



República de Moçambique

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN GENEVA
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
AT THE 17 MEETING
OF THE CONVENTION ON ANTI - PERSONNEL
MINE BAN CONVENTION
ITEM 7: GENERAL EXCHANGES OF VIEWS

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, NOVEMBER 2018

**Madam President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,**

First of all, we wish to express our delight in seeing you, Madam President, steering the proceeds of the 17th MSP. Rest assured of our constructive engagement for the successful outcomes of this important meeting.

Our delegation wishes to appreciate the leadership of your Excellency of the Convention, alongside the Coordination Committee, whose result is reflected in the high quality of reports to be submitted by the different committees.

We take good note of the efforts undertaken by the presidency, on universalization of the Convention, with particular focus on the engagement with states not party, encouraging them either to provide updates on their plans to adhere, or to submit voluntary reports under different articles of the Convention.

We note, with, appreciation, that 29 states not party, out of 33, have been attending the different meetings and events of the Convention, which testifies to the great importance of this humanitarian Convention. Some of these states have actively

contributed to the mines action activities in many ways, for which they should be commended.

Meanwhile, it is a matter of great concern that anti-personnel mines continue to claim innocent lives in many parts of the world, in many cases as a result of International Humanitarian Law breach.

We join our voice to the those who are against the continuous use of anti – personnel mines around the world, where conflicts prevail, a situation that challenges the efforts made so far to eliminate these silent killers in the world.

Madam President,

Mozambique has always given particular importance to the holding of MSP, for they afford us the opportunity to assess the current stage of implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty, commonly known as the Ottawa Convention, one of the outstanding international humanitarian legal instrument.

In this context, allow us to address our congratulations to the 164 States Parties to the Convention. Likewise, we encourage the remaining 33 States that have not yet joined the Convention to do so, as we all endeavour to universalize it.

Madam President,

Mozambique continues deeply involved with the Convention. As a matter of fact, notwithstanding our declaration of completion of article 5, in 2015, due to the residual areas we have been submitting transparency reports under article 7, apart from our engagement with the Committee on Article 5, as was the case of the meeting of 30 April.

At this junction, for the sake of transparency, we regret to inform the MSP that we have recorded, in the course of 2018, an accident with anti-personnel mines that resulted in the death of 3 persons and 2 other sustained injuries.

We reiterate the need for States Parties to continue doing their utmost in anti-personnel mines clarification, with the support of partners and other stakeholders, as we all aspire attaining the objective of the Convention, by the aspirational deadline of 2025.

In this vein, we look forward to the consultations that will take place, from now up to the 4th Review Conference in Oslo, in November next year. We hope the Oslo Action Plan will build

upon Maputo Action Plan, for it has proven useful in different perspectives of the Convention.

Madam President,

We would not like to end our intervention without thanking, in particular, all those who directly or indirectly ensured the preparation of this meeting, especially the ISU.

Thank you very much for your attention.