

Jordan Statement

Thank you Madame Co-Chair,

Allow me to take this opportunity to provide you with an update on progress made since the adoption of the Cartagena Action Plan. The victim assistance section of the Cartagena Action Plan was translated into Arabic and was made widely available including its posting on the website of the Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities.

Jordan is proud to have already made progress on many of the actions pledged in Cartagena. As reported previously, national policies have been reviewed and legislative measures have been adopted, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities providing a much more comprehensive framework to address the rights of landmine survivors.

The National Committee on Demining and Rehabilitation has launched its national plan extending from 2010 to 2015. The victim assistance plan was developed in line with the priorities set within our National Disability Strategy. In its strategic goal related to survivor and victim assistance, priorities for the coming period are outlined as follows:

improving the quality of prosthetics and orthotics in the Kingdom by creating a national accreditation system in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the Royal Medical Services and relevant non governmental bodies,

conducting an in depth needs assessment of the socioeconomic needs of landmine survivors, and their families prior to implementing a comprehensive economic reintegration program,

create a survivor centric advocacy mechanism by which survivors are more aware of their own rights, in this regard, the NCDR is planning on creating a committee of landmine survivors to monitor the implementation of victim assistance plan.

And last but not least, create a national programme on trauma recovery and psychosocial support including public hospitals and rehab centers.

It is through the development of a strong national disability coordination body that we can ensure the rights of landmine survivors are addressed in a comprehensive and sustainable manner. Allow me to take this opportunity to inform you of the latest developments promoting the rights of person with disabilities in Jordan. The development of our national database is currently well underway, we have initiated a national process to align and consolidate national data on persons with disabilities in Jordan .

Moreover, the process of service mapping was completed. This week we have launched our national services directory covering 266 service providers for all types of disability. Furthermore, and in collaboration with the Royal Geographic

Centre we are currently in the process of launching a national digital map of all service providers in the Kingdom utilizing the GPRS technology.

It is also with great pride that we inform you that, with the kind support of the UK and in cooperation with the British Council, we have launched our national accreditation standards of institutions and programmes related to disability. The standards cover eight pillars including vision, ideology and mission, administration and personnel, programmes and services, family participation and support, evaluation and diagnosis, building and facilities, transitional services and self evaluation.

Based on these standards, we have initiated dialogue with the Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Education, and the General Union for Voluntary Services to create a standardized national monitoring mechanism. This week, the Ministers have signed a commitment agreement adopting the standards and working towards developing licensing regulations based on their implementation. The challenges which arise from adopting these standards include the need for additional capacity building for service providers, the need to hire and maintain competent and qualified staff, and the need for additional funding to ensure that non-governmental and non-profit bodies are financially capable of implementing them.

Madame Co-Chair

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Despite this progress, the Victim Assistance component remains to be the least funded among the other mine action pillars. We hope that with the kind support of international community we will be able to report in the near future on progress made in line with the priorities set in our victim assistance plan.

Finally allow me to thank the ISU and the governments of _____ who are supporting the parallel program on victim assistance; there is no doubt that discussions held on the international level are being reflected on the ground by developing programs addressing the rights of landmine survivors and persons with disabilities in Jordan. We hope that additional funding will be allocated to allow us to bring in survivor representatives on our delegation which will no doubt enrich our discussions.

Thank you madame co-chair.