

QUESTIONS TO ASSIST STATES PARTIES IN PREPARING FOR 7MSP THEMATIC DISCUSSIONS

President-Designate of the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties

7 August 2006

Introduction:

At the 7MSP, thematic discussions will be held on the core aims of the Convention and on other matters essential for achieving the aims of the Convention. It is the President-Designate's hope that those States Parties which are in the process of clearing mined areas, assisting the victims, destroying stockpiled mines or fulfilling other obligations will seize the opportunity presented by the 7MSP's thematic discussions to provide further clarity or new information on the steps they are taken to fulfill their responsibilities.

In order to prepare updates on these matters, relevant States Parties may wish to provide additional information in accordance with following questions posed by the Co-Chairs in advance of the May 2006 meetings of the Standing Committees. In preparing updates, States Parties should take into account that only new information should be provided, that updates on most matters should be brief and that updates on more complex aspects of implementation (e.g., mine clearance) should not exceed eight minutes.

I. Questions for consideration by States Parties which are in the process of fulfilling Article 5 mine clearance obligations

1. What is your State's plan to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control as soon as possible?
2. What progress has been made in the implementation of your State's national demining programme since the last time that an update was provided to the Standing Committee?
3. What work remains in order for your State to be in compliance with its obligation to have destroyed or ensured the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control?
4. What, if any, circumstances may impede the ability of your State to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control within ten years after entry into force of the Convention for your State? What is the prospective end-date for your State to have fully implemented Article 5?
5. What financial and technical means has your State dedicated to ensuring the fulfillment of your State's Article 5 obligations?
6. If mine action in your country is largely managed and conducted by foreign non-governmental organizations and / or international organizations, to what extent has national ownership and local capacity development been accelerated?¹
7. What, if any, are your priorities for external assistance to support your State's fulfillment of its Article 5 obligations?

II. Questions for consideration by States Parties which have reported the responsibility for significant numbers of landmine survivors

1. What further progress has your State made in ensuring that the victim assistance objectives you have established both will provide a meaningful guide to progress that can be made by the end of

2009 and will ensure that this progress can be measured? That is, are your objectives SMART – specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound?

2. Can you comment on the extent to which all relevant ministries have been involved in the processes of establishing victim assistance objectives and developing subsequent plans of action? How have other relevant actors been involved in these processes?
3. How are your victim assistance objectives and plans integrated into broader health care and social service systems, rehabilitation programmes and legislative and policy frameworks?

III. Questions for consideration by States Parties which are in the process of fulfilling Article 4 stockpile destruction obligations

1. What steps has your State taken to establish the type, quantity, and, if possible, lot numbers of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed?
2. What appropriate national and local capacities have been established to meet your Article 4 stockpile destruction obligations?
3. What is the status of your State's stockpile destruction programme? (How many mines have been destroyed and remain to be destroyed? What is your time table for the destruction of these mines?)
4. What, if any, difficulties do you face in the destruction of your stockpiled anti-personnel mines? If relevant, what are your priorities for external financial, technical or other assistance?

IV. Questions for consideration by States Parties which have retained anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 3

1. What are the quantities and types of mines retained and the manner in which the number of mines has changed since it was recorded in the Sixth Meeting of the States Parties' *Zagreb Progress Report*?
2. What are the purposes for which retained mines have been used and what are the results of this use, including for example, for:
 - the mine detection, clearance or destruction techniques that have been / are being developed;
 - the mine detection, clearance or destruction training that has been carried out;
 - the number of personnel trained and to what standard?
3. What are your plans for the further development of mine detection, clearance or detection techniques and further training which would result in the use of mines retained under Article 3?

V. Question for consideration by States Parties which are in the process of developing and adopting legislative measures in accordance with Article 9

1. What are your State's problems, plans, progress and priorities for assistance in establishing legislation in accordance with Article 9.

VI. Questions for consideration by States Parties which are in a position to provide assistance in implementation

1. What has your State done, since the First Review Conference, to promptly assist States Parties with clearly demonstrated needs for external support for mine clearance and mine risk education?

2. Since the First Review Conference, how has your State used the following means to provide support in the fulfillment of Article 5 obligations?
 - a. Dedicated funds to assist in the implementation of the Convention?
 - b. The integration of support to mine action into humanitarian programmes?
 - c. The integration of support to mine action into development programmes?
 - d. The integration of support to mine action into peace-building programmes?
 - e. The integration of support to mine action into peace support programmes?
3. What are your plans between now and the Second Review Conference to ensure the continuity and sustainability of resource commitments?
4. What has your State done, since the First Review Conference, and what does it plan to do to assist in the care, rehabilitation and reintegration of landmine survivors through means like targeted contributions to specialized organizations and through integrated approaches in which development cooperation aims to guarantee the rights of all persons with disabilities, including landmine survivors?ⁱⁱ
5. What is your State's / organization's policy / position with respect to assistance for stockpile destruction? Do you have a budget or a fund to support stockpile destruction?
6. Since the First Review Conference, what has your State / organization done to promptly assist States Parties with clearly demonstrated needs for external support for stockpile destruction, responding to priorities for assistance as articulated by those States Parties in need?
7. Since the First Review Conference, what has your State / organization done to support the investigation and further development of technical solutions to overcome the particular challenges associated with destroying PFM mines?
8. What can / should be done to overcome challenges associated with providing assistance for stockpile destruction programmes?
9. Has your State / organization encountered difficulties in identifying an internal funding source that could be used to support other States' stockpile destruction programmes?

ⁱ See *Achieving the aims of the Nairobi Action Plan: The Zagreb Progress Report*, paragraph 55(vi).

ⁱⁱ This question has been prepared by the President-Designate on the basis of language contained in paragraph 75 of the *Zagreb Progress Report*.