



**Statement by H.E. Ambass. Amadeu da Conceição,  
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mozambique  
to the United Nations Office in Geneva and other  
International Organizations at the Inter sessional  
Meeting of Ottawa Convention, on Mine Victims**

**22 – 24 May 2019**

**Thank you, Mr. President, for giving us the floor,**

We wish to start by thanking Switzerland, the host country of this intersessional meeting, for their hospitality. Our thanks are extended to the Victim Assistance Committee and ISU, for the unflinching support they have provided to us, over time, as we seek to implement actions #12 to # 18 of Maputo Action Plan on mine victims, their families and communities.

**Mr. President,**

Mozambique has been doing its utmost, amidst challenges, in the implementation of different provisions of APMBC and Maputo Action Plan. It is also the case with mine victims' assistance.

We have not yet reached the phase of data surveying and collection on people with disability, in general, based on the causes of impairment. So far, we use a globalized approach, with an attempt of disaggregation by gender and age.

Mozambique is resolved to honor its undertake, made before the 2018 London Summit on Disability, to build capacity as to follow the mechanism of the Washington Group on the collection of data on disability, taking into account the cause of impairment, and disaggregated fashion.

In this vain, at institutional level, the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Affairs is in the process of designing **data collection sheet**, with a heading specific to mine victims, disaggregated by gender and age. Once concluded, the use of such **collection sheet** will afford the relevant Ministry with a better tool to monitor and evaluate its systems and programs.

As for assessment of needs, availability, and gaps in services, in the light of Action # 12 of Maputo Action Plan, it should be noted that the disability area in the country operates on the basis of the State Budget, which assigns funds to the different ministries. Such funds are **limited**, which directly results in difficulties in carrying out supervisory and monitoring actions, aimed at encouraging the collection of disaggregated data that would lead to a real picture of mine victim assistance.

In regards to measurable goals, as per Action # 13 of Maputo Action Plan, the ***National Action Plan for Assistance to Victims of Mines and Other Remnants of War*** does not have a specific funding; actions are implemented according to the allocations to each sector and are included in the respective Economic and Social Plans.

The process of implementation of such plan has begun, and we hope the process will result in the evidence on weaknesses, progresses and the way forward.

As far as integration of victims' assistance into broader policies and programs is concerned, in line with Action # 14, the Country policies and programs are inclusive. In fact, there is a growing trend at the level of care, based on the principle of non-discrimination.

On the other side, there is an expansion and improvement in the provision of basic services; promotion of a favorable business environment for domestic and foreign investment; stimulus/promotion to national business and the reinforcement of professional technical training, sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

In the realm of increase in the availability and accessibility of rehabilitation services, economic inclusion opportunities and social protection measures, for all mine victims, regardless of gender and age, which is action Action # 15, the National Basic Social Security Strategy 2016-2024 was approved, in 2016. The strategy has introduced specific programs for the prevention of social risks for people, including victims of landmines, in particular, under the Basic Social Subsidy Program.

As for improvements and measurable priorities, we are on the verge of assessing the implementation of Mine Victims Assistance Plan 2015-2019, which will allow us to identify progresses and challenges. The latter will help us to chart the way forward, taking into account the social and economic challenges the country is faced with.

To conclude, **Mr. President**, we wish to reiterate our political commitment to the actions of the current and future Action Plan on Mine Victims, as we all seek best strategies for the their participation in society on equal footing as others, in tandem with 2030 Agenda principles of *leave no one behind* and *inclusion*.

We thank you