Standing Committee Meeting

Jordan Update on Survivor and Victim Assistance

Geneva, 2011

Co-chairs,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

Jordan last reported on its Victims Assistance efforts at the 10th Meeting of the States Parties, therefore we will provide an update covering the past six month period.

In April 2011, the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation updated the National Victims’ record showing that the total number of victims reached 917, 122 of which were fatalities. It was also confirmed that there is a continuous need for ongoing comprehensive health care, rehabilitation and social reintegration services.

The most pressing needs of Jordan’s SVA program are as follows:

- **Improving emergency medical care and physical rehabilitation services**
  - To achieve this goal, NCDR in collaboration with Polus Center for Social & Economic Development (Funded by the DoS-PM\WRA), is now establishing a new Prosthetic \ Orthotic center in the northern region of Jordan where many landmine survivors reside, to bring services closer to the people who need them most.

- **Expanding economical and social reintegration opportunities**
  - This year 50 survivors will receive vocational training and loans in the form of micro-credits to enable them to improve the quality of their social and financial lives.

- **Increasing survivors’ awareness of their rights and the services available to them**

- **Assessing different ways of supporting ERW victims.**
  - To that end, Invacare Corporation, the world’s largest manufacturer of wheelchairs, has visited Jordan this year to assess the provision of
“state of the art” training in wheelchair selection, fitting, and cushioning.

Jordan’s victims’ assistance and disability sector is receiving continued support from Montmorency College in Canada, which aims to increase the capacity of VA partner institutions in the region. This year Jordan will be welcoming four young professionals through an internship program organized by College Montmorency to work with VA partner organizations in the country, including the Ministry of health, Higher Council for Affairs of Persons with Disabilities, and the National Amputee Center, that offer their expertise in the areas of Social work and community development, orthotic and prosthesis technicians and Physiotherapist and Occupational Therapist.

Five Jordanian landmine survivors attended a training program for landmine/ERW survivors in Lebanon from 9 - 16 May 2011. The Program, called Pathways to Resilience, brought landmine and ERW victims together in for a week-long workshop training on creating peer support networks and developing leadership and planning skills.

Co Chairs,
Excellencies,
ladies and gentlemen,

Despite this progress, the Victim Assistance component continues to remain the least funded among the other mine action programs. We hope that with the continued support of States Parties and the International Community, we will be able to achieve greater outcomes that reflect our responsibilities toward supporting landmine and ERW survivors.

Finally allow Jordan to thank all its supporters and partners, in particular the Implementation Support Unit and Jordan’s donors, for the continuous support and collaboration towards victim assistance.

Thank you.