

*Good morning to all of you on behalf of the Secretary General of the United Nations and myself as his Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility. We appreciate the invitation to be present with our message at this 20th Meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention. We commemorate the 25 years of approval and signing of the Treaty, counting to date with 164 States Parties. The Oslo Action Plan of 2019 emphasized, among the most relevant measures, the universalization of this Treaty, which combines, as we know, norms of humanitarian law with norms of human rights.*

*Consequently, in connection with the measure of the Oslo Action Plan on assistance to victims, which recognizes the full and effective participation and inclusion of survivors in society, with a clear application of the human rights model contained in the Convention on the United Nations Rights of Persons with Disabilities, CRPD ratified by 185 States, it will be very important to permanently link both Treaties with the consequent allocation of resources and also cover the differential in terms of the number of countries that have not ratified the Ottawa Convention but have ratified the UN CRPD. In this way, the coverage for survivors will be greater and applicable to a larger number of persons.*

*Along the same lines, it will be important to consider all the application, production and resources under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, with 196 ratifications, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, with 189 ratifications and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, with 171 ratifications. With this crossed application we will strengthen rights such as education, health, work and social security, also considering specific sectors such as women, girls and boys.*

*In the same way, the human right applicable to survivors must be interrelated with the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, for example in terms of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages (SDG 3) or the goal that refers to achieving full social, political, and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities (SDG 10, goal 2).*

*The intersectionality that can be applied to survivors, in relation to gender and age (childhood or older adulthood, among others) can make the social inclusion of those affected and their families more complex.*

*For this reason, the Oslo Plan made explicit the importance of making efforts to guarantee the social and economic inclusion of landmine victims, for example, through access to education, capacity building, job search services, microfinance institutions, business development services, rural development and social protection programs, including rural and remote areas.*

*I would like to point out that labor inclusion for persons with disabilities was an issue exclusively addressed at the 15th Conference of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, last June. This means that the jurisprudence of the UN CRPD Committee has paid and continues*

*to pay great attention to this issue, which should also be the subject of analysis by the United Nations HLPF in the review of the State Reports in compliance with the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.*

*On the other hand, in order to facilitate the social and economic inclusion of survivors, the importance of habilitation and rehabilitation should be underlined, for which the States Parties shall organize, intensify and expand general habilitation and rehabilitation services and programs, particularly in the fields of health, employment, education and social services. These services and programs shall be based on a timely and multidisciplinary evaluation, being available to persons with disabilities, as close as possible to their own community, even in rural areas. In addition, there must be availability and use of support technologies and training for professionals and personnel who work in these rehabilitation and habilitation processes.*

*The breadth of this 20th Conference shall allow States to exchange their good practices on assistance to landmine survivors and it will be pertinent to analyze how to expand the financial resources allocated to them for the aforementioned processes. Good luck in the sessions. Thanks.*