

Speech of TNMAC Director
26 - 30 November 2018, Geneva

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen!

First of all, I would like to thank the ISU, GICHD and the Committee on Victim Assistance for organizing of this event!

Tajikistan National Mine Action Center (TNMAC) with financial support US DOS in cooperation with UNDP is doing remarkable progress in Victim Assistance.

During 2018 the Government of Tajikistan has undertaken the following Victim Assistance related activities to fulfil the Maputo Action Plan's commitments contained in Actions 13-18:

First of all, mainstreaming of Victim Assistance programme into national and UN programs. In 2018, in the framework of the UNDP project "Rule of Law and Access to Justice" and UNPRPD supported project the following activities were completed:

- A comprehensive review of the 5 selected legislative documents
- Development of the National Programm "Accessible environment for people with disabilities"
- Public awareness campaigns on the rights of people with disabilities in piloting districts and nationwide
- Study visit for the Working Group on CRPD on implementation of UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and accessible environment for disabled people to Helsinki
- 40 paralegals out of people with disabilities from 8 piloting districts were trained
- Support in development of the working plan on Tajikistan joining UN CRPD was provided

VA Statistics: Unfortunately, in 2018 TNMAC has registered 2 civilian persons (men) killed by landmines at the border.

Psychological rehabilitation and reintegration: In August 2018 TNMAC organized a Summer Rehabilitation Workshop for 76 mine victims (67 man and 9 women) in the sanatorium "Bahoriston" (Sughd oblast). Workshop's programme was focused not only to medical treatment, but also to psychological rehabilitation and trainings. The workshop participants benefitted from training and psychology sessions conducted by tajik psychologists. Since 2005 more than 600 landmine survivors benefitted from the summer rehabilitation workshops activities.

21 doctors from mine-affected districts trained on psycho-social support in crisis situations in the first quarter continue provision of the first psychological aid to landmine survivors and PWDs.

Implementation of the accessibility project, namely: adaptation of 5 important sites in Dushanbe and conduction of training on “Tajikistan standards for accessibility to buildings and constructions for PWDs” for more than 120 local architects and designers from Dushanbe and regions - greatly contributed to raising awareness on disability, increased public acceptance and understanding of disabilities.

Coordination and participation: In 2018, Tajikistan provided equal and effective participation of landmine survivors, PWDs and their organizations in the meetings and events. From the beginning of 2018 five Technical Working Group (TWG) meetings on Victim Assistance were conducted for 191 participants, namely, 96 staff of districts departments of social protection, 58 volunteers of the Tajikistan Red Crescent Society, and 37 landmine/ERW victims (47 women and 144 men).

Physical rehabilitation: Landmine survivors with limb amputations continue to be provided by free prosthesis and orthosis in the State Unitary Enterprise of the Prosthetic Orthotic Plans (SUEPOP) in Dushanbe. Expert on Prosthetics and Orthotics from INGO “Polus Center” provided on-the-job capacity building training for P/O technicians in the SUEPOP in February 2018.

In 2018, 20 wheelchairs purchased by UNDP STMP were distributed to 14 landmine survivors with low mobility (double amputees etc) living in mine-affected districts in accordance with the list of beneficiaries developed jointly by TNMAC&STMAP.

Cooperation with the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery (CISR): a presentation on “Local Context of Victim Assistance Programme” and site visit for participants of the Senior Managers’ Course in Mine Action in Dushanbe was organized on 9 July 2018.

Dear Colleagues, Victim Assistance remains one of the most important components of Mine Action that requires special attention and care, and Tajikistan Mine Action Programme is doing all the best to provide various support to landmine survivors and families of victims.

To conclude, on behalf of the Republic of Tajikistan, I would like to present our highest gratitude and appreciation to our donors - US DOS, UNDP, international agencies and thank all our partners for their great contribution to VA related activities in Tajikistan!

Thank you for your attention!