

**ICRC Statement on Compliance**  
**13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention**  
**Geneva, 5 December 2013**

As stated by the Vice-President of the ICRC on Monday in her opening statement to this MSP, the ICRC is deeply alarmed by the confirmed and alleged use of anti-personnel mines on territory under the jurisdiction or control of States Parties.

The discussions today demonstrate that the States Parties take compliance very seriously and we thank in particular the large number of delegations that have taken the floor in this session.

The ICRC welcomes in particular **Yemen's** statement and its commitment to investigate the confirmed use of anti-personnel mines in Bani Jarmouz and take appropriate measures under national law. These commitments demonstrate the seriousness with which it is dealing with this issue in a very complex environment. We are very pleased that Yemen has the necessary implementing legislation in place to enable it to prosecute those responsible.

We call on Yemen to include in its investigation a determination of the source of the mines reportedly used in 2011, six years after Yemen declared the destruction of all of its stockpiles of AP mines. It is important to include this aspect in the investigation to determine if further stocks of AP mines exist in Yemen and, if so, to ensure their rapid destruction and prevent further victims.

We also note Yemen's steps to secure access by YEMAC to the affected areas to ensure effective risk education, survey and clearance to prevent further injuries. We call on Yemen to ensure support for the victims of AP mines across the country, including survivors, families and affected communities.

The ICRC is also concerned about reports of possible use of AP mines in **Sudan** and **South Sudan**. We welcome the announcements by both States Parties that they have each established a committee to investigate these allegations. We call on both Sudan and South Sudan to report the outcome of their investigations to the States Parties as soon as possible.

In regards to **Turkey**, we acknowledge its commitment to share information on the ongoing Court case and other allegations of use in due time.

The compliance cases discussed today once again highlight the need for all States Parties to ensure that the Convention's prohibitions are incorporated into their national laws to make it possible to criminally prosecute the specific acts prohibited by the Convention. Crucially, the prohibitions should also be incorporated into military doctrine, as well as in instructions to, and procedures of, armed forces.

The ICRC remains concerned by high number of States Parties have still not fulfilled the Convention's requirement under Article 9 to ensure appropriate national implementation measures have been adopted, or have not provided this information in their annual transparency reports.

We therefore call upon all States Parties to incorporate the Convention's prohibitions at the national level, such that the use of anti-personnel mines is expressly prohibited by national law and military doctrine. Only in these ways can violations of the Convention's prohibitions be prevented, or if they occur, can accountability be ensured.