full implementation of Article 6 of the Convention

Our mandate in short is to;

- Promote cooperation and assistance;
- Facilitate the fostering of partnerships; and
- Coordinate with other implementation mechanisms established by the States Parties;

As with other Committees, since the Fourth Review Conference, we are also mandated to;

- Review relevant information provided by the States Parties on the implementation of the commitments of the Oslo Action Plan and to consider matters related to gender and diversity.

And to:

- Present preliminary observations at intersessional meetings and conclusions at Meetings of the States Parties.

Our preliminary observation are online for your review. We are grateful for the information submitted by States on their efforts to finance their mine action programmes, to strengthen dialogues with stakeholders and to stimulate regional, international and south-south cooperation, as well as on how gender and diversity are considered in the implementation of your mine action programmes.

One of the main activities of the Committee has been supporting States in taking advantage of the **Individualised Approach**, as specifically mentioned in Action 43 of the Oslo Action Plan. For those not familiar with the Individualized Approach, put simply, it is a platform for States Parties seeking

support for their Convention implementation efforts to meet with States Parties and organizations in a position to provide this support. We encourage States in need of assistance to contact the Committee or the ISU for further information in this regard.

This week we are pleased to be supporting Niger in organizing its Individualised Approach meeting. Many of you have received an invitation from Niger to the meeting.

Mr President,

At the Fourth Review Conference, the Committee presented a short paper on **National Mine Action Platforms**, which we continue to promote and encourage States Parties to look at establishing. We consider these platforms critical to ensuring that the dialogue between stakeholders remains robust at the national level. The call for greater dialogue between stakeholders is a commitment of both the Maputo and the Oslo Action Plans. Our aim is to continue to promote these National Mine Action Platforms.

We are convinced that a mine action programme that ensures an ongoing, transparent, and honest dialogue with all stakeholders stands a better chance of success and will ensure that the necessary resources flow to support implementation efforts. We also view this as an essential part of national ownership, which we view as the foundation for cooperation and assistance.

Mr President,

Since April, we have reviewed information submitted by States Parties on their national and international efforts to promote cooperation and assistance and we thank those States that submitted information in this regard. I would now like to highlight a couple of our key observations:

We welcome the information submitted on the commitment of resources, in particular on alternative sources of funding. However, we would welcome more reporting on how States Parties are exploring possible alternative and/or innovative sources of funding, as mentioned in Action 42 of the Oslo Action Plan. Our Committee will be doing some further thinking on this in the second half of the year.

There was excellent reporting from a few States Parties on their efforts to ensure that gender and diversity are integrated in their cooperation and assistance efforts. However, we would welcome more reporting on this from

other States Parties. Action 47 of the Oslo Action Plan specifically commits States to share experience of integrating gender and taking the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account in their programming.

Mr President,

This week we will hold a panel discussion entitled: 'Aligning donor coordination to support implementation of the Oslo Action Plan'. The discussion will focus on 4 areas: donor coordination, national ownership, south-south cooperation, and gender and diversity. We do hope you will join us at 5pm this afternoon.

Mr President,

Thank you for the opportunity to present the work of the Committee. We look forward to carrying out our work in cooperation with you on the road to the 18MSP.