

Status of Article 7 Reporting

Submitted by the President of the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties

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I. Introduction

In accordance with Article 7 of the Convention, States Parties are obliged to submit annually updated information on the actions they are taking to implement the Convention.

Article 7 is a legal obligation for all States Parties. It is especially important that States Parties implementing core obligations under the Convention submit updated information annually and that this information be of a high quality. The submission of regular updated information provides an overview of the status of implementation of the Convention, including clarity on States Parties' achievements and remaining potential obstacles in implementation. This information is also essential for the Convention's Committees to fulfil their respective mandates and to carry out cooperative dialogue with the States Parties concerning implementation.

In addition, in the *Maputo Action Plan 2014-2019*, States Parties committed to take a number of actions related to transparency and the exchange of information in order to facilitate a dialogue based on accurate and high quality information in all areas of implementation of the Convention.

In 2018, 76 of the 161 States Parties that were required to provide transparency information in accordance with Article 7 have submitted a report. The 2018 overall reporting rate stands at just over 47 percent (slightly higher than 2017 at this time) and amongst the States Parties which have not provided reports in 2018 are States Parties which have key obligations to fulfil.

It is important that all States Parties continue to report updated information annually and it is particularly important for States Parties implementing key obligations to do so.

Key Convention provision	Number of concerned States Parties	Reporting rate in 2018
Mine clearance (Art.5)	31 ¹	90%
Stockpile destruction (Art.4)	3	100%
Victim assistance	29	75.8%
Retention of anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes (Art.3)	75	62%
National implementation measures (Art.9)	58	18.9%

States Parties which are not in the process of implementing core obligations under the Convention and/or that have no updated information to provide can make use of the simplified reporting tool so as to make reporting easier and quicker.

A number of tools have been developed over the years to facilitate reporting and to guide States Parties in the process of preparing Article 7 reports. States Parties are encouraged to make use of these tools as well as seek the support of the Implementation Support Unit.

¹ Two States that have recently acceded to the Convention - Palestine and Sri Lanka - may confirm that they have mine clearance obligations in their initial transparency report due under Article 7 of the Convention, should they do so, their Article 5 deadline would be 1 June 2028. In addition, Mozambique, since declaring completion in 2015, indicated that it has four suspected areas that remain underwater and that no intervention in these areas can be carried out at present.

II. Status of reporting²

Initial reports

Three States Parties have yet to submit their initial reports in accordance with Article 7.1: Sri Lanka and the State of Palestine (reports due on 28 November 2018) and Tuvalu (report due by 28 August 2012).

Reporting by States Parties in the process of implementing core obligations under the Convention

i) States Parties with stockpiled anti-personnel mines (Article 4)

No reports overdue.

ii) States Parties with anti-personnel mines in mined areas (Article 5)

The following States Parties which have indicated having an obligation under Article 5 did not submit Article 7 reports in 2018:

1. Eritrea
2. Ethiopia
3. Yemen

iii) States Parties with anti-personnel mines retained for permitted purposes (Article 3)

There are 75 States Parties which have indicated retaining anti-personnel mines for the purposes permitted under Article 3.

Articles 7.1(d) and 7.2 of the Convention indicate that each State Party shall report on “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,” an “update this information annually”.

Also, in Action #27 of the *Maputo Action Plan* States Parties committed to “annually report, on a voluntary 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.”

In 2018, 28 States Parties did not submit updated information on the anti-personnel mines they retain under Article 3.

Bangladesh	Eritrea	Rwanda
Benin	Ethiopia	South Africa
Botswana	Gambia	Tanzania
Burundi	Guinea Bissau	Togo
Cameroon	Honduras	Uganda
Cape Verde	Indonesia	Venezuela
Congo	Kenya	Yemen
Côte d’Ivoire	Mali	Zambia
Denmark	Namibia	
Djibouti	Nigeria	

² As of 1 October 2018.

iv) States Parties which have not yet reported having adopted legislation or reported that existing laws are sufficient (Article 9)

There are 58 States Parties which have not reported either having adopted national implementation measures or that existing legislation is sufficient to cover the purpose of Article 9.

Article 7.1(a) and 7.2 of the Convention indicate that each State Party shall report on “the national implementation measures referred to in Article 9”, and “update this information annually”.

Also, Action #29 of the *Maputo Action Plan* indicates that “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.”

In 2018, 47 States Parties did not submit information on steps they may have made to take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited under this Convention.

Antigua and Barbuda	Fiji	Niue
Bahamas	Gabon	Paraguay
Bangladesh	Gambia	Philippines
Barbados	Ghana	Rwanda
Benin	Grenada	St Kitts and Nevis
Bolivia	Guinea	Saint Lucia
Botswana	Guyana	Sao Tome and Principe
Brunei Darussalam	Haiti	Sierra Leone
Cameroon	Jamaica	Suriname
Cape Verde	Kenya	Swaziland
Comoros	Liberia	Togo
Congo	Madagascar	Turkmenistan
Dominica	Malawi	Uganda
Dominican Republic	Maldives	Uruguay
Equatorial Guinea	Nauru	Vanuatu
Eritrea	Nigeria	

v) States Parties which have indicated that they have significant numbers of landmine survivors

There are 29 States Parties that have indicated that they have significant numbers of landmine survivors.

While there is no article in the Convention pertaining to reporting on victim assistance, States Parties have been encouraged to report voluntarily on matters pertaining to compliance and implementation not covered by the formal reporting requirements contained in Article 7, for example activities undertaken with respect to Article 6, and in particular to report on assistance provided for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims.

In addition, Action #13 of the *Maputo Action Plan* indicate that “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 of the *Maputo Action Plan* indicate that “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.”

Six States Parties with significant numbers of landmine survivors did not submit an Article 7 report in 2018.

1. El Salvador
2. Eritrea
3. Ethiopia
4. Guinea Bissau
5. Uganda³
6. Yemen

c) Use of the Guide to Reporting

In 2018, the following States Parties employed the Guide to Reporting to prepare their Article 7 reports: Afghanistan, Cambodia, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Ireland, Mauritania, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sudan, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe.

d) Reporting by States Parties that are not in the process of implementing core obligations under the Convention

Action #25 of the *Maputo Action Plan* indicates that “where applicable, those States Parties without implementation obligations will make use of the simplified tools for fulfilling Article 7 obligations”

- There are 40 States Parties currently without core implementation obligations.⁴ Of these, 18 submitted reports: Algeria, Australia, Austria, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Estonia, Holy See, Hungary, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Qatar, Samoa, Switzerland and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.
- The following 9 States Parties used the simplified reporting tool or a note verbale: Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Holy See, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Norway, Poland, Samoa and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

³ Uganda submitted information on progress made in Victim Assistance directly to the Committee on Victim Assistance.

⁴ States Parties that either never had or have completed the implementation of their obligations under Article 3, 4, 5 and 9 and that are not part of the 29 victim assistance States Parties.

e) Voluntary reporting by States not party

Of the 33 States not party to the Convention, only Morocco submitted voluntary transparency information in 2018.