

Thank you very much Diana for giving me the floor.

I wanted to use this opportunity to focus on what you mentioned earlier, that both mine affected States and States in a position to provide assistance have a responsibility to implement the commitments of the Convention as soon as possible.

Indeed, it is no mistake that Action 1 of the Oslo Action Plan concerns National Ownership. National Ownership is the key ingredient to facilitating cooperation and assistance and creating an environment conducive to mine action. The concept of National Ownership continues to be mentioned in discussions and has a particular meaning. Indeed, States Parties to this Convention have defined National Ownership as:

- Firstly - maintaining interest at a high level in fulfilling Convention obligations.

I believe we are all aware that political will is a key ingredient and that high-level interest in achieving Convention obligations makes an enormous difference to the implementation efforts and the establishment of partnerships.

- Secondly, empowering and providing relevant State entities with the human, financial and material capacity to carry out their obligations under the Convention.

It is clear that maintaining a significant, regular national financial commitment to ensure that national mine action institutions are supported and functioning at a high standard is an important demonstration of political will and high-level interest.

- Thirdly, articulating the measures State entities will undertake to implement the Convention in the most inclusive, efficient and expedient manner possible and plans to overcome any challenges that need to be addressed.

Within national strategies and implementation work plans, it is critical that States Parties articulate how they intend to address particular challenges, include resource mobilization plans and ensure that all strategies and work plans are developed in an inclusive manner. Any information regarding challenges and assistance requirements should also be disseminated to States Parties using all relevant Convention mechanisms.

Of course, having these measures in place will not automatically guarantee that international resources will flow to the programme. However, it is fair to say that States Parties in a position to provide assistance are more likely to partner with a State that has these measures in place.

States Parties in a position to provide assistance also have a significant role to play as well.

As Stated in the Convention and the Oslo Action Plan:

- States Parties in a position to do so will provide assistance to other States Parties in developing, updating or implementing their national strategies and work plans to fulfil their respective Convention obligations.
- States Parties in a position to provide assistance will enter into multi-year partnerships and provide multi-year funding
- Finally the Oslo Action Plan commits States Parties in a position to provide assistance to coordinate their support for the effective implementation of Convention obligations by affected States Parties.

A key to implementing the above measures is strengthened national coordination, including through regular dialogue with national and international stakeholders on progress, challenges and support for implementation of their obligations under the Convention. In particular, through the establishment of appropriate national platforms for regular dialogue between all stakeholders.

These national platforms constitute a critical element to bringing these matters together. However, stakeholders must also ensure regular contribution to the platforms and clear communication regarding points such as specific goals and regularity of meetings. Both the affected country and States Parties in a position to provide assistance need to show a high level of interest in making these platforms a space for serious detailed discussions on implementation. Contribution to the platforms must not be siloed nationally nor internationally.

Dear colleagues, a spirit of cooperation has been the hallmark of this Convention and the Oslo Action Plan sets out the necessary measures to implement Article 6. Each States Party should continue to consider, implement and analyze the implementation of these measures to the furthest extent possible in order to maintain this spirit of cooperation.

Thank you.