

10th MSP  
Jordan update

Mr. Adnan Telfah

Mr. President  
Your Royal Highness,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for allowing Jordan to address the States Parties on its Victim Assistance efforts as one of the 26 countries reporting a significant number of landmine survivors. As a result of the continuous support of donors, partners and the Jordanian government; Today, Jordan is closer than ever to fulfilling its obligations toward the Mine Ban Convention. Noticable progress has been achieved in different aspects of victims' assistance in Jordan. However, there are still challenges.

In April 2010, the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation, in collaboration with Survivor Corps Jordan conducted a victim surveillance and needs assessment survey – funded by Ireland - in which almost every Jordanian survivor received a home visit. Results of the survey indicated that the total number of victims reached 901, 120 of which were fatalities. It was also established that there is an urgent need to continue the provision of a full range of comprehensive health care, rehabilitation and social reintegration services.

Recently, NCDR developed a new 5 year National Mine Action Plan to address the remaining challenges. Support to survivor and victim assistance is essential to addressing Jordan's strategic goals for a comprehensive and sustainable VA programme within the broader national disability context which effectively addresses the most pressing needs as follows:

- Improving emergency medical care and ensuring both military and civilian survivors receive equal care
- Improving physical rehabilitation services
- Expanding economical and social reintegration opportunities
- Increasing survivors' awareness of their rights and the services available to them
- Reinforcing the capacity of the national disability sector.

To achieve these objectives, NCDR's national plan introduced an initial two phase action plan for survivor and victims assistance at an estimated cost of 1 million USD.

Jordan is also pleased to announce that National Victim Assistance Standards were drafted by NCDR with the support of an external victim assistant consultant, which identified the roles and responsibilities of all VA partners in Jordan as well as Prosthetic/Orthotic standards.

A new victim's assistance project was launched in September 2010 – through the generous contribution by the U.S. Department of State of 606,000 USD – which will be implemented by the Polus Center for Social & Economic Development in collaboration with the NCDR. The main areas of focus for this project include:

- Upgrading equipment for orthotic and prosthetic production, training prosthetic technicians and medical personnel,

- Establishing a small prosthetic workshop in the north of Jordan, where many landmine survivors reside, to bring services closer to the people who need them most
- Through the generous support of Invacare Corporation, the world's largest manufacturer of wheelchairs, provision of "state of the art" training in wheelchair selection, fitting, and cushioning. This will be a tremendous resource for Jordan's medical community and will help to increase the knowledge and capacity for wheelchair manufacturing and fitting throughout the region
- heighten disability awareness and offer relevant service models that focus on the direct participation of landmine survivors and their families

Jordan's Victim Assistance and Disability Sector has also received support through the REHAB Project funded by the Canadian International Development Agency and implemented by College Montmorency which aims to increase the capacity of VA partner institutions in the region. Capacity Development support extended to Jordan under this project includes:

- The NCDR's Victim Assistance Department Manager's participation in the Essential Management skills seminar held in May 2010 at McGill University, Canada
- Two rehabilitation doctors from the Royal medical services and the Ministry of Health participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> National Spinal Cord Injury Conference, October 2010, Ontario
  - o Jordan welcomed four young professionals through an internship program organized by College Montmorency to work with VA partner organizations in the country, including the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation, the Ministry of health, Higher Council for Affairs of Persons with Disabilities, and the National Amputee Center, that offer their expertise in the areas of Social work and community development, orthotic and prosthesis technicians and Physiotherapist and Occupational Therapist

The NCDR, CIDA, Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities and Montmerency College organized a workshop on the subject of Gender and disability in Amman this past October 2010.

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Despite this progress, the Victim Assistance component continues to remain the least funded among the other mine action programs. We hope that with the continued support of States Parties and the International Community, we will be able to achieve greater outcomes that reflect our responsibilities toward supporting landmine and ERW survivors.

Finally allow Jordan to thank all its supporters and partners, in particular the Implementation Support Unit and Jordan's donors, for the continuous support and collaboration towards victim assistance.

Thank you Mr. President.