

Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

18–21 December 2017, Vienna, Austria



ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION

16  **MSP**

VIENNA  18-21 DECEMBER 2017

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

Convention on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines and on their destruction

www.apminebanconvention.org

20
YEARS

THE 18–21 DECEMBER 2017
SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE STATES
PARTIES TAKES PLACE ON THE YEAR
OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE ADOPTION AND SIGNING OF
THE CONVENTION

The Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties (16MSP) is the third formal meeting since the Third Review Conference adopted the **Maputo Action Plan 2014–2019, containing 31 actions aimed at ensuring significant and sustainable progress towards the objectives of the Convention.**

As such, the 16MSP provides a platform for States Parties to review progress in implementing the **Maputo Action Plan**, and take stock of their efforts to meet the Convention's goals to the fullest extent possible by 2025.



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Photo above: Participants of the 2017 intersessional meetings commemorate the 20 anniversary of the Convention before the Broken Chair, a symbol of the many victims of these weapons.

1

WHAT IS THE ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION?

The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention is a short reference to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, also known as the *Ottawa Convention*.

The Convention was born from the human tragedy caused by mines in a number of countries throughout the world. In the early 1990s, non-governmental organisations working in war-torn countries brought the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines to the world's attention.

The Convention is the international community's comprehensive response to the humanitarian problems caused by anti-personnel mines, weapons that are indiscriminate and that last for decades after conflicts have ended.

The Convention was adopted in Oslo on 18 September 1997 and opened for signature in Ottawa on 3 and 4 December 1997 at a ceremony that featured the participation of dozens of world leaders.

For their determination in calling for the Convention, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and its co-ordinator Jody Williams were awarded the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize.

The Convention entered into force on 1 March 1999.

At their Third Review Conference in 2014, the States Parties adopted at a high political level the *Maputo +15 Declaration*, committing to intensify efforts to promote universal adherence and observance of the Convention's norms, destroy stockpiled anti-personnel mines, address mined areas, and assist mine victims expressing their aspiration to meet these goals to the fullest extent possible by 2025. At the same conference, States Parties adopted the *Maputo Action Plan 2014–2019* to guide their efforts.

In 2017, the Convention is presided over by H.E. Thomas Hajnoczi, Ambassador of Austria. Austria was part of a core group of States which in the late 1990s was fully committed to a global ban on anti-personnel mines and was instrumental in drafting the text of the Convention.

This year, the Convention’s President has encouraged cooperation and partnerships amongst all States Parties as well as with civil society to achieve tangible results in the implementation of the Convention. Austria has also worked in addressing victim assistance in the wider contexts of disability and human rights and promoted universalization of the Convention.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE CONVENTION?

The purpose of the Convention is “to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines” through the pursuit of four core aims:

- universal acceptance of a ban on anti-personnel mines;
- destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines;
- clearance of mined areas; and,
- assistance to mine victims.

HOW MANY COUNTRIES HAVE JOINED?

162 States have ratified or have acceded to the Convention. They include:

- most of the States that at one time used, stockpiled, produced or transferred anti-personnel mines;
- the vast majority of States that are or have been affected by anti-personnel mines;
- every State in the Americas, except Cuba and the United States;
- every State in Sub-Saharan Africa;
- every Member State of the European Union; and,
- the majority of ASEAN Member States.

There are 35 States not party to the Convention, including one signatory State*:

Armenia	Kazakhstan	Mongolia	Syrian Arab Republic
Azerbaijan	Korea, DPR of	Morocco	Tonga
Bahrain	Korea, Republic of	Myanmar	United Arab Emirates
China	Kyrgyzstan	Nepal	United States of America
Cuba	Lao PDR	Pakistan	Uzbekistan
Egypt	Lebanon	Palestine	Vietnam
Georgia	Libya	Russian Federation	
India	Marshall Islands*	Saudi Arabia	
Iran	Micronesia,	Singapore	
Israel	Federated States of	Sri Lanka	

WHAT HAS BEEN THE IMPACT OF THE CONVENTION?

Use of anti-personnel mines has decreased dramatically – 162 countries have agreed to not use anti-personnel mines by ratifying or acceding to the Convention. Most States not party adhere to the Convention’s norms.

Production has decreased significantly – 34 States of 50 that previously manufactured anti-personnel mines are now bound by the Convention’s ban on production. Most States not party have placed moratoria on production and / or transfers of mines.



H.E. Thomas Hajnoczi,
16MSP President.

The number of stockpiled mines has been significantly reduced – destruction of stockpiled mines is one of the Convention’s great success stories – more than 51 million mines have been destroyed by the States Parties; and, 159 States Parties now no longer have stockpile destruction obligations under the Convention.

Millions of square metres of once dangerous land have been released for normal human activity – 30 of 61 States Parties that reported mined areas have completed the task of clearing all such areas. Annual casualty rates have fallen significantly in many countries.

The Convention has served as a catalyst for drawing attention to the plight of landmine survivors – and hence the challenges of all persons with disabilities – in some of the world’s poorest countries. The Convention is the first arms control / disarmament instrument to take the needs of survivors into account. States Parties have agreed that victim assistance should be integrated into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks, including those related to the rights of persons with disabilities.



Belarus completed the destruction of 3.4 million anti-personnel mines, with the last 78 mines being destroyed in April 2017, during a symbolic ceremony in the Gomel region. Meeting its Article 4 obligation was possible thanks to support provided by the European Union.

WHAT ARE THE CONVENTION’S REMAINING CHALLENGES?

Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines (Article 4)

A State Party has four years after entry-into-force of the Convention to destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines it owns or possesses, or that are under its jurisdiction or control.

Together three States Parties still have approximately 5.5 million stockpiled anti-personnel mines to destroy.

STATE PARTY	ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES REMAINING TO BE DESTROYED	ARTICLE 4 PROJECTED COMPLETION DATE
Greece	643,267	Timeline to be established
Oman	10,682	Within the Article 4 deadline (1 February 2019)
Ukraine	4,911,589	2021

Retaining anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes (Article 3)

There are 76 States Parties which have reported 164,268 anti-personnel mines retained for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques as permitted by Article 3 of the Convention.

A number of States Parties have not reported on the use or plans for the use of retained anti-personnel mines in accordance with the purposes permitted by Article 3, and/or have retained the same number of anti-personnel mines for a number of years.

Destroying anti-personnel mines in mined areas (Article 5)

A State Party shall make every effort to identify all areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced. Each State Party has ten years to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas and return these areas to a state for normal human activity. If a State Party is unable to do so in ten years, it may ask for an extension of its mine clearance deadline.

To date, 31 States Parties are still in the process of fulfilling their mine clearance obligations. In addition, Mozambique, which declared completion in 2015, has reported that it has identified previously unknown mined areas and is acting in accordance with the decision of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties to address such situations.



Colonel Ahcène Gherabi, Director of Algeria's National Demining Programme announces that after decades of work, Algeria has fulfilled its mine clearance obligation.

STATE PARTY	ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE	STATE PARTY	ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE
Afghanistan	1 March 2023	Niger	31 December 2020
Angola	1 January 2026*	Oman	1 February 2025
Argentina	1 January 2020	Peru	31 December 2024
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 March 2019	Senegal	1 March 2021
Cambodia	1 January 2020	Serbia	1 March 2019
Chad	1 January 2020	Somalia	1 October 2026
Chile	1 March 2020	South Sudan	9 July 2021
Colombia	1 March 2021	Sudan	1 April 2019
Croatia	1 March 2019	Tajikistan	1 April 2020
Cyprus	1 July 2019	Thailand	31 October 2023*
DRC	1 January 2021	Turkey	1 March 2022
Ecuador	31 December 2022*	Ukraine	1 June 2016
Eritrea	1 February 2020	United Kingdom	1 March 2019
Ethiopia	1 June 2020	Yemen	1 March 2020
Iraq	1 February 2028*	Zimbabwe	31 December 2025*
Mauritania	1 January 2021		

*Subject to a decision of the 16MSP.



Photo left:
H.E. Beatriz Londoño Soto,
Ambassador of Colombia
to the UN in Geneva
and Chair of the Victim
Assistance Committee
presides over a meeting
related to the Committee’s
mandate during the
intersessional meetings in
Geneva in June 2017.

Photo right:
Football game taking place
in El Salvador.

Assisting the victims (Article 6.3)

Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration of mine victims and mine awareness programs.

29 States Parties have indicated having a significant number – hundreds or thousands – of landmine survivors for which they must provide care.

STATES PARTIES HAVING INDICATED A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF LANDMINE SURVIVORS

Afghanistan	Cambodia	El Salvador	Jordan	Serbia	Thailand
Albania	Chad	Eritrea	Mozambique	Somalia	Uganda
Angola	Colombia	Ethiopia	Nicaragua	South Sudan	Yemen
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Croatia	Guinea-Bissau	Peru	Sudan	Zimbabwe
Burundi	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Iraq	Senegal	Tajikistan	

Efforts continue towards ensuring that victim assistance is integrated into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks related to the rights of persons with disabilities, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction, while ensuring that landmine victims receive the urgent support they require.

National implementation measures (Article 9)

Each State Party shall take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control.

59 States Parties have not yet reported having either adopted legislation or whether they consider existing laws to be sufficient. Some of these 59 States Parties have reported having drafted specific legislation which is pending adoption, while others have reported that legislation is being considered but have not provided updated information on the status of legislation for a number of years.



2 WHAT IS THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES (16MSP)?

The 16MSP is a formal, diplomatic meeting of the 162 States which have accepted the Convention. They include most of the States that at one time used, stockpiled, produced or transferred anti-personnel mines and the vast majority of States that are or have been affected by anti-personnel mines. Several States that are not party to the Convention are expected to attend as Observers.

The 16MSP is being hosted and presided over by Austria at the United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV) from 18 to 21 December 2017.

The 16MSP takes place on the year of the 20th anniversary of the adoption and signing of the Convention. The 16MSP is key to assess progress in implementing the Convention's obligations and to ensure that the purpose of the Convention to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines is fulfilled.

Photo left: participation of civil society has been an integral part of the Convention's work, particularly that of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Photo right: three presidencies recently gathered in Santiago, Chile: H.E. Thomas Hajnoczi of Austria (16MSP), H.E. Marta Maurás of Chile (15MSP), HRH Prince Mired of Jordan (8MSP), who is also a Special Envoy of the Convention.

WHAT IS THE PROGRAMME OF THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES?



1997 Peace Nobel Co-Laureate Jody Williams and Tun Channareth at the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention 12MSP High Level Segment.

1: Given the volume of work that must be dealt with at the Sixteenth Meeting, States Parties and observers are encouraged to refrain from making general statements but rather provide updates on implementation on thematic matters indicated in agenda item 11. In addition, if they wish, delegations can distribute written statements rather than deliver oral statements.

MONDAY 18 DECEMBER, 10:00 – 13:00

1 High-level opening ceremony

A special ceremony featuring Ministers of Foreign Affairs, representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the UN Secretary General, the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize Co-Laureate, the Convention's Special Envoy, and the GICHD amongst others, will commemorate the 20th anniversary of the adoption and signing of the Convention.

2 Official opening of the meeting

The President of the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties, H.E. Thomas Hajnoczi, Ambassador of Austria opens the meeting.

3 Adoption of the agenda

The meeting will be asked to adopt its agenda presented to delegations on 9 June at the intersessional meetings.

4 Election of the Vice-Presidents of the meeting and of other officers

The meeting will be asked to elect the eight outgoing members of the Committees as Vice-Presidents of the 16MSP: Belgium, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Netherlands, Peru, Sweden, Uganda and Zambia.

5 Confirmation of the Secretary-General of the meeting

The meeting will be asked to confirm H.E. Wolfgang Angerholzer, Ambassador of Austria, as Secretary-General of the 16MSP.

6 Organisation of work

The meeting will be asked to adopt its programme as contained in the document presented to delegations on 9 June at the intersessional meetings.

7 General exchange of views¹

Delegations will be given the opportunity to deliver brief general statements. Interested delegations should contact the Implementation Support Unit to be inscribed in the speakers list. For those delegations that do not wish to deliver oral statements, written statements can be submitted will be made available on the Convention's website.

MONDAY 18 DECEMBER, 15:00 – 16:00

8 Panel: “20 Years of Success: Fulfilling the Promise of the Convention by 2025”

Moderated by the President of the 16MSP, the panel aims at drawing lessons from the past, taking stock of 20 years of accomplishments, looking back at the government-civil society partnership that has made the Convention a success, identifying key challenges and possible strategies to tackle them and fulfil the aspiration of a mine-free world by 2025.

Since its adoption, the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention has become a global success story, a trail-blazer for humanitarian disarmament. Its achievements have positively impacted thousands of lives around the globe, with 162 States Parties to the Convention representing more than 80% of the world’s countries, more than 51 million stockpiled landmines having been destroyed and large areas of previously contaminated land having been addressed and returned to the population for safe and productive use.

MONDAY 18 DECEMBER, 16:00 – 18:00

9 Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analysis of these requests

The meeting will consider requests for extensions on mine clearance deadlines that have been or are due to be submitted by Angola, Ecuador, Iraq, Thailand, Ukraine and Zimbabwe. In keeping with past practice, there will be an opportunity for informal presentations of and discussions on extension requests with the States Parties returning to formal consideration of these requests later in the week.

MONDAY 18 DECEMBER, 19:00

Opening reception hosted by the 16MSP President

Buses will transport participants from the Vienna International Centre to the Hofburg Zeremoniensaal. Conference badges are required to enter the reception venue.

TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER, 10:00 – 11:00

10 Panel, “Keeping People at the Heart of the Convention: Effective Victim Assistance”

The panel will be opened by HRH Princess Astrid of Belgium, Special Envoy of the Convention, and moderated by H.E. Beatriz Londoño Soto Ambassador of Colombia to the UN in Geneva, and Chair of the Committee on Victim Assistance. The panel will look back at early victim assistance efforts, progress made and challenges that remain.

20 years ago, “putting an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines that kill or maim hundreds of people, mostly innocent civilians and especially children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons, and have other severe



HRH Princess Astrid of Belgium, a long-time advocate of landmine survivors’ rights, and Special Envoy of the Convention, has been part of the landmine movement for nearly two decades.



Photo left:
HRH Princess Astrid leads a panel discussion on landmine survivors' rights at the 14MSP in Geneva.

Photo right:
A low-cost prosthetic centre run by landmine survivors provides support to over 100 people a year in the Province of Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand.



consequences for years after emplacement”, was a key driving force to negotiate and adopt the Convention. The logic conclusion was a conceptual novelty and major breakthrough for humanitarian disarmament: the first recognition of the rights of victims in a multilateral disarmament instrument. In 20 years much expertise has been developed to effectively implement victim assistance, an obligation that will continue to require substantial sustained commitment by States Parties in the long term.

TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER, 11:00 – 13:00

11 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

a) Assisting the victims: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Victim Assistance

The Committee on Victim Assistance will present its conclusions and recommendations.

States Parties having reported significant numbers of mine victims² are invited to provide brief updates on their efforts to fulfil their obligations, and the steps undertaken to implement the victim assistance actions (Actions #12 through #18) of the Maputo Action Plan. In addition, these States Parties are welcome to comment on the conclusions of the Committee on Victim Assistance. Other delegations are welcome to remark on these updates and to share their views on victim assistance.

TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER, 15:00 – 18:00

11 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

b) Clearing mined areas: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation

The Committee on Article 5 Implementation will present its conclusions and recommendations.

States Parties which have recently completed³ or are still in the process of clearing mined areas⁴ are invited to provide brief updates on their efforts to fulfil their obligations and on steps they have taken to implement the mine clearance actions of the Maputo Action Plan (Actions #8 through #11). In addition, these States

2: The following 29 States Parties have reported significant numbers of landmine survivors: Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

3: Algeria.

4: 31 States Parties are still in the process of clearing mined areas in accordance with Article 5: Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Mauritania, Niger, Oman, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Yemen and Zimbabwe.



Parties are welcome to comment on the conclusions of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation. Other delegations are welcome to remark on these updates and to share their views on Article 5.

Photos above: On 28 February 2017, the 16MSP President held the Second International Pledging Conference for the Implementation of the Convention.

WEDNESDAY 20 DECEMBER, 10:00 – 13:00

11 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

c) Cooperation and Assistance: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance

The Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance will present its conclusions and recommendations.

In particular, the Committee will present its efforts to strengthen cooperation and assistance and implementation of the relevant actions of the Maputo Action Plan (Actions #19 to #24) through the individualised approach, cooperation with other Committees to map needs and challenges faced by States Parties and efforts to improve the functioning of the Platform for Partnerships. Delegations will be given the opportunity to provide updates and share their views on cooperation and assistance and on the conclusions of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance.

d) Preventing and suppressing prohibited activities and facilitating compliance: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance

The Committee on Cooperative Compliance will present its conclusions and recommendations.

States Parties which have been mentioned in the conclusions of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance are invited to provide an update on ongoing investigations or activities undertaken to ensure compliance in accordance with Article 9 of the Convention and Action #29 of the Maputo Action Plan. In addition, these States Parties are welcome to comment on the conclusions of the Committee. Other delegations are welcome to remark on these updates and to share their views on compliance issues.



On the margins of the 8–9 June intersessional meetings, Sudan with the support of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance, Chaired by the Netherlands, held a meeting of the individualised approach to highlight its remaining challenges to implement the Convention.

WEDNESDAY 20 DECEMBER, 15:00 – 18:00

11 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

e) Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines

The President will present its conclusions and recommendations on stockpile destruction.

5: Greece, Oman
and Ukraine

States Parties responsible for destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines⁵ as well States Parties that have discovered previously unknown stockpiles are invited to provide brief updates on their efforts to fulfil their obligations. These updates should contain only new information with efforts made to avoid duplication with respect to updates provided in June at the intersessional meetings. Other delegations will be given the opportunity to remark on these updates and to share their views on stockpile destruction.

f) Universalizing the Convention

The President will give an overview of the status of universalization.

States not party to the Convention are invited to share views on the Convention and to provide updates on steps that are being taken or considered to accede to the Convention. Other delegations will be given the opportunity to provide updates on their efforts to encourage universal acceptance of the Convention and to share their views on universalization.

g) Transparency and the exchange of information

The President will give an overview of the status of transparency.

Delegations are welcome to provide updates and share views on transparency and the exchange of information, including transparency as concerns mines retained for permitted purposes. Delegations may also want to remark on the use of the Guide to Reporting adopted at the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties (14MSP).

THURSDAY 21 DECEMBER, 10:00 – 13:00

11 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

h) Implementation Support

i. Report on the activities, functioning and finances of the ISU and presentation of a work plan and a budget for the 2018 activities of the ISU

Further to the "Directive from the States Parties to the ISU" adopted by the 10MSP and further to decisions of the 14MSP on strengthening financial governance and transparency, the ISU is to propose and present every year to the Coordinating Committee for endorsement and subsequently to the Meeting of the States Parties for approval, a detailed yearly budget and work plan for the ensuing year within the range and limits of the applicable multi-year work plan, both in terms of expenditures related to core support and expenditures related to enhanced support contained therein.



The Director of the ISU will present the work plan and budget of the ISU for 2018. The meeting will be asked to approve work plan and budget of the ISU for 2018.

The Director of the ISU will report on 2017 ISU activities, functioning and finances, present the 2016 ISU audit report, and 2017 ISU preliminary financial report. The meeting will be asked to approve the 2017 report on activities and finances, and 2016 audited financial statement.

Delegations will be given the opportunity to provide comments and/or share their views on the 2018 ISU work plan and budget, 2016 audit report, and 2017 preliminary financial report.

ii. Mid-term review of the ISU four-year work plan 2016–2019

When the ISU four-year work plan 2016–2019 was adopted at the 14MSP, the States Parties agreed to hold a mid-term review of this work plan during their 16MSP. To this end, the 16MSP President circulated a review of the ISU four-year work plan to the Coordinating Committee for endorsement before the official presentation to the 16MSP.

Delegations will be given the opportunity to provide comments and/or share views on the mid-term review.

iii. Cooperation of the ISU with other relevant instruments

In 2015, the 14MSP requested the Presidency to conduct informal administrative consultations with the Presidents of other relevant instruments and with the Heads of other relevant ISU's. The Presidency was requested to report on opportunities for cost-savings through cooperation as soon as practical but not later than at the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties. The President will report on the outcome of these consultations.

iv. Other matters concerning implementation support

The meeting will be asked to agree that the 2018 intersessional meetings take place on 7–8 June 2018.

In keeping with its mandate, the 16MSP President undertook the task in 2017 of consulting with States Parties to identify a list of nominees to serve as new Committee members following the 16MSP. On 11 May 2017, the President wrote to all States Parties to indicate that the Presidency was seeking two new States Parties for each of the four Committees for two-year terms. On the basis of interest expressed, the President developed a proposal listing those States Parties that would serve as new Committee members from the end of the 16MSP for a two-year term.

Representatives of the Algerian government, civil society, ISU and ICBL participate in a ceremony marking the destruction of the last stockpiled anti-personnel mines in Algeria.

6: The ISU is tasked to report in written form as well as orally on the activities, functioning and finances of the ISU to each Meeting of the States Parties and to submit an audited annual financial report for the previous year and a preliminary financial report for the present year to the Coordinating Committee and subsequently to the Meeting of the States Parties for approval.

MONDAY 18 DECEMBER

10:00 – 13:00

- Opening Ceremony
- Official opening of the meeting
- Adoption of the agenda
- Election of the Vice-Presidents of the meeting and of other officers
- Confirmation of the Secretary-General of the meeting
- Organisation of work
- General exchange of views

13:00 – 15:00

2017 Landmine Monitor Briefing

HOST: International Coalition to Ban Landmines
ROOM: M4
CONTACT: elea@icblmc.org

The Impact of International Cooperation in Iraq's implementation of the Anti-Personnel Landmine Convention

HOST: Mission of the Republic of Iraq- Geneva
ROOM: M5
CONTACT: emad@iraqimission.ch

La pratique algérienne de lutte contre les mines antipersonnel: un engagement résolu pour une cause noble / The Algerian practice in the fight against anti-personnel mines: a resolute commitment to a noble cause

HOST: Algeria
ROOM: M6
CONTACT: agherabi@mdn.dz

Addressing the remaining challenges faced by Angola in Implementation of Article 5

HOST: Angola, Comissão Nacional Intersectoral de desminagem e assistência Humanitária-CNIDAH
ROOM: M7
CONTACT: rjesus@cnidah.gv.ao

Humanitarian mine action in areas controlled by armed non-State actors – current challenges and opportunities for local mine action agencies

HOST: Geneva Call
ROOM: M0100
CONTACT: cruta@genevacall.org

15:00 – 18:00

- Panel: "20 years of Success: Fulfilling the Promise of the Convention by 2025"
- Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analysis of these requests

19:00

Opening reception

HOST: 16MSP President
LOCATION: Hofburg Zeremoniensaal

TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER

08:30 – 9:45 | Victim Assistance 2025: Resourcing assistance in Development, Emergencies, and into a Mine Free World

HOST: Landmine Monitor / ICBL
ROOM: M4
CONTACT: loren@icblmc.org

10:00 – 13:00

- Panel: "Keeping people at the heart of the Convention: Effective Victim Assistance"
- Consideration of the general Status and operation of the convention
 - (a) Assisting the victims

13:00 – 15:00

Launch of the 2017 Clearing the Mines Report

HOST: Mine Action Review
ROOM: M4
CONTACT: lucyp@npaid.org

The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the European Union: partners in human security

HOST: European Union and the Implementation Support Unit
ROOM: M5
CONTACT: Frank.MEEUSSEN@eeas.europa.eu

Contribution of the Global Demining Initiative to Post Conflict in Colombia

HOST: Colombia, Norway and the United States
ROOM: M6
CONTACT: beatriz.londono@cancilleria.gov.co

Feasibility Assessment for Engaging Humanitarian Demining to deal with challenge of improvised anti-personnel mines in Afghanistan

HOST: Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) of the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDAM)
ROOM: M7
CONTACT: mohammadsy@dmac.gov.af

Publication Launch: Guidelines on Gender and Diversity-Responsive Victim Assistance in Mine Action

HOST: Delegation of Italy to the Conference on Disarmament (Geneva) and the Gender and Mine Action Programme (GMAP)
ROOM: M0100
CONTACT: palma.dambrosio@esteri.it

15:00 – 18:00

- Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention
- (b) Clearing mined areas

WEDNESDAY 20 DECEMBER

10:00 – 13:00

- Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention
 - (c) Cooperation and Assistance
 - (d) Preventing and suppressing prohibited activities and facilitating compliance

13:00 – 15:00**Mine Action and Sustaining Peace: Benefits and Challenges of Including Mine Action in Peace and Ceasefire Agreements**

HOST: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)
ROOM: M4
CONTACT: g.maspoli@gichd.org

Successful case on social and economic inclusion of Survivors in Colombia

HOST: Handicap International
ROOM: M5
CONTACT: cnacm@handicap.org.co

Demining and Stockpiles Destruction: On a Way to Sustainable Development and Mine-Free World

HOST: Republic of Belarus, Republic of Poland, Republic of Algeria, European Union
ROOM: M6
CONTACT: at.oscedel1@mfa.gov.by

Landmine Free 2025: What will it take?

HOST: Mines Advisory Group / HALO
ROOM: M7
CONTACT: andrew.taylor@maginternational.org

Mine Clearance demonstration

HOST: Ministry of National Defence of Austria
LOCATION: Heldenplatz, 1010 Vienna
(next to the Prince Eugen monument)
CONTACT: Wolfgang.Banyai@bmeia.gv.at

15:00 – 18:00

- Consideration of the general status and operation of the convention
 - (e) Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines
 - (f) Universalizing the Convention
 - (g) Transparency and the exchange of information

THURSDAY 21 DECEMBER

10:00 – 13:00

- Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention
 - (h) Implementation Support
 - (i) Report on activities, functioning and finances of the ISU and presentation of a work plan and a budget for the 2018 activities of the ISU
 - (ii) Mid-term review of the ISU four-year work plan 2016–2019
 - (iii) Cooperation of the ISU with other relevant instruments
 - (iv) Other matters concerning implementation support

13:00 – 15:00**Mine Action in Insecure and Unstable Environments**

HOST: Danish Demining Group, DanChurch Aid, Handicap International, and the Geneva International Centre for International Demining
ROOM: M4
CONTACT: Richard.maccormac@drc.dk

20 years of challenges in the Middle East and North Africa

HOST: Protection of Armaments and Consequences
ROOM: M5
CONTACT: asorour@mena-protection.org

Towards a mine free DRC: the role of the State and Civil Society

HOST: Centre Congolais de Lutte Anti-mines
ROOM: M6
CONTACT: Francky_tos@yahoo.fr

20th Anniversary of APMBC Implementation, Achievements and Path Ahead

HOST: Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA)
ROOM: M7
CONTACT: touch.pheap@cmaa.gov.kh

15:00 – 18:00

- Financial status of assessed contributions to the Meetings of the States Parties
- Consideration of requests submitted under Article 5
- Consideration of matters arising from/in the context of reports submitted under Article 7
- Consideration of requests submitted under Article 8
- Date, duration, location and Presidency of the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties, and matters pertaining to the preparations for the Seventeenth Meeting
- Any other business
- Consideration and adoption of the final document
- Closure of the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties

If this proposal is agreed to by the 16MSP, the following eight States Parties would start their new two-year membership term at the end of the 16MSP:

- Committee on Victim Assistance: Belgium and Mozambique
- Committee on Article 5 Implementation: Colombia and the Netherlands
- Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance: Sweden and Thailand
- Committee on Cooperative Compliance: Poland and Zambia

12 Financial status of assessed contributions to the Meetings of the States Parties

The status of assessed contributions to the Meetings of the States Parties will be presented and delegations will be given the opportunity to provide comments and views on the assessed contributions.

THURSDAY 21 DECEMBER, 15:00 – 18:00

13 Consideration of requests submitted under Article 5

The meeting will take decisions on the request for extended mine clearance deadlines which have been or may be submitted by Angola, Ecuador, Iraq, Thailand, Ukraine and Zimbabwe.

14 Consideration of matters arising from/in the context of reports submitted under Article 7

15 Consideration of requests submitted under Article 8

16 Date, duration, location and Presidency of the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties, and matters pertaining to the preparations for the Seventeenth Meeting

The meeting will be asked to agree that the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties (17MSP) takes place on 26-30 November 2018 in Geneva and that H.E. Suraya Dalil Ambassador of Afghanistan to Switzerland and the United Nations in Geneva, be elected to preside over the 17MSP.

17 Any other business

Delegations are welcome to take the floor on matters that have not been covered otherwise by the meeting.

18 Consideration and adoption of the final document

The meeting will be asked to consider and adopt its final report.

19 Closure of the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties

The meeting will be closed by the 16MSP President.



Afghanistan will lead the work of the Convention in 2018. H.E. Suraya Dalil, Ambassador of Afghanistan to Switzerland and the UN in Geneva is the President Designate of the 17MSP, and, the fifth woman to lead the work of the States Parties.

MONDAY 18 DEC 13:00 – 15:00**Landmine Monitor: 2017 Briefing**

HOST: International Campaign to Ban Landmines

Civil society experts will discuss recent developments in landmine ban policy, survey and the clearance of landmines and other explosive remnants of war, casualties, and efforts to guarantee rights and meet the needs of landmine victims

ROOM: M4

CONTACT: elea@icblcmc.org

The Impact of International Cooperation in Iraq's implementation of the Anti-Personnel Landmine Convention

HOST: Mission of the Republic of Iraq- Geneva

This event will review the economic, social and environmental impact of land mines on Iraqi society. It will share the current challenges that confront the mine action programme in Iraq and highlight the impact of International Cooperation and technical assistance in Iraq's implementation of the Anti-Personnel Landmine Convention.

ROOM: M5

CONTACT: emad@iraqimission.ch

La pratique algérienne de lutte contre les mines antipersonnel : un engagement résolu pour une cause noble / The Algerian practice in the fight against anti-personnel mines: a resolute commitment to a noble cause

HOST : Algeria

This event highlights the efforts made by Algeria in the fight against anti-personnel mines. In particular; clearing mined areas, destroying remaining stockpiles, assisting victims and promoting the universalization of the AP Mine Ban Convention. It includes a short film, presentations and distribution of documents related to the campaign, "Removal of a mine, plantation of a tree". It's also the opportunity to enjoy some Algerian delicacies.

ROOM: M6

CONTACT: agherabi@mdn.dz

Addressing the remaining challenges faced by Angola in Implementation of Article 5

HOST: Angola, Comissão Nacional Intersectoral de desminagem e assistência Humanitária-CNIDAH

Following the culmination of non-technical survey in most of Angola's Provinces and a clearer analysis of progress made, Angola today has a clear understanding of its remaining challenge and how to achieve completion of Angola's mine clearance obligation within its requested extension

period of 8 years. Nonetheless, addressing the remaining 1,465 mined areas in Angola will require significant financial support at a time when international resources have been reducing. Angola will offer an overview of its remaining challenge and share its strategy for completion.

ROOM: M7

CONTACT: rjesus@cnidah.gv.ao

Humanitarian mine action in areas controlled by armed non-State actors – current challenges and opportunities for local mine action agencies

HOST: Geneva Call

In areas controlled by armed non-State actors, local mine action agencies are often the only civilian actors present conducting demining or other mine action activities. How can the international mine action community better support these actors? What are the challenges and lessons learned from past experiences?

ROOM: MO100

CONTACT: cruta@genevacall.org

MONDAY 18 DECEMBER 19:00**Opening reception**

(location: Hofburg, Zeremoniensaal)

Buses will transport participants from the Vienna International Centre to the location of the reception. Conference badges will be required to enter the reception venue.

TUESDAY 19 DEC 08:30 – 09:45**Victim Assistance 2025: Resourcing assistance in Development, Emergencies, and into a Mine Free World**

HOST: Landmine Monitor / ICBL

How does Victims Assistance fit within the commitment of realising a Mine Free World by 2025? This side event will seek to provide a big picture of the resources needed to take victim assistance into 2025 and the world after landmines. Consideration will be given to identifying how plans, rights and development frameworks, including the SDGs fit into the 2025 goal.

ROOM: M4

CONTACT: loren@icblcmc.org

TUESDAY 19 DEC 13:00 – 15:00**Clearing the Mines 2017: Report launch and briefing**

HOST: Mine Action Review

Experts from Mine Action Review and its

Advisory Board members; HALO Trust, the Mines Advisory Group (MAG), and Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) will discuss progress and developments in survey and clearance of landmines under Article 5 and challenges faced in today's environment. The panel will be moderated by Ambassador Brattskar of Norway.

ROOM: M4

CONTACT: lucyp@npaid.org

The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the European Union: partners in human security

HOST: European Union and the Implementation Support Unit of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

The European Union and its Member States will launch a brochure documenting EU support for mine action across the world over the past five years. At the occasion of this side-event the new EU Council Decision in support of the implementation of the Maputo Action Plan of the Convention will also be presented. The decision enables the ISU to support efforts of States Parties to the Convention to implement the Maputo Action Plan and also support efforts in the area of universalisation of the Convention.

ROOM: M5

CONTACT:

Frank.MEEUSSEN@eeas.europa.eu

Contribution of the Global Demining Initiative to Post Conflict in Colombia

HOST: Delegation of Colombia, Norway and United States

This side event will present the most recent results of the comprehensive mine action in Colombia and the still remaining challenges, the main achievements of the Global Demining Initiative launched by the United States, Norway and Colombia in 2016 and the experience of the international cooperation and assistance as a tool to strengthen mine action in Colombia.

ROOM: M6

CONTACT:

beatriz.londono@cancilleria.gov.co

Feasibility Assessment for Engaging Humanitarian Demining to deal with challenge of improvised anti-personnel mines in Afghanistan

HOST: Directorate of Mine Action Coordination (DMAC) of the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDAM)

The challenge of improvised anti-personnel mines is increasing in Afghanistan. The side event will provide an overview of the current situation, including a new feasibility study to assess the circumstanc-

SIDE EVENTS

es and practicability of engaging in the clearance of this type of anti-personnel mine, Focus will be given to discussing the partial release of results from the study.
ROOM: M7
CONTACT: mohammadsy@dmac.gov.af

Guidelines on Gender and Diversity-Responsive Victim Assistance in Mine Action

HOST: Delegation of Italy to the Conference on Disarmament (Geneva) and the Gender and Mine Action Programme (GMAP)
The side event will mark the launch of a set of guidelines developed by the Gender and Mine Action Programme in collaboration with Handicap International and with Italian support. The guidelines are intended as a practical resource for donors, recipient States as well as operators for integrating gender- and diversity-sensitive approaches to victim assistance into mine action and the broader disability sector.
ROOM: MO100
CONTACT: palma.dambrosio@esteri.it

WEDNESDAY 20 DEC 13:00 – 15:00

Mine Action and Sustaining Peace: Benefits and Challenges of Including Mine Action in Peace and Ceasefire Agreements

HOST: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
The UN SC Resolution 2365 (2017) adopted on 30 June 2017 calls for the inclusion of mine action provisions into ceasefire and peace agreements. This side event will disseminate existing guidance, lessons learned and to facilitate the bridging between mine action and mediation communities of practice in debating the benefits and challenges of including such provisions into peace and ceasefire agreements.
ROOM: M4
CONTACT: g.maspoli@gichd.org

Successful case on social and economic inclusion of survivors in Colombia

HOST: Handicap International with the support of Government of the Republic of Colombia
Presentation of a successful experience that has been promoted by Handicap International with the accompaniment of the Colombian Government, to develop the Peer Support Approach about Survivors Psychosocial Assistance, which allows the social inclusion and the active participation of the victims in peacebuilding processes.
ROOM: M5
CONTACT: cnacm@handicap.org.co; alma.alosta@handicap.be

Demining and Stockpiles Destruction: On a Way to Sustainable Development and Mine-Free World

HOST: Republic of Belarus, Republic of Poland, Republic of Algeria, European Union

This side event will exchange views on best practices and experience in the process of territory demining and stockpiles destruction, specifically;

- Outline the important role of providing assistance in eliminating stockpiles of anti-personnel landmines;
- Draw attention to positive examples of how responsible governance at the national level, political will and international cooperation contribute to achieving the goals of sustainable development and building a safer world.

ROOM: M6

CONTACT: oscedel1@mfa.gov.by; y.nikolaychik@mfa.gov.by; mission.belarus@tut.by

Landmine Free 2025: What will it take?

HOST: Mines Advisory Group / HALO
Based on a report published by the Landmine Free 2025 campaign this side event will discuss a targeted and realistic approach to achieving completion of mine clearance by 2025.

- What is the status of clearance progress in 20th Anniversary?
- What is the current status of funding?
- What it will take to make Landmine Free 2025 a reality?

ROOM: M7

CONTACT: andrew.taylor@maginternational.org

Mine Clearance demonstration

The Ministry of National Defence of Austria invites participants to a mine clearance demonstration. Participants will have the opportunity to witness the application of the demining toolkit including manual and mechanical clearance and the application of mine detection dogs.
LOCATION: Heldenplatz, 1010 Vienna (next to the Prince Eugen monument)
CONTACT: Wolfgang.Banyai@bmeia.gv.at

THURSDAY 21 DEC 13:00 – 15:00

Mine Action in Insecure and Unstable Environments

HOST: Danish Demining Group, DanChurch Aid, Handicap International, and the Geneva International Centre for International Demining (GICHD)
How can Humanitarian Mine Action best take place in areas characterised by lack of trust? What implementation models work in these situations? And how does

Humanitarian Mine Action in turn support efforts to build trust? A discussion with perspectives from DDG, DCA, HI and GICHD.

ROOM: M4

CONTACT: Richard.maccormac@drc.dk

20 years of challenges in the Middle East and North Africa

HOST: Protection of Armaments & Consequences

With participation of MENA delegates, NGOs and other related bodies, the event will discuss the universalization, use, clearance, and VA successes and challenges of the MBT in the MENA to identify best ways to achieve the treaty 2025 target.

ROOM: M5

CONTACT: asorour@mena-protection.org

Vers une RDC sans mine antipersonnel: rôles de l'Etat et de la société civile / Towards a mine-free DRC: the role of the state and civil society

HOST: Centre Congolais de Lutte Antimines (CCLAM) et Campagne Congolaise pour Interdire les Mines (CCIM)

Il s'agira de décrire les efforts fournis par le gouvernement de la RDC et la société civile pour atteindre l'idéal d'une RDC sans mines antipersonnel à l'horizon 2021. L'événement mettra l'accent sur les avancées accomplies en rapport avec les articles 5 et 6 de la convention d'Ottawa et présentera les grandes lignes du nouveau plan stratégique devant aider à terminer le travail dans le respect de la demande d'extension.

Panellists will discuss efforts made by the government of DRC and the civil society to reach the goal of a mine-free DRC by 2021. The event will focus on progress made with regards to article 5 and 6 of the Ottawa Convention and will outline the new strategic plan aiming at finishing the job within the timeframe agreed in the extension request.

ROOM: M6

CONTACT: Francky_tos@yahoo.fr

20th Anniversary of APMB Implementation, Achievements and Path Ahead

HOST: Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA)
In commemorating the twenty anniversary, and as one of the pioneers of the movement to ban landmine, Cambodia celebrates our achievements, and lays down our strategies to meet up the end state land which is to free Cambodia from landmine and ERW by 2025.

ROOM: M7

CONTACT: touch.pheap@maa.gov.kh



6 IMPORTANT DATES | 2018

1 MARCH	Nineteenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention.
DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	Third International Pledging Conference for the Implementation of the Anti- Personnel Mine Ban Convention, Geneva.
31 MARCH	Deadline for States Parties with Article 5 deadlines in 2019 – Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, Croatia, Cyprus, Serbia, Sudan and the United Kingdom – to submit requests for extensions, if necessary.
30 APRIL	Deadlines for States Parties to submit Article 7 transparency reports covering calendar year 2017.
7–8 JUNE	2018 intersessional meetings, Geneva.⁷
18 SEPTEMBER	Twenty-first anniversary of the adoption of the Convention.
26–30 NOVEMBER	Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties, Geneva.⁸
3 DECEMBER	International Day of Persons with Disabilities.
3–4 DECEMBER	Twenty-first anniversary of the signing of the Convention.

Photo left:
The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, a key figure in the process that led to the Convention’s adoption participated in an event in Croatia commemorating the 20th anniversary.

Photo right:
Representatives of demining organisations Danish Demining Group (DDG), HALO Trust, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), and Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA)] participate in a panel moderated by the 16MSP President on what it will take to meet the Convention aspirations by 2025.

⁷: Subject to approval of the 16MSP.
⁸: Ibid.

CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF
THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND
TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES
AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

THE STATES PARTIES,

Determined to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, that kill or maim hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians and especially children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons, and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement,

Believing it necessary to do their utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to face the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world, and to assure their destruction,

Wishing to do their utmost in providing assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration of mine victims,

Recognizing that a total ban of anti-personnel mines would also be an important confidence-building measure,

Welcoming the adoption of the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996, annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, and calling for the early ratification of this Protocol by all States which have not yet done so,

Welcoming also United Nations General Assembly Resolution 51/45 S of 10 December 1996 urging all States to pursue vigorously an effective, legally-binding international agreement to ban the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel landmines,

Welcoming furthermore the measures taken over the past years, both unilaterally and multilaterally, aiming at prohibiting, restricting or suspending the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines,

Stressing the role of public conscience in furthering the principles of humanity as evidenced by the call for a total ban of anti-personnel mines and recognizing the efforts to that end undertaken by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and numerous other nongovernmental organisations around the world,

Recalling the Ottawa Declaration of 5 October 1996 and the Brussels Declaration of 27 June 1997 urging the international community to negotiate an international and legally binding agreement prohibiting the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines,

Emphasizing the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to this Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization in all relevant fora including, inter alia, the United Nations, the Conference on Disarmament, regional organisations, and groupings, and review conferences of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,

Basing themselves on the principle of international humanitarian law that the right of the parties to an armed conflict to choose methods or means of warfare is not unlimited, on the principle that prohibits the employment in armed conflicts of weapons, projectiles and materials and methods of warfare of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering and on the principle that a distinction must be made between civilians and combatants,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

General obligations

1. Each State Party undertakes never under any circumstances:

- a) To use anti-personnel mines;
- b) To develop, produce, otherwise acquire, stockpile, retain or transfer to anyone, directly or indirectly, antipersonnel mines;
- c) To assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention.

2. Each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in accordance with the provisions of this Convention.

ARTICLE 2

Definitions

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. Mines designed to be detonated by the presence, proximity or contact of a Vehicle as opposed to a person, that are equipped with anti-handling devices, are not considered anti-personnel mines as a result of being so equipped.

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.

3. "Anti-handling device" means a device intended to protect a mine and which is part of, linked to, attached to or placed under the mine and which activates when an attempt is made to tamper with or otherwise intentionally disturb the mine.

4. "Transfer" involves, in addition to the physical movement of anti-personnel mines into or from national territory, the transfer of title to and control over the mines, but does not involve the transfer of territory containing emplaced anti-personnel mines.

5. "Mined area" means an area which is dangerous due to the presence or suspected presence of mines.

ARTICLE 3

Exceptions

1. Notwithstanding the general obligations under Article 1, the retention or transfer of a number of anti-personnel mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques is permitted. The amount of such mines shall not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for the above-mentioned purposes.

2. The transfer of anti-personnel mines for the purpose of destruction is permitted.

ARTICLE 4

Destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines

Except as provided for in Article 3, each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines it owns or possesses, or that are under its jurisdiction or control, as soon as possible but not later than four years after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party.

ARTICLE 5

Destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas

1. Each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control, as soon as possible but not later than ten years after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party.

2. Each State Party shall make every effort to identify all areas under its jurisdiction or control in which antipersonnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced and shall ensure as soon as possible that all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control are perimeter-marked, monitored and protected by fencing or other means, to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians, until all anti-personnel mines contained therein have been destroyed. The marking shall at least be to the standards set out in the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996, annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

3. If a State Party believes that it will be unable to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines referred to in paragraph 1 within that time period, it may submit a request to a Meeting of the States Parties or a Review Conference for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of such anti-personnel mines, for a period of up to ten years.

4. Each request shall contain:

- a) The duration of the proposed extension;
- b) A detailed explanation of the reasons for the proposed extension, including:
 - (i) The preparation and status of work conducted under national demining programs;
 - (ii) The financial and technical means available to the State Party for the destruction of all the anti-personnel mines; and
 - (iii) Circumstances which impede the ability of the State Party to destroy all the anti-personnel mines in mined areas;
- c) The humanitarian, social, economic, and environmental implications of the extension; and

d) Any other information relevant to the request for the proposed extension.

5. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Review Conference shall, taking into consideration the factors contained in paragraph 4, assess the request and decide by a majority of votes of States Parties present and voting whether to grant the request for an extension period.

6. Such an extension may be renewed upon the submission of a new request in accordance with paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of this Article. In requesting a further extension period a State Party shall submit relevant additional information on what has been undertaken in the previous extension period pursuant to this Article.

ARTICLE 6

International cooperation and assistance

1. In fulfilling its obligations under this Convention each State Party has the right to seek and receive assistance, where feasible, from other States Parties to the extent possible.

2. Each State Party undertakes to facilitate and shall have the right to participate in the fullest possible exchange of equipment, material and scientific and technological information concerning the implementation of this Convention. The States Parties shall not impose undue restrictions on the provision of mine clearance equipment and related technological information for humanitarian purposes.

3. Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims and for mine awareness programs. Such assistance may be provided, inter alia, through the United Nations system, international, regional or national organisations or institutions, the International Committee of the Red Cross, national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and their International Federation, non-governmental organisations, or on a bilateral basis.

4. Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for mine clearance and related activities. Such assistance may be provided, inter alia, through the United Nations system, international or regional organisations or institutions, non-governmental organisations or institutions, or on a bilateral basis, or by contributing to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance, or other regional funds that deal with demining.

5. Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the destruction of stockpiled antipersonnel mines.

6. Each State Party undertakes to provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations system, especially information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of ex-

perts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance.

7. States Parties may request the United Nations, regional organisations, other States Parties or other competent inter-governmental or non-governmental fora to assist its authorities in the elaboration of a national demining program to determine, *inter alia*:

- a) The extent and scope of the anti-personnel mine problem;
- b) The financial, technological and human resources that are required for the implementation of the program;
- c) The estimated number of years necessary to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under the jurisdiction or control of the concerned State Party;
- d) Mine awareness activities to reduce the incidence of mine-related injuries or deaths;
- e) Assistance to mine victims;
- f) The relationship between the Government of the concerned State Party and the relevant governmental, inter-governmental or non-governmental entities that will work in the implementation of the program.

8. Each State Party giving and receiving assistance under the provisions of this Article shall cooperate with a view to ensuring the full and prompt implementation of agreed assistance programs.

ARTICLE 7

Transparency measures

1. Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations as soon as practicable, and in any event not later than 180 days after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party on:

- a) The national implementation measures referred to in Article 9;
- b) The total of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed by it, or under its jurisdiction or control, to include a breakdown of the type, quantity and, if possible, lot numbers of each type of anti-personnel mine stockpiled;
- c) To the extent possible, the location of all mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, antipersonnel mines under its jurisdiction or control, to include as much detail as possible regarding the type and quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine in each mined area and when they were emplaced;
- d) The types, quantities and, if possible, lot numbers of all anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques, or transferred for the purpose of destruction, as well as the institutions authorized by a State Party to retain or transfer anti-personnel mines, in accordance with Article 3;
- e) The status of programs for the conversion or de-commissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities;

- f) The status of programs for the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, including details of the methods which will be used in destruction, the location of all destruction sites and the applicable safety and environmental standards to be observed;
- g) The types and quantities of all anti-personnel mines destroyed after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party, to include a breakdown of the quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine destroyed, in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, respectively, along with, if possible, the lot numbers of each type of antipersonnel mine in the case of destruction in accordance with Article 4;
- h) The technical characteristics of each type of anti-personnel mine produced, to the extent known, and those currently owned or possessed by a State Party, giving, where reasonably possible, such categories of information as may facilitate identification and clearance of anti-personnel mines; at a minimum, this information shall include the dimensions, fusing, explosive content, metallic content, colour photographs and other information which may facilitate mine clearance; and
- i) The measures taken to provide an immediate and effective warning to the population in relation to all areas identified under paragraph 2 of Article 5.

2. The information provided in accordance with this Article shall be updated by the States Parties annually, covering the last calendar year, and reported to the Secretary-General of the United Nations not later than 30 April of each year.

3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit all such reports received to the States Parties.

ARTICLE 8

Facilitation and clarification of compliance

1. The States Parties agree to consult and cooperate with each other regarding the implementation of the provisions of this Convention, and to work together in a spirit of cooperation to facilitate compliance by States Parties with their obligations under this Convention.

2. If one or more States Parties wish to clarify and seek to resolve questions relating to compliance with the provisions of this Convention by another State Party, it may submit, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, a Request for Clarification of that matter to that State Party. Such a request shall be accompanied by all appropriate information. Each State Party shall refrain from unfounded Requests for Clarification, care being taken to avoid abuse. A State Party that receives a Request for Clarification shall provide, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, within 28 days to the requesting State Party all information which would assist in clarifying this matter.

3. If the requesting State Party does not receive a response through the Secretary-General of the United Nations within that time period, or deems the response to the Request for Clarification to be unsatisfactory, it may submit the matter through the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the next Meeting of the States Parties. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit the submission, accompanied by all appropriate information pertaining to the Request for Clarification, to all States Parties. All such information shall be presented to the requested State Party which shall have the right to respond.

4. Pending the convening of any meeting of the States Parties, any of the States Parties concerned may request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to exercise his or her good offices to facilitate the clarification requested.

5. The requesting State Party may propose through the Secretary-General of the United Nations the convening of a Special Meeting of the States Parties to consider the matter. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall thereupon communicate this proposal and all information submitted by the States Parties concerned, to all States Parties with a request that they indicate whether they favour a Special Meeting of the States Parties, for the purpose of considering the matter. In the event that within 14 days from the date of such communication, at least one-third of the States Parties favours such a Special Meeting, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall convene this Special Meeting of the States Parties within a further 14 days. A quorum for this Meeting shall consist of a majority of States Parties.

6. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties, as the case may be, shall first determine whether to consider the matter further, taking into account all information submitted by the States Parties concerned. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall make every effort to reach a decision by consensus. If despite all efforts to that end no agreement has been reached, it shall take this decision by a majority of States Parties present and voting.

7. All States Parties shall cooperate fully with the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties in the fulfilment of its review of the matter, including any fact-finding missions that are authorized in accordance with paragraph 8.

8. If further clarification is required, the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall authorize a fact-finding mission and decide on its mandate by a majority of States Parties present and voting. At any time the requested State Party may invite

a fact-finding mission to its territory. Such a mission shall take place without a decision by a Meeting of the States Parties or a Special Meeting of the States Parties to authorize such a mission. The mission, consisting of up to 9 experts, designated and approved in accordance with paragraphs 9 and 10, may collect additional information on the spot or in other places directly related to the alleged compliance issue under the jurisdiction or control of the requested State Party.

9. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall prepare and update a list of the names, nationalities and other relevant data of qualified experts provided by States Parties and communicate it to all States Parties. Any expert included on this list shall be regarded as designated for all fact-finding missions unless a State Party declares its non-acceptance in writing. In the event of non-acceptance, the expert shall not participate in fact-finding missions on the territory or any other place under the jurisdiction or control of the objecting State Party, if the non-acceptance was declared prior to the appointment of the expert to such missions.

10. Upon receiving a request from the Meeting of the States Parties or a Special Meeting of the States Parties, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall, after consultations with the requested State Party, appoint the members of the mission, including its leader. Nationals of States Parties requesting the fact-finding mission or directly affected by it shall not be appointed to the mission. The members of the fact-finding mission shall enjoy privileges and immunities under Article VI of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, adopted on 13 February 1946.

11. Upon at least 72 hours notice, the members of the fact-finding mission shall arrive in the territory of the requested State Party at the earliest opportunity. The requested State Party shall take the necessary administrative measures to receive, transport and accommodate the mission, and shall be responsible for ensuring the security of the mission to the maximum extent possible while they are on territory under its control.

12. Without prejudice to the sovereignty of the requested State Party, the fact-finding mission may bring into the territory of the requested State Party the necessary equipment which shall be used exclusively for gathering information on the alleged compliance issue. Prior to its arrival, the mission will advise the requested State Party of the equipment that it intends to utilize in the course of its fact-finding mission.

13. The requested State Party shall make all efforts to ensure that the fact-finding mission is given the opportunity to speak with all relevant persons who may be able to provide information related to the alleged compliance issue.

14. The requested State Party shall grant access for the fact-finding mission to all areas and installations under its control where facts relevant to the compliance issue could be expected to be collected. This shall be subject to any arrangements that the requested State Party considers necessary for:

- a) The protection of sensitive equipment, information and areas;
- b) The protection of any constitutional obligations the requested State Party may have with regard to proprietary rights, searches and seizures, or other constitutional rights; or
- c) The physical protection and safety of the members of the fact-finding mission. In the event that the requested State Party makes such arrangements, it shall make every reasonable effort to demonstrate through alternative means its compliance with this Convention.

15. The fact-finding mission may remain in the territory of the State Party concerned for no more than 14 days, and at any particular site no more than 7 days, unless otherwise agreed.

16. All information provided in confidence and not related to the subject matter of the fact-finding mission shall be treated on a confidential basis.

17. The fact-finding mission shall report, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties the results of its findings.

18. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall consider all relevant information, including the report submitted by the fact-finding mission, and may request the requested State Party to take measures to address the compliance issue within a specified period of time. The requested State Party shall report on all measures taken in response to this request.

19. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties may suggest to the States Parties concerned ways and means to further clarify or resolve the matter under consideration, including the initiation of appropriate procedures in conformity with international law. In circumstances where the issue at hand is determined to be due to circumstances beyond the control of the requested State Party, the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties may recommend appropriate measures, including the use of cooperative measures referred to in Article 6.

20. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall make every effort to reach its decisions referred to in paragraphs 18 and 19 by consensus, otherwise by a two-thirds majority of States Parties present and voting.

ARTICLE 9

National implementation measures

Each State Party shall take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control.

ARTICLE 10

Settlement of disputes

1. The States Parties shall consult and cooperate with each other to settle any dispute that may arise with regard to the application or the interpretation of this Convention. Each State Party may bring any such dispute before the Meeting of the States Parties.

2. The Meeting of the States Parties may contribute to the settlement of the dispute by whatever means it deems appropriate, including offering its good offices, calling upon the States parties to a dispute to start the settlement procedure of their choice and recommending a time-limit for any agreed procedure.

3. This Article is without prejudice to the provisions of this Convention on facilitation and clarification of compliance.

ARTICLE 11

Meetings of the States Parties

1. The States Parties shall meet regularly in order to consider any matter with regard to the application or implementation of this Convention, including:

- a) The operation and status of this Convention;
- b) Matters arising from the reports submitted under the provisions of this Convention;
- c) International cooperation and assistance in accordance with Article 6;
- d) The development of technologies to clear anti-personnel mines;
- e) Submissions of States Parties under Article 8; and
- f) Decisions relating to submissions of States Parties as provided for in Article 5.

2. The First Meeting of the States Parties shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations within one year after the entry into force of this Convention. The subsequent meetings shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations annually until the first Review Conference.

3. Under the conditions set out in Article 8, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall convene a Special Meeting of the States Parties.

4. States not parties to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organisations or institutions, regional organisations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organisations may be invited to attend these meetings as observers in accordance with the agreed Rules of Procedure.

ARTICLE 12

Review Conferences

1. A Review Conference shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations five years after the entry into force of this Convention. Further Review Conferences shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations if so requested by one or more States Parties, provided that the interval between Review Conferences shall in no case be less than five years. All States Parties to this Convention shall be invited to each Review Conference.

2. The purpose of the Review Conference shall be:

- a) To review the operation and status of this Convention;
- b) To consider the need for and the interval between further Meetings of the States Parties referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 11;
- c) To take decisions on submissions of States Parties as provided for in Article 5; and
- d) To adopt, if necessary, in its final report conclusions related to the implementation of this Convention.

3. States not parties to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organisations or institutions, regional organisations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organisations may be invited to attend each Review Conference as observers in accordance with the agreed Rules of Procedure.

ARTICLE 13

Amendments

1. At any time after the entry into force of this Convention any State Party may propose amendments to this Convention. Any proposal for an amendment shall be communicated to the Depositary, who shall circulate it to all States Parties and shall seek their views on whether an Amendment Conference should be convened to consider the proposal. If a majority of the States Parties notify the Depositary no later than 30 days after its circulation that they support further consideration of the proposal, the Depositary shall convene an Amendment Conference to which all States Parties shall be invited.

2. States not parties to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organisations or institutions, regional organisations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organisations may be invited to attend each Amendment Conference as observers in accordance with the agreed Rules of Procedure.

3. The Amendment Conference shall be held immediately following a Meeting of the States Parties or a Review Conference unless a majority of the States Parties request that it be held earlier.

4. Any amendment to this Convention shall be adopted by a majority of two-

thirds of the States Parties present and voting at the Amendment Conference. The Depositary shall communicate any amendment so adopted to the States Parties.

5. An amendment to this Convention shall enter into force for all States Parties to this Convention which have accepted it, upon the deposit with the Depositary of instruments of acceptance by a majority of States Parties. Thereafter it shall enter into force for any remaining State Party on the date of deposit of its instrument of acceptance.

ARTICLE 14

Costs

1. The costs of the Meetings of the States Parties, the Special Meetings of the States Parties, the Review Conferences and the Amendment Conferences shall be borne by the States Parties and States not parties to this Convention participating therein, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately.

2. The costs incurred by the Secretary-General of the United Nations under Articles 7 and 8 and the costs of any fact-finding mission shall be borne by the States Parties in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately.

ARTICLE 15

Signature

This Convention, done at Oslo, Norway, on 18 September 1997, shall be open for signature at Ottawa, Canada, by all States from 3 December 1997 until 4 December 1997, and at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 December 1997 until its entry into force.

ARTICLE 16

Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession

1. This Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval of the Signatories.

2. It shall be open for accession by any State which has not signed the Convention.

3. The instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the Depositary.

ARTICLE 17

Entry into force

1. This Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the sixth month after the month in which the 40th instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession has been deposited.

2. For any State which deposits its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession after the date of the deposit of the 40th instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, this Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the sixth month after the

date on which that State has deposited its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

ARTICLE 18

Provisional application

Any State may at the time of its ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, declare that it will apply provisionally paragraph 1 of Article 1 of this Convention pending its entry into force.

ARTICLE 19

Reservations

The Articles of this Convention shall not be subject to reservations.

ARTICLE 20

Duration and withdrawal

1. This Convention shall be of unlimited duration.

2. Each State Party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty, have the right to withdraw from this Convention. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to all other States Parties, to the Depositary and to the United Nations Security Council. Such instrument of withdrawal shall include a full explanation of the reasons motivating this withdrawal.

3. Such withdrawal shall only take effect six months after the receipt of the instrument of withdrawal by the Depositary. If, however, on the expiry of that six-month period, the withdrawing State Party is engaged in an armed conflict, the withdrawal shall not take effect before the end of the armed conflict.

4. The withdrawal of a State Party from this Convention shall not in any way affect the duty of States to continue fulfilling the obligations assumed under any relevant rules of international law.

ARTICLE 21

Depositary

The Secretary-General of the United Nations is hereby designated as the Depositary of this Convention.

ARTICLE 22

Authentic texts

The original of this Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

MAPUTO ACTION PLAN
2014-2019

INTRODUCTION

The States Parties reaffirm their unqualified commitment to ending the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines for all people for all time, and aspire to end the era of anti-personnel mines. These States Parties strive to: maintain strict observance of the Convention's norms; ensure that there are no new mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control; see that survivors participate in their societies on an equal basis to others; and, commit to intensify their efforts to complete their respective time-bound obligations with the urgency that the completion work requires.

The Maputo Action Plan aims for significant and sustainable progress towards the achievement of this ambition during the period 2014 to 2019, building on the achievements made under the Nairobi and Cartagena Action Plans, while acknowledging local, national and regional circumstances in its practical implementation. The States Parties will implement the Maputo Action Plan in a cooperative, inclusive, age-appropriate and gender-sensitive manner and, in doing so, endeavour for a high degree of coherence, coordination and cost effectiveness. In addition, they will continue to recognise the special partnerships in the universalization and implementation of the Convention with the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining.

I. UNIVERSALIZATION

While recognising the tremendous progress already achieved, and in order to continue pursuing universal adherence to the Convention and acceptance of its norms, the States Parties will take the following actions:

Action 1: The States Parties will promote formal adherence to the Convention by States not party to the Convention, regularly inviting them to participate in the Convention's meetings and inform States Parties of practical steps taken, such as formalised commitments not to use, produce or transfer anti-personnel mines, or to destroy stockpiles.

Action 2: The States Parties will continue to promote universal observance of the Convention's norms and objectives, condemn violations of these norms and take appropriate steps to end the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines by any actor, including by armed non-State actors.

Action 3: The States Parties will coordinate their actions to promote the Convention, including actions taken at a high level, through bilateral contacts and in multilateral fora, and request the Secre-

tary-General of the United Nations, as Depository, to continue promoting universalization by inviting States not party to join the Convention as soon as possible.

Action 4: Recalling that in Maputo in 1999, the States Parties formally declared that "as a community dedicated to seeing an end to the use of anti-personnel mines, our assistance and cooperation will flow primarily to those who have foresworn the use of these weapons forever through adherence to and implementation of the Convention," State Parties in promoting the Convention will communicate that they will give specific consideration to those States that have committed to these principles, when considering giving assistance to States not party to the Convention, taking into account that each country will provide assistance on the basis of its own priorities and principles, including in emergency situations.

II. STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION

The elimination of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines will contribute greatly to preventing additional suffering and casualties caused by these weapons. With a view to overcoming persistent challenges to achieving this aim as soon as pos-

sible and preventing additional challenges as well as new cases of non-compliance, the States Parties will take the following actions:

Action 5: Each State Party that has missed its deadline for the completion of its Article 4 obligations will provide to the States Parties, through the President, by 31 December 2014, a plan for the destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines under its control or jurisdiction as soon as possible, and thereafter keep the States Parties apprised of efforts to implement its plan through annual transparency reports and other means.

Action 6: Each State Party in the process of destroying its stockpiled anti-personnel mines will regularly communicate to the States Parties, through annual transparency reports and other means, plans to fulfil its obligations and progress achieved, highlighting as early as possible any issues of concern.

Action 7: Each State Party which discovers previously unknown stockpiles after stockpile destruction deadlines have passed will inform the States Parties as soon as possible, report pertinent information as required by the Convention,

and destroy these anti-personnel mines as a matter of urgent priority and no later than six months after the report of their discovery.

III. MINE CLEARANCE

Considerable progress has been achieved in mine clearance, with almost 30 States Parties having completed implementation of their obligations. However, almost an equal number of States Parties are still in the process of meeting mine clearance deadlines, most of which are extended deadlines. The methods and means of identifying, clearing or releasing areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in the most efficient manner have improved greatly. In order to achieve completion by all States Parties as soon as possible and no later than by their respective clearance deadlines, the States Parties will take the following actions:

Action 8: Each State Party with ongoing mine clearance obligations will undertake all reasonable efforts to quantify and qualify its remaining implementation challenge as soon as possible, and report this information through its Article 7 transparency report by 30 April 2015 and annually thereafter. This information should identify the precise perimeters and locations, to the extent possible, of all areas under its jurisdiction or control that contain anti-personnel mines and therefore require clearance, and that are suspected to contain anti-personnel mines and therefore require further survey. This information is to be incorporated into national demining plans and relevant broader development and reconstruction plans.

Action 9: Each State Party with ongoing mine clearance obligations will ensure as soon as possible that the most relevant land-release standards, policies and methodologies, in line with the United Nations' International Mine Action Standards, are in place and applied for the full and expedient implementation of this aspect of the Convention. These land release methodologies will be evidence-based, accountable and acceptable to local communities, including through the participation of affected communities, including women, girls, boys and men, in the process.⁹

Action 10: Each State Party that has reported mined areas under its jurisdiction or control will provide mine risk reduction and education programmes, as part of broader risk assessment and reduction activities targeting the most at-risk populations. These programmes shall be age-appropriate and gender-sensitive, coherent with applicable national and international standards, tailored to the needs of mine-affected communities and integrat-

ed into ongoing mine action activities, namely data gathering, clearance and victim assistance as appropriate.

Action 11: All States Parties will apply the recommendations endorsed by the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties as contained in the paper "Reflections on the Article 5 Extension Process" on ensuring that high-quality requests for extended mine clearance deadlines continue to be submitted, that high-quality analyses of these requests continue to be prepared, and that cooperative engagement of Article 5 implementing States Parties continues after requests have been granted.

IV. VICTIM ASSISTANCE

States Parties are committed to the full, equal and effective participation of mine victims in society. Actions taken under this Convention to fulfil the solemn promise to mine victims have proven vital and commitments under the Cartagena Action Plan and remain valid and should be acted upon. Engagement in other domains is also necessary in view of the States Parties' understanding that victim assistance should be integrated into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks related to the rights of persons with disabilities, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction. In this context and in order to address victim assistance with the same precision and intensity as for other aims of the Convention and to ensure that broader frameworks are reaching mine victims, the States Parties will take the following actions:

Action 12: Each State Party with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control, in a manner that takes into account sex- and age-disaggregated data, will do its utmost to assess the needs of mine victims, the availability and gaps in services and support, and existing or new requirements for disability, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction activities needed to meet the needs of mine victims, and to refer victims to existing services where possible.

Action 13: Based on its assessments, each State Party with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control will do its utmost to communicate to the States Parties, including through its annual transparency report, as applicable, by 30 April 2015, time-bound and measurable objectives it seeks to achieve through the implementation of national policies, plans and legal frameworks that will tangibly contribute, to the full, equal and effective participation of mine victims in society. Every year, these objectives should be updated, their implementation monitored, and progress in implementing them reported to the States Parties.

Action 14: Based on its assessments, each State Party with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control will do its utmost to communicate to the States Parties, including through its annual transparency report, as applicable, by 30 April 2015, enhancements that have been made or will be made to disability, health, social welfare, education, employment, development and poverty reduction plans, policies and legal frameworks needed to meet the needs of mine victims, and on budgets allocated for their implementation. Every year, efforts to implement these plans, policies and legal frameworks and their enhancements should be communicated to the States Parties.

Action 15: Each State Party with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control, taking into account its own local, national and regional circumstances, will do its utmost to strengthen local capacities, enhance coordination with subnational entities as relevant and appropriate, and increase availability of and accessibility to appropriate comprehensive rehabilitation services, economic inclusion opportunities and social protection measures for all mine victims, regardless of their gender and age. This entails removing physical, social, cultural, economic, political and other barriers, including expanding quality services in rural and remote areas and paying particular attention to vulnerable groups.

Action 16: Each State Party, and particularly each with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control, will do its utmost to enhance the capacity and ensure the inclusion and full and active participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in all matters that affect them, particularly as concerns national action plans, legal frameworks, policies, implementation mechanisms, monitoring and evaluation.

Action 17: All States Parties will seize every opportunity to raise awareness of the imperative to address the needs and guarantee the rights of mine victims, in an age- and gender-sensitive manner, including by engaging in the work of international, regional and national human rights, health care, labour and other fora, instruments and domains.

Action 18: Each State Party with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control will do its utmost to report in advance of the next Review Conference on measurable improvements made in the well-being and the guarantee of the rights of mine victims, challenges that remain and priorities for assistance as relevant.

⁹: Recommendations on applying all available methods for the full and expedient implementation of Article 5 were endorsed by the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties.

V. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

While each State Party is responsible for implementing the Convention in areas under its jurisdiction or control, the Convention's shared goals can be advanced through enhanced cooperation. With a view to significantly improving cooperation between those seeking assistance and those in a position to provide assistance, the States Parties will take the following actions:

Action 19: Each State Party seeking assistance will do its utmost to demonstrate high-level national ownership in fulfilling Convention obligations, including by: maintaining interest at a high level in fulfilling Convention obligations; empowering and providing relevant State entities with the human, financial and material capacity to carry out their obligations under the Convention; articulating the measures its State entities will undertake to implement relevant aspects of Convention in the most inclusive, efficient and expedient manner possible and plans to overcome any challenges that need to be addressed; and making a regular significant national financial commitment to the State's programmes to implement the Convention.

Action 20: All States Parties in a position to do so will effectively use all possible avenues to support States Parties seeking to receive assistance in mine clearance; mine risk education; stockpile destruction; adopting appropriate national implementation measures; as well as meeting victims' needs and guaranteeing their rights. As concerns victim assistance, this includes providing targeted assistance and supporting broader efforts to enhance frameworks related to the rights of persons with disabilities, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction.

Action 21: States Parties in a position to provide assistance and those seeking to receive assistance, where relevant and to the extent possible, will enter into partnerships for completion, with partners specifying their responsibilities to each other, articulating age- and gender-sensitive time-bound objectives and targets, making financial or other commitments, if possible on a multi-year basis, and engaging regularly in a dialogue on progress and challenges in meeting goals.

Action 22: States Parties in a position to provide assistance will support plans and programmes that are informed by relevant and accurate information on contamination and the socio-economic impact of anti-personnel mines – including information which is collected from affected women, girls, boys and men, and is analysed from a gender perspective –

and that promote and encourage gender mainstreaming.

Action 23: All States Parties will develop and promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including through South-South cooperation and by sharing national experiences and good practices, resources, technology and expertise to implement the Convention.

Action 24: All States Parties will contribute, as they deem useful, to the information exchange tool 'Platform for Partnerships' and will provide new or updated information on their needs for assistance or on assistance which they are in a position to offer, when feasible, with a view to further enhancing partnerships and to supporting the full implementation of the Convention.

VI. TRANSPARENCY AND THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The States Parties recognise that transparency and the open exchange of information, through both formal mechanisms under the Convention and other informal means, are essential to achieving the Convention's aims. The States Parties also recognise that dialogue informed by accurate and high quality information can support cooperation and assistance and accelerate the Convention's implementation. To this end, the States Parties will take the following actions:

Action 25: All States Parties will provide high quality and updated information annually, as required by the Convention, and provide additional information in a voluntary manner. Where applicable, those States Parties without implementation obligations will make use of the simplified tools for fulfilling their Article 7 obligations.

Action 26: The States Parties will draw on information provided as required and on a voluntary basis to engage in cooperative dialogue with a view to enhancing cooperation and assistance efforts, as well as the overall implementation of the Convention. This will contribute to making the exchange of information an effective management tool in support of the implementation of all the Convention's obligations.

Action 27: Each State Party that has retained anti-personnel mines for reasons permitted by the Convention will regularly review the number of retained anti-personnel mines to ensure that they constitute the minimum number absolutely necessary for permitted purposes, destroy all those exceeding that number, where appropriate explore available alternatives to using live anti-personnel mines for training and research activities. States Parties will annually report, on a volun-

tary basis, on the plans for and actual use of retained anti-personnel mines explaining any increase or decrease in the number of retained anti-personnel mines.

VII. MEASURES TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE

During the period 2014-2019, States Parties will continue to be guided by the knowledge that collective cooperation will help facilitate and assist each State Party's ongoing compliance with the Convention. To this end, the States Parties will take the following actions:

Action 28: In case of alleged or known non-compliance with the Convention's prohibitions, the State Party concerned will provide information on the situation to all States Parties in the most expeditious, comprehensive and transparent manner possible and work together with other States Parties in a spirit of cooperation to resolve the matter in an expeditious and effective manner, in accordance with Article 8.

Action 29: Each State Party that has not yet done so, will, as soon as possible and no later than by the Fourth Review Conference, take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures to prevent and suppress any activity that is prohibited the Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control. States Parties will report on such measures as required by the Convention and thereafter inform the States Parties of the use of such measures to respond to cases of alleged or known non-compliance with the Convention's prohibitions.

VIII. IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT

The States Parties have developed innovative mechanisms for the implementation of the Convention and have shown great flexibility in adjusting this machinery to ensure that it matches evolving needs. The States Parties have made it clear that they retain full ownership over the mechanisms they have established, including by remaining committed to oversee and finance this machinery. To this end, the States Parties will take the following actions:

Action 30: All States Parties in a position to do so will provide necessary financial resources for the effective operation of the Implementation Support Unit and take responsibility for the mechanisms they have established.

Action 31: The States Parties will make use of synergies with other relevant instruments of international humanitarian and human rights law.

Adopted 27 June 2014



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