Nearly 300 delegates representing 80 States and over 30 international and non-governmental organisations concluded three days of meetings under the leadership of Norway. The Intersessional Meetings sought to ascertain progress made since the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties in implementation of the provisions of the Convention. The First Preparatory Meeting and Thematic Discussions provided guidance for the upcoming Oslo Review Conference and Oslo Action Plan.

The 2019 Intersessional Meetings served as an important step on the road to the Oslo Review Conference. Find more information on the Meetings here.

Reach the Convention’s Presidency: mineban@mfa.no

#OsloRevCon
## Ecuador

Ecuador made use of the individualised approach and appealed to the international community to support its national programme – entirely financed by the government – during the last stretch so that it can meet its 2022 deadline. Ecuador is appealing for five (5) million dollars to finalise its operations.

Chile indicated that in the upcoming months it will destroy the last of its anti-personnel mines retained for permitted purposes under Article 3. Chile also indicated that it is on track to meet its 1 March 2020 deadline for implementation of its mine clearance commitments under Article 5. This is good news for the Americas where the last State Party declaring completion did so in 2013.

## Ukraine

Ukraine announced that after a number of setbacks its stockpile destruction efforts are underway with nearly three million anti-personnel mines destroyed in a span of two years.

As of 1 May 2019, almost 2.5 million PFM-1 mines were destroyed, and 111,000 POM-2 anti-personnel mines are scheduled to be disposed of by the end of 2019.

## Chile

Chile also indicated that it is on track to meet its 1 March 2020 deadline for implementation of its mine clearance commitments under Article 5. This is good news for the Americas where the last State Party declaring completion did so in 2013.

## Angola

Angola reported that in 2018 it had addressed over 14,544,434 square metres, clearing 1,043,412 square metres destroying over 1,700 anti-personnel mines in the process.

## ICRC

During the Meetings, the ICRC presented a non-paper with its views and recommendations on Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) that fall within the scope of the Convention.


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**Article 2.1 and 2.2 of the Convention state,**

“(2.1) Anti-personnel mine means a mine designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person and that will incapacitate, injure or kill one or more persons. [...] (2.2) "Mine" means a munition designed to be placed under, on or near the ground or other surface area and to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person or a vehicle.”
Colombia

The Colombian Mine Action Programme Descontamina, kicked off the year with a national workshop on anti-personnel mines under auspices of the Office of the High Commissioner for Peace. The meeting included national and international partners. Find out more here. Photo, Descontamina Colombia

Democratic Republic of the Congo

The DRC reported that since 2018 and up to 31 March 2019, it had addressed 13 mined areas releasing 422,461 square metres. It also indicated that it has identified an additional nine mined areas measuring 169,356 square metres in Nord and Sud Ubangi, Tanganyika, Kasai, Maniema, Tshopo Provinces.

DRC’s mine clearance deadline is 2021.

Greece

Greece announced that between 2018 and the first quarter of 2019, it had demilitarised over 295,000 anti-personnel mines while 343,413 remaining to be destroyed. In addition, it eliminated an additional 1,600 anti-personnel mines retained for training.

It was a first for the Convention as the Republic of Korea attended one of its meetings as an Observer.

While Korea indicated that it is not yet in a position to join, the Republic of Korea indicated that demining activities in the DMZ are ongoing and that it aligns itself with the Convention’s humanitarian objectives.

In addition to sponsoring an ICRC universalization workshop in Lao PDR, as part of the President’s mandate Norway has continued to carry out efforts to promote the Convention and its norms in particular meeting with Geneva-based Permanent Representatives of Bahrain, Marshall Islands, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, and Armenia (seen above left to right).
Sudan has presented its expression of interest to lead the work of the Convention in 2020 (the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties), beginning at the end of the Oslo Review Conference. The decision will be adopted during the Review Conference.

Netherlands has presented its expression of interest to lead the work of the Convention in 2021 (the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties) beginning at the end of the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties in 2020.

European Union Council Decision Project Implementation Update

Invitations for the global conference on assistance to victims of anti-personnel mines and other explosive remnants of war and disability rights, Fostering Partnerships have been sent by His Royal Highness Prince Mired Raad Zeid Al-Hussein, President of the Jordanian Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Special Envoy of the Convention, and H.E. Andrea Matteo, Head of the European Union Delegation to Jordan.

The conference will take place 10-12 September 2019 in Amman, with participation of dozens of victim assistance and disability rights experts including the World Health Organization (WHO), International Labour Organization (ILO), ICRC, ICBL, HI, and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. It is expected that a number of States not party that also have significant numbers of mine and other ERW victims will attend the conference. Info, http://bit.ly/fostering-partnerships

In July 2019, the South Sudan National Mine Action Programme together with the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare (MGCSW), will host a national stakeholder dialogue on victim assistance and disability rights.

The dialogue, sponsored through EU Council Decision 2017/1428, will see the various national actors, international and non-governmental organisations come together to start the process to develop the first national action plan on victim assistance and disability.

From 1996 when the Ottawa Process began, to the end of 1999 the year when the Convention entered into force, Austria, Canada, France Germany, Hungary, Mali, Norway and Switzerland destroyed their stocks of anti-personnel mines. Together these States Parties destroyed in excess of seven million mines.