

## PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

### STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION – SENEGAL

**COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE**  
(Algeria, Ecuador, Sweden and Thailand)  
Intersessional Meetings  
22-24 June 2021

1. The Committee welcomes the submission by Senegal of updated information on its victim assistance activities. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following preliminary observations.

#### **Mine casualties**

2. The Committee observed that Senegal reported a total of 847 mine victims, including 15 casualties in 2020 of which 13 persons were injured and two persons were killed, showing an increase in comparison to the last four years. The Committee would welcome further information on gender, age and disability of the mine victims.

#### **VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACTIONS:**

**Strengthen partnerships and integrate victim assistance into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks and designation of a government entity to oversee the integration (Action #33 and also Actions #1 and #6)**

3. The Committee observed that Senegal reported that the National Commission and National Mine Action Centre of Senegal (CNAMS) is responsible for collecting data on mine victims and it works in coordination with other government agencies and associations.
4. The Committee would welcome additional information on efforts made to integrate victim assistance into broader national policies and programmes such as health, disability, development and human rights frameworks.

**Develop and implement measurable, realistic and time-bound national action plan (Action #33 and also Action #2)**

5. The Committee observed that Senegal reported implementing a National Action Plan for Victim Assistance (PANAV) including to facilitate mine victims' access to healthcare services. The Committee recalls that in the past Senegal reported that the PANAV was to be reviewed and renewed, and it would welcome an update in this regard.

**Removing barriers including physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers to access such services (Action #33)**

6. The Committee would welcome information on measures in place or efforts made to ensure mine victims enjoy a barrier free environment and are able to access services on equal basis with others.

**Applying multi-sectoral efforts to ensure that the needs and rights of mine victims are effectively addressed in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Action #34)**

7. The Committee observed that Senegal reported efforts by the Ministry of Health and Social Action (MOHSA) and military forces, and other stakeholders beside the CNAMS, to assist mine victims. The Committee would welcome further information on other progress made or challenges faced to apply multi-sectoral efforts in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) to realise the rights and meet the needs of mine victims.

**Establish or strengthen of a centralised database / national information management system (Action #35 and also Action #9)**

8. The Committee would welcome information on the existence of or plan to develop a national centralised database that can integrate data on mine victims.
9. The Committee would also welcome information on how the data on the 847 mine victims are made available for the use of relevant ministries and other stakeholders.

**Access to first aid and ongoing emergency medical care (Action #36)**

10. The Committee observed that Senegal reported that emergency response is provided by the military in collaboration with the CNAMS and the ICRC. Senegal reported that healthcare services are provided by the MOHSA including emergency aid, medical care and other relevant assistance. Senegal also reported that the benefits (assistance) provided to mine victims are organised under an agreement between the CNAMS and the MOHSA in the framework of the National Action Plan for Victim Assistance (PANAV).
11. Senegal reported progress during the period of 2016 to 2020, with 122 mine victims having received medical care, free of charge, as a result of an agreement signed between CNAMS and the Ziguinchor regional hospital back in 2015.

**Developing national referral mechanism (Action #37)**

12. The Committee would welcome information on availability of national referral mechanism and availability of national directory of services to assist mine victims in accessing the services they need, including in rural and remote areas.

**Access to rehabilitation services including physiotherapy, assistive devices and occupational therapy (Action #38)**

13. The Committee observed that Senegal reported that mine victims have been provided with physical rehabilitation such as prostheses and mobility devices through the ICRC's physical rehabilitation centre in Guinea-Bissau. Senegal reported that the CNAMS has signed an agreement with the ICRC to ensure 85 mine victims (amputees) get rehabilitation support they need.
14. Senegal reported a summary of physical rehabilitation and healthcare services provided to mine victims over the past five years, with at least 89 mine victims having received prostheses or assistance for reparation/renewal of prostheses during 2017 to 2020.

**Access to psychological and psychosocial services including peer-to-peer support (Action #38)**

15. The Committee observed that Senegal reported the availability of psychological support through the regional hospital in Ziguinchor, in addition, 61 student mine victims have been provided with psychosocial counselling and educational (school) guidance by the Academic Centre for Educational and Vocational Guidance (CAOSP).

16. The Committee would welcome further information on availability of peer to peer support and outreach services to assist mine victims, including in rural and remote areas.

**Access to social and economic inclusion services, including in rural and remote areas (Action #39)**

17. The Committee would welcome information on progress made to meet the social and economic needs of mine victims, including in rural and remote areas.

**Taking measure for safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risks and emergencies (Action #40)**

18. The Committee would welcome information on measures in place to ensure the safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risks and emergencies, including during health crises such as the COVID -19 pandemic.

**Strengthening inclusion and participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in all matters that affect them (Action #41 and also Action #4)**

19. The Committee would welcome information on efforts made to enhance the participation and inclusion of mine victims and their representative organisations in relevant policies and programmes.

**CROSS - CUTTING ACTIONS:**

**Demonstrate high levels of national ownership, including [...] by making financial and other commitments to implementation (Action #1)**

20. The Committee recalls that Senegal reported that in the past allocating national budget to mine action and victim assistance and it would welcome an update on national commitments including the allocation of national financial resources to assist mine victims.

**Ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered (Action #3)**

21. The Committee would welcome information on consideration of gender equality and diversity in victim assistance activities in Senegal.

**Challenges in implementation of Victim Assistance Commitments (Action #8)**

22. The Committee observed that Senegal reported that victim assistance activities including a physical rehabilitation initiative between the CNAMS and the ICRC have been disrupted by COVID-19 pandemic and that since 2014 except for one donor, no international cooperation has provided to assist victims in Senegal.

23. The Committee would welcome information on how the international community could be of further support to Senegal's efforts in fulfilling its victim assistance commitments under the Convention and the OAP.