

## Activities and Priorities for Implementation 2022-2023

### Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance

#### Japan (Chair), the Netherlands, Sudan and Thailand

#### I. Activities of the Committee

1. The Committee first met on 12 December 2021 to discuss its work plan for 2022.
2. Over the course of February - May 2022, the Committee, together with the President and the three other Committees of the Convention, participated in 25 bilateral meetings with the following States Parties to discuss their progress and challenges in implementing their Article 5 commitments and respective obligations under thematic areas of the Convention : Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Croatia, Ecuador, Guinea-Bissau, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe.
3. On 10 March 2022, the Committee, together with the President and the three other Committees of the Convention, participated in a workshop reminding States Parties of the importance of adherence with the deadline (30 April) to submit annual Article 7 reports and encouraging States Parties to include detailed quantitative and qualitative information on implementation of their Article 5 commitments in line with the Guide to Reporting and the commitments of the Oslo Action Plan (OAP). The Committee used the workshop as an opportunity to spotlight the online reporting tool. The workshop also encouraged States Parties to increase reporting on the methodologies employed in land release and mine risk education and risk reduction activities and on how these methodologies consider gender and diversity.
4. In the lead up to the 20-22 June 2022 Intersessional Meetings, the Committee worked on the development of preliminary observations based on information submitted by the States Parties in their Article 7 reports. The Committee submitted these preliminary observations to the Intersessional Meetings.<sup>1</sup>
5. As cooperation and assistance is a crosscutting issue, during the 20-22 June 2022 Intersessional Meetings, the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance co-organised a panel with the Committee on Victim Assistance entitled **Fostering Cooperation for Rehabilitation** and the Committee on Article 5 Implementation entitled **Making Every Effort Count: Towards a Successful 2025**.<sup>2</sup>
6. In the lead up to the 20-22 June 2022 Intersessional Meetings, the Committee supported Chad (20 June 2022), Cambodia (21 June 2022) and Guinea-Bissau (22 June 2022) in hosting Individualised Approach (IA) meetings. The meetings offered the opportunity for Cambodia, Chad and Guinea-Bissau to share the status and challenges of their mine action programmes with stakeholders. A final report of these meetings was placed on the webpage of the respective States Parties on the Convention's website.
7. Additionally, in the lead up to the 20MSP the Committee is supporting South Sudan in its preparations to take advantage of the Individualised Approach on the margins of the 20MSP.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/intersessional-meetings/2022-im/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/intersessional-meetings/2022-im/>

8. The Committee launched the online reporting tool to support States Parties in the development and submission of their Article 7 reports. The Committee will continue to raise awareness of the tool during the Twentieth Meeting of the States Parties (20MSP) in preparations for the 2023 reporting deadline of 30 April and to encourage its voluntary use.
9. The Committee worked on establishing terms of reference for the Cooperation and Assistance Fund and, with support of the Implementation Support Unit, began reaching out to States that have demonstrated interest in taking advantage of this Fund.

## **II. Priorities of the Committee**

10. The Committee will continue to encourage and support States Parties in taking advantage of the Individualised Approach on the margins of the Intersessional Meetings and Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties in 2023.
11. The Committee will continue to encourage States Parties to ensure regular dialogue with stakeholders in country including by establishing national mine action platforms and drawing examples of good practices.
12. The Committee continues to see transparency and accurate reporting as a key element of stimulating cooperation and assistance. In this regard, the Committee will continue to promote the voluntary use of the online reporting tool for the 2023 reporting period.
13. The Committee will work on strengthening the Cooperation Fund to support the exchange of best practices between States Parties to the Convention available to States Parties that wish to take advantage of the funding and to those States Parties that would like to provide financial support to the fund.
14. Furthermore, with support of the Convention's Implementation Support Unit, the Committee will continue to seek opportunities to strengthen cooperation and assistance in support of the fulfilment by mine affected States Parties of the Article 5 and victim assistance commitments through activities in Geneva as well as regional and national activities.
15. The Committee will also take advantage of the European Union Council Decision support to ensure the matters related to Cooperation and Assistance are included in national and regional dialogues on mine clearance and victim assistance.