

## **Committee on Article 5 Implementation**

Concerning your upcoming Article 7 reports due on 30 April, The Oslo Action Plan contains several actions and associated indicators concerning survey, clearance and mine risk education and reduction efforts which we would urge, relevant states, to report on.

As indicated by the President, information provided in your Article 7 Reports allow us to support States Parties in measuring progress and remaining challenges in implementation of Article 5. Equally so, the provision of detailed information allows us to implement the mandate entrusted to us by the States Parties.

Many of the actions of the OAP are directly related to your State's reporting efforts. In particular allow me to highlight the following:

- **Firstly, Action #18** calls for the establishment of an evidence based baseline of contamination.

The Committee understands from our conversations with many representatives of States Parties implementing Article 5 that survey efforts are ongoing in many States to secure an evidence based baselines of contamination.

In this regard, we would welcome detailed information within your Article 7 Reports on the progress in achieving an evidence-based baseline of contamination.

- **Secondly, Action #22** request that, to better assess progress and the remaining implementation challenge, States provide information in accordance with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS).

This includes:

- Reporting on progress in accordance with the methodologies used including land cancelled through non-technical survey and reduced through technical survey and areas addressed through clearance; and
- Reporting on the remaining challenge in accordance with IMAS, that is, by disaggregating Suspected Hazardous Areas and Confirmed Hazardous Areas and their relative size as well as the type of contamination.

Reporting in this disaggregated manner allows mine affected States to demonstrate that they are employing the most effective means for implementation of Article 5 and provides maximum clarity on the remaining challenge.

- **Thirdly, Actions 19 and 20** commit States to submit evidence-based and costed national work plans and to annually provide adjusted milestone in Article 7 Reports.

In additional to including your adjusted milestones in your report.

We would ask that you annex your implementation work plans to your Article 7 Report.

- Fourth, Action 26, asks States Parties to ensure that work plans include provisions for a sustainable national capacity.

We would invite State to report on efforts to establish sustainable national capacities

We would also ask States that have completed implementation of Article 5 to share information on their national sustainable capacity established to address any mine areas identified after declaration completion. We also want to hear from you.

- Fifth, Action 21, asks that States Parties affected by antipersonnel mines of an improvised nature ensure that they apply all provisions and obligations under the Convention to such contamination as they do for all other types of anti-personnel mines, including during survey and clearance in fulfilment of Article 5 and disaggregate by types of mines when reporting in fulfilment of Article 7 obligations.

We would ask that States report on such contamination, where relevant. The understanding that these indiscriminate improvised weapons are to be addressed under the framework of the Convention is of more importance than ever as they are ,unfortunately, often the weapon of choice for armed non-state actors.

- Sixth, Action 32, asks States to Report on mine risk education and other risk reduction programmes in Article 7 reports, including the methodologies used, the challenges faced and the results achieved, with information disaggregated by gender and age.

Finally, we would invite States with Article 5 commitments to report on the Actions of the Oslo Action Plan and associated indicator which are highlighted in the best practice section of the Oslo Action Plan and are critical to the implementation of Article 5 such as:

- Action 5 which relates to ensuring that national mine action standards up to date in accordance with the latest International Mine Action Standards (IMAS); and
- Action 9 concerning the establishment and maintenance of a national information management system containing accurate and up-to-date data at the national level on the status of implementation.