

Dear Madam President,

Thank you for giving us to update on mine action related Regional cooperation.

As it was mentioned by Afghanistan delegation, the cooperation between Tajikistan and Afghanistan has been enhanced during the last few years. Tajikistan benefited from this cooperation. In 2016, the delegation from Afghanistan visited UNDP and TNMAC to look at the experience of Tajikistan in nationalization, transitioning to national ownership. Based on the regional cooperation initiatives supported by UNDP and US State Department the delegation from Tajikistan visited to Cambodia, Azerbaijan and Armenia for sharing experience in the field of land release and quality management, victim assistance including promoting the rights of PWDs. Such initiatives are very important for applying the best practice in programs.

The GICHD and ISU continuously support Tajikistan Mine Action Programme in enhancing the land release, information management, standards and strategy. This support allowed the programme to increase the efficiency of land release by introducing and applying an integrated approach to survey and clearance activities in country. In addition, a priority setting mechanism was introduced to support Tajikistan in conducting land release activities in more effective manner.

For the last two years with US State departments/WRA support and OSCE support, three levels EOD trainings were organized in Tajikistan where participants from Armenia, Kirgizstan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan Tajikistan and Afghanistan participated and benefited from these trainings.

The regional workshop on Gender and Diversity in Mine Action led by GMAP was very important not only for Tajikistan but also for the participants representing Armenia, Ukraine, Afghanistan and Tajikistan. This workshop served as a platform for sharing best practice in gender aspect.

Tajikistan Mine Action Programme will continue to use the south-south initiative and regional cooperation to benefit from and contribute to other programs in the region and beyond.

Using this opportunity again on behalf of the Republic of Tajikistan, I would like to thank you (US DOS, GICHD, ISU, and UNDP, OSCE, Norway and Japan) for their great contribution to the regional cooperation.

Many thanks Madam President you for your attention!