

PRELIMINARY MID-TERM ASSESMENT

ALGERIA

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION – VICTIM ASSISTANCE

COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE

(Algeria, Ecuador, Italy and Uganda)

Intersessional Meetings

20-22 June 2022

1. The Committee welcomes the submission by Algeria of updated information on its victim assistance activities.
2. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following preliminary observations.

Mine casualties

3. Algeria reported no casualty in 2021 thus the total number of civilian casualties remain 7,248, of which 1,676 persons have acquired impairments with vast majority of limbs amputation. Algeria indicated the figure on mine victims represent the victims who have fulfilled conditions in place and have had access to legal system, hence there may be more victims.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACTIONS:

Strengthen partnerships and integrate victim assistance into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks and designation of a government entity to oversee the integration (Action #33 and also Actions #1 and #6)

4. Algeria reported that the Ministry of Mojahedin and Rights Holders (MOMRH) is responsible for the implementation of victim assistance and works with other ministries and national agencies to integrate the needs of mine victims into broader frameworks.

Develop and implement measurable, realistic and time-bound national action plan (Action #33 and also Action #2)

5. Algeria reported implementing plans and programmes that are inclusive of the needs of victims and that national budgets are allocated for implementation on an annual basis, including for pension, social and health insurance, and other purposes to assist mine victims.
6. The Committee would welcome further information on plans that integrated victim assistance, including the status of their implementation and mechanisms in place to monitor implementation of such plan(s).

Removing barriers including physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers to access such services (Action #33)

7. In response to Committee's preliminary observations in 2021, Algeria reported that the Law on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2002) requires all efforts to be provided in a non-discriminatory manner. The Committee recalls that Algeria also reported that a national Accessibility Committee founded in accordance with the Article 30 of the Law n° 02-09,

was working to ensure accessibility of built environment; accessibility of infrastructure and means of transportation; and accessibility of means of communication and information.

8. The Committee would welcome an update on progress made by the Accessibility Committee in 2021.

Applying multi-sectoral efforts to ensure that the needs and rights of mine victims are effectively addressed in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Action #34)

9. Algeria reported on a process launched in 2021 to review national laws, including the Law on the Protection and Promotion of Persons with Disabilities, that will also take into account recommendations suggested by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2018. The Committee would encourage Algeria to consider inclusion of the needs and rights of mine victims in the amendment of the Law on the Protection and Promotion of Persons with Disabilities.

10. The Committee recalls that previously Algeria had reported progress in making multi-sectoral efforts, including through the work of the National Council of Persons with Disabilities and through the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Also, the Committee recalls that Algeria had also reported that the consideration of a multisectoral approach in disability and victim assistance has been further strengthened following the Prime Minister's instruction in 2013.

Establish or strengthen of a centralised database / national information management system (Action #35 and also Action #9)

11. In response to Committee's preliminary observations in 2021, Algeria reported that data on mine victims have been included in a disability database that is maintained by the Ministry of National Solidary, Family and Women.

Access to first aid and ongoing emergency medical care (Action #36)

12. Algeria reported that in accordance with the Law on Protection and Promotion of Persons with Disabilities (2002), healthcare and rehabilitation services are available to mine victims and all persons with disabilities. In response to Committee's preliminary observations in 2021, Algeria also reported that medical care was provided free of charge, and that the MOMRH was working on an agreement with social security sector to ensure mine victims' access to private hospitals and by doing so to enable them to enjoy full insurance. Algeria also reported efforts were made by MOMRH to determine appropriate measures to meet the needs of mine victims in remote and fragile areas. The Committee recalls that in 2021, Algeria reported that the MOMRH was working with the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) to further facilitate mine victims' access to healthcare services.

13. The Committee would welcome information on progress made in regard to the three initiatives undertaken by the MOMRH.

Developing national referral mechanism (Action #37)

14. Algeria reported that a referral guide is available for services made available through the MOMRH.

15. The Committee would welcome information on availability of national directory of services to facilitate mine victims' access to services.

Access to rehabilitation services including physiotherapy, assistive devices and occupational therapy (Action #38)

16. Algeria reported 287 victims including 268 men and 19 women were provided with rehabilitation services in 2021. Algeria also reported that mine victims continued to benefit from the services available including through 74 centres run by the National Office for Equipment and Accessories for Persons with Disabilities (known as ONAAPH).

17. The Committee recalls that in 2021 Algeria reported the availability of physical rehabilitation services throughout the country providing prostheses, physiotherapy and assistive devices such as motorcycles, wheelchairs, hearing aids and other kinds of assistive products, and that through the National Centre for Persons with Disabilities and Victims of the Revolution of National Liberation, the following services were provided:

- production and assembly of prosthesis, other orthopaedic items, and necessary accessories;
- production and supply of assistive devices such as wheelchairs, hearing equipment and accessories for vision and dentures;
- medical follow-up by specialists;
- management of functional rehabilitation, physiotherapy and occupational therapy; and,
- provision of accommodation and food to beneficiaries coming from remote and rural areas.

Access to psychological and psychosocial services including peer-to-peer support (Action #38)

18. Algeria reported that psychological support was available for everyone in need without discrimination, including for mine victims, and the service is provided by the Department of Action and Social Solidarity of Wilaya (known as DASS). Also, Algeria reported that associations of victims and persons with disabilities contributed to social inclusion of the victims by providing psychosocial support.

19. In 2021 Algeria reported that psychological support was provided to mine victims by different means and through multiple stakeholders, as follows:

- identification, guidance and support by the Social Development Agency (ADS) by the through its branch teams, each comprising at least one psychologist;
- consultation on health care services;
- peer support by mine victims and their associations; and,
- twelve psychologists were trained by the Algerian Research Society in Psychology (SARP) to provide appropriate psychological support to victims of traumatic mines.

Access to social and economic inclusion services, including in rural and remote areas (Action #39)

20. Algeria reported on availability of various kinds of mechanisms ensuring the social and economic inclusion of mine victims in each community and that social support includes assistance for housing, employment and transportation.

Taking measure for safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risks and emergencies (Action #40)

21. The Committee would welcome information on measures in place to ensure the safety and protection of mine victims in situations of risks and emergencies in Algeria.

Strengthening inclusion and participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in all matters that affect them (Action #41 and also Action #4)

22. Algeria reported on participation of associations of victims and persons with disabilities in services such as psychological support. The Committee recalls that in the past, Algeria reported that mine victims and persons with disabilities had been consulted in relevant activities and policies.

CROSS – CUTTING ACTIONS:

Demonstrate high levels of national ownership, including [...] by making financial and other commitments to implementation (Action #1)

23. In response to Committee's preliminary observations in 2021, Algeria reported that despite constraints in financial resources and the impact of COVID-19, the government remained committed to fulfil its victim assistance commitments.

24. The Committee would welcome further information on allocation of national resources to assist mine victims.

Ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered (Action #3)

25. Algeria reported that the Law on the Protection and Promotion of Persons with Disabilities (2002) guarantees equality and prohibit any forms of discrimination on the basis of disabilities, gender or age.

Challenges in implementation of Victim Assistance Commitments (Action #8)

26. Algeria reported experiencing challenges in areas of financial resources, and efforts were made to overcome the challenges to ensure mine victims support will be met.

27. The Committee welcomes Algeria to share information on how the international community could be of further support to Algeria's efforts in fulfilling its victim assistance commitments under the Convention and the OAP.

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker
Victim Assistance
Algeria

Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information requested by the Committee (deadline 9 August)
#33	# States Parties that have designated a government entity to coordinate victim assistance activities						
	# States Parties that have national action plans in place containing specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound objectives and related indicators						The Committee welcomes information on plans that include victim assistance provisions.
#34	# States Parties that report that they include mine victims in relevant national policy and support frameworks						
#35	# States Parties that include victims of anti-personnel mines in disability data systems						The Committee would welcome information on existence of national disability centralised database and information on the integration of mine victims data.
	# States Parties that disaggregate victim data by gender, age and disability						
#36	# States Parties reporting on efforts to ensure an efficient and effective emergency response to mine accidents						
#37	# States Parties that report having a national referral mechanism						
	# States Parties that report having a directory of services in place						The Committee would welcome information on development national directory of services.
#38	# States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability and accessibility of comprehensive rehabilitation services						The Committee would welcome information on integration of rehabilitation into health systems.
	# States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability of psychological and psychosocial support services						
	# States Parties that have established peer-to-peer services within their national healthcare system						The Committee would welcome information on peer counselling's integration into health systems.
#39	# States Parties reporting on efforts to remove barriers to the social and economic inclusion of mine victims						The Committee welcomes an update on progress made by the Accessibility Committee in 2021.
#40	# States Parties that report integrating protection of mine survivors in their humanitarian response and preparedness plans						
#41	# States Parties that report that they include victim representatives or their organizations in victim assistance planning at the national and local level						

CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS

#1	# States Parties that report, having included Convention implementation activities in national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, humanitarian response plans and national strategies for the inclusion of persons with disabilities, where appropriate						
	% mine-affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention						The Committee would welcome further information on allocation of national resources to assist mine victims.
#3	# mine-affected States Parties that report having evidence-based, costed and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place						The Committee would welcome information in this regard.
	# women in States Parties' delegations attending Convention meetings						
#8	# States Parties that prepare their Article 7 reports using the Guide to Reporting						
	# States Parties that report on progress and challenges during formal and informal meetings						

