

Workshop on Transparency and Reporting

Reporting on Article 7 and the Oslo Action Plan

Thursday, 10 March 2022, 13:00 – 15:00 CET

Committee on Victim Assistance

Dear participants. Algeria is honoured to lead the work of the Committee on Victim Assistance with our colleagues from Ecuador, Italy and Uganda.

OAP Actions

As with the Implementation of Article 6.3, the Oslo Action Plan adopted a number of Actions and related indicators on Victim Assistance that need to be reported on, including on following efforts:

- Designation of an agency to take the lead on efforts to integrate victim assistance into broader national frameworks;
- Developing, monitoring, and reporting on the implementation of national plan;
- Application of multi-sectoral efforts and alignment of victim assistance activities with provisions of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- The establishment or strengthening of a central database, referral mechanism and directory of services;
- The provision of services including first aid and medical care, rehabilitation, psychological and psychosocial support, including peer to peer support;
- Insuring social and economic inclusion of mine victims including their effective participation and inclusion; and,
- Ensuring safety and protection for survivor in situations of risk including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies, and natural disasters.

It is important to note that the Oslo Action Plan requires victim assistance efforts to be carried out based on respect for human rights, gender equality, inclusion and non-discrimination.

Again, as explain by my colleague from Belgium, reporting on the indicators of the Oslo Action Plan is crucial in order for us to carry out our mandate of assessing implementation of the Victim Assistance commitments of the Oslo Action Plan.

Today there are over 30 States Parties that report on implementation on victim assistance efforts. As we arrive at the midway point of implementation of the Oslo Action Plan it is more important than ever that States implementing victim assistance commitments report in detail on their implementation efforts.

VA Checklist

I would also like to draw your attention to a practical tool the Committee developed following the adoption of the Oslo Action Plan – a checklist on the nine victim assistance actions of the Oslo Action Plan.

The Checklist can be used by States Parties with victim assistance responsibilities to report and measure their progress in implementation of victim assistance commitments and to continue building upon their baseline on all aspects of victim assistance for the years to come.

By completing this Checklist States Parties and the Committee would be in a better position to gauge progress and track the remaining challenges in implementation of victim assistance in lead up to the Fifth Review Conference.

During the last two years, several States Parties with victim assistance responsibilities have reported using the Checklist and the Committee encourage others to make use of it this year. The Checklist is available in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

While we receive a wealth of information from States Parties in their Article 7 Reports there are several areas in which we would welcome increased information on implementation from relevant States Parties.

Some of the victim assistance actions of the Oslo Action Plan contain more than one commitment, such as Actions #33, #35, #37 and #38, reporting should consider all aspects of these and other actions. This will help us to ensure that we can clearly assess where we are in implementation of victim assistance at the midway point of implementation of the Oslo Action Plan.

We continue to be available to support your efforts. As we receive your reports by 30 April, we will begin developing our preliminary observations for the Intersessional meetings and we hope to provide these to you ahead of the meetings.

We also look forward to drawing out particular challenges faced by States implementing Victim Assistance to explore solutions through panel discussions and in conversation with Experts at the Victim Assistance Experts meeting we aim to host on the margins of the Twentieth Meeting of the States Parties.

We look forward to your continued engagement.

Thank you.