

The president of

The convention on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production and transfer
of anti-Personnel Mines

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Distinguish Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On Behalf of the Republic of South Sudan permit me appreciate you and your committees for bringing together all the state parties to these excellent 20th MSP meeting. I would like to give brief update on the status of Victim Assistance Implementation.

- National Mine Action Authority continued to work in close collaboration with the MGCSW the lead agency mandated to oversee social welfare of all persons with disability. The Ministry is responsible for formulation and implementation of policies and legislations for promotion of social protection and welfare of person with disability in South Sudan.
- National Mine Action Authority has continued to raise awareness and strengthen an integrated approach by applying intersectoral and multisectoral efforts with partners in disability forum.
- South Sudan is experiencing reduction in the number of victims of mine and explosive remnant despite the fact that the total number of landmine survivors still remain unknown because no comprehensive data has not been collected on disability.
- There are still inadequate rehabilitation, medical, social economic inclusion, psychosocial support services to mine/ ERW survivors and PWDs. Although persons with disabilities were targeted within the humanitarian response the

number of mine survivors is very low among the recipient of available services.

- There is still great need to broaden the current service to the rural areas where most survivors experienced difficulties in life due to isolation.
- Most health care units providing emergency medical and surgical attention are still supported with training, surgical materials and medicines by the INGOs. Most health facilities and infrastructure (roads, bridges) are flooded and some damaged by conflicts.
- The rectification process of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of person with disability is on process. However there is increasing public awareness on disabilities and on the rights and services in place since the majority of persons with disabilities including survivors live in hard to reach places.
- The union of persons with disability continued to organize coordination forum with some implementing partners because the led Ministry still faced by lack of human resources. National Mine Action Authority seeks to revive, support and strengthen coordination forum.

Victim Assistance pillar still faced funding challenges to implement some of the Oslo Action Plan. National Mine Action Authority seek funding opportunities to collaborate with key agency to partner and enforce their implementation. We shall continue to seek for international cooperation and assistance to ensure tangible assistance such as rehabilitation, health, psychosocial support and socio-economic inclusion reach all land mine survivors and improve reporting on VA Oslo actions.

In conclusion the government will continue to ensure legal framework are in place (laws, policies , standards, procedures) to prevent , protect support the needs and rights all mine survivors and persons with disability. We appreciate the effort of the international community and urge all to continue funding Victim Assistance program to enable us achieve inclusive development without discrimination,

barrier, communication challenges towards persons with disabilities in South Sudan.

Thank you
Teddy Shiela Akello

Victim Assistance Coordinator
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