

Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

4 October 2022

Original: English

Twentieth meeting

Geneva, 21-25 November 2022

Item 10 (d) of the provisional agenda

Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention**Preventing and suppressing prohibited activities and facilitating compliance:****Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance**

Activities and Priorities for Implementation 2022-2023

Committee on Cooperative Compliance

Chile, Colombia (Chair), Spain, Switzerland and Türkiye*

I. Activities of the Committee

1. An initial meeting of the Committee took place on 11 January 2022 to begin the Committee's work of engaging in a cooperative dialogue with States Parties.
2. On 22 February 2022, the Committee invited States Parties to a 10 March 2022 Online Workshop on Article 7 Transparency Reports and the Oslo Action Plan (OAP). The workshop which was attended by representatives of approximately 40 States Parties aimed to encourage reporting in line with the Guide to Reporting, raise awareness of available tools and provide a space for States Parties to share challenges. The workshop included interventions by all Chairs of the Committee and a representative of the gender focal points and counted on interpretation into Arabic, English and Spanish.
3. On 11 March 2022, the Committee circulated a letter to all States Parties with outstanding commitments under Article 9 of the Convention to request information on the status of efforts to take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control.
4. On 25 March 2022, the Committee distributed a follow-up communication to workshop participants and States Parties once again encouraging the submission of Article 7 reports and sharing the relevant available tools discussed during the workshop.
5. On 13 April 2022, the Committee distributed a tailored letter to States Parties with outstanding obligations that had not submitted Article 7 reports in two or more years to encourage them to report as soon as possible.
6. On 23 May 2022, following the 30 April deadline for the submission of Article 7 reports, the Committee sent a communication to those States that had not submitted their Article 7 reports, once again raising awareness of the short reporting form to facilitate their efforts, expressing the importance of States submitting their reports, placing particular focus on those with outstanding obligations in accordance with Article 9 (national implementation),

* This document is submitted after the deadline owing to circumstances beyond the submitter's control.



Article 3 (anti-personnel mines retained for training), Article 4 (destruction of stockpiled mines) and/or Article 5 (clearance of mined areas).

7. The Committee was grateful for the continued engagement of representatives from Sudan, and Yemen and values their willingness to meet with the Committee on a permanent basis as well as their transparency concerning their efforts to address past allegations of anti-personnel mines use.

8. The Committee continued to keep an open dialogue with civil society on information concerning allegations of use of anti-personnel mines by States Parties. As of 10 June 2022, the Committee has not received information on the use of mines by States Parties in 2022.

9. At the 20-22 June 2022 Intersessional Meetings, the Committee submitted observations on the status of implementation of the compliance measures of the Convention and OAP, highlighting progress and deficiencies in some areas of implementation.

10. In the lead up to the Twentieth Meeting of the States Parties (20MSP), the Committee sent a communication to all States Parties implementing obligations of the Convention which have not submitted Article 7 reports in one or more years. A second communication was sent by the Committee to States Parties with outstanding obligations under Article 9 to remind them of the 20MSP deadline to implement obligations under Article 9 and to report on the measures taken at the 20MSP.

II. Priorities for Implementation

11. The Committee will continue prioritising its dialogue with States Parties that have confirmed or have allegations of use of anti-personnel mines in territories under their jurisdiction or control. As highlighted in the observations of the Committee, although Sudan and Yemen have indicated that progress in investigations of allegations are not possible at this stage due to security concerns, Sudan indicated that improvements in the situation in Sudan may provide an opportunity to carry out investigations in the future. The Committee will also continue its interaction with Yemen on the security situation and efforts made by Yemen to carry out investigations on allegations, as well as on any transfer and use of mines within areas under its jurisdiction or control.

12. The Committee will continue encouraging States Parties to submit Article 7 reports in 2023 and in doing so encourage States Parties to include information on the measure in place to ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys, and men are considered and inform all areas of Convention implementation and mine action programmes.

13. Further to the above, and in accordance with its mandate, the Committee will work with States Parties to address all matters under Article 1.2 in cases where a State Party has not submitted an Article 7 report detailing progress in implementing relevant obligations each year. The Committee recognises that of particular interest, given underreporting in these areas, will be States Parties retaining mines under Article 3, implementing Article 5 obligations and States Parties with outstanding Article 9 obligations.

14. The Committee will prioritise efforts on making progress in the implementation of Article 9 and strengthen its partnership with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Inter-Parliamentary Union in this regard.

15. The Committee will continue its interactions with civil society on compliance challenges faced by the Convention.
