

PRELIMINARY MID-TERM ASSESMENT

SUDAN

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 Sudan of updated information on its victim assistance activities.
2. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following preliminary observations.

Mine casualties

3. Sudan reported 33 casualties in 2021 that brought the total casualties to 2,444.
4. The Committee appreciates Sudan providing disaggregated data on annual casualties and welcomes such information on all casualties registered by Sudan. The Committee would welcome information on indirect victims, such as affected families.

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)

5. Sudan reported that the National Mine Action Centre (NMAC) remained responsible for the implementation of victim assistance, and that the NMAC worked in collaboration and coordination with relevant stakeholders such as the National Council of Persons with Disabilities, National Prosthetic Centres, the Red Cross, UN agencies and other national and international stakeholders to implement victim assistance.
6. Sudan reported conducting a national victim assistance assessment with support of the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and in coordination with National Council of Persons with Disabilities in most of affected states and the capital, to find out the socio-economic impact of the previous efforts and to contribute to the development of the new National Strategy on victim assistance.

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

7. Sudan reported that a national strategy for victim assistance has been drafted and it has received endorsement by the Government. The Committee would welcome information on finalisation and implementation of the new national strategy for victim assistance.

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

8. Sudan reported that the rights of mine victims are considered throughout the processes of planning, implementing and evaluating of the victims assistance programmes. The Committee recalls that in the previous years, Sudan also reported that regulations were enacted with regards to accessibility of public buildings and that a national standard was being implemented to increase accessibility of public transportation, and it would welcome an update in this regard.

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. Sudan reported cross-governmental efforts to meet the needs of mine victims and to ensure an effective and sustainable delivery of health, educational, labour and developmental services to the victims besides, poverty reduction, the needs and rights of mine victims have been mainstreamed into broad national policies, plans and national legal frameworks.

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

10. Sudan reported that data on mine victims are collected by NMAC, including with support of the specialized victim assistance organizations such as the National Association for Prosthetic and Orthopaedic (NAPO) and the Unions of Disability. Sudan also reported that data are shared with relevant stakeholders including with the National Council of Persons with Disabilities.

11. The Committee welcomes Sudan to provide information on integration of the mine casualty data collected by the NMAC into the disability centralised database.

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

12. Sudan reported on availability of first aid including through Sudanese Red Crescent Society and the Ministry of Health's rapid response teams, who will need to be trained on mines/ERW casualty rescue.

Developing national referral mechanism (Action #37)

13. The Committee would welcome further information on availability of national referral mechanism, or plan to develop such a mechanism in favour of mine victims' access to services.

14. Sudan reported that a comprehensive national directory of services will be developed to facilitate victims of mines and ERW and persons with disabilities' access to services.

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

15. Sudan reported that some 75 mine victims were provided with assistive devices, prosthesis and orthosis and health insurance through victim assistance projects implemented by NGOs in Central, North, South Darfur and Blue Nile states. Sudan also reported on availability of rehabilitation services through physical rehabilitation centres around the country, including the capital-based National Association for Prosthetic and Orthopaedic (NAPO).

16. The Committee would welcome information on progress made in rehabilitation policy in 2021, such as the integration of rehabilitation into health systems to ensure its sustainability.

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

17. Sudan reported providing psychological and other supports to some 125 mine victims through victim assistance projects implemented by a NGO in Central, North and South Darfur states.

18. The Committee welcomes additional information on progress made in establishing or strengthening of peer-to-peer services, and progress in integrating it into health systems.

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

19. Sudan reported improvements in the economic situation of the mines and ERW victims and their families and improvements in the process of social inclusion of the victims through their participation in sports, cultural and social activities in affected areas. Sudan reported a considerable increase in employment opportunities secured by the Government for the victims.

20. Sudan also reported on provision of social and economic assistance to 55 mine victims through victim assistance projects carried out by an NGO, in Blue Nile.

21. The Committee would welcome additional information on efforts made, including policy progress and allocation of resources in 2021 to increase mine victims' access to education, capacity-building, referral services, microfinance institutions, business development services, rural development and social protection programmes, including in rural and remote areas.

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

22. Sudan reported that the needs of persons with disabilities and mine survivors were integrated into a national disaster management policy. The Committee would welcome further information on the special measures included in the national disaster management policy on safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risk and emergencies.

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

23. Sudan reported that persons with disabilities including mine survivors are included in relevant national policies, plans and programmes, including in the assessment carried out by NMAC in 2021.

CROSS – CUTTING ACTIONS:

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

24. The Committee would welcome information on financial and other commitments the Government of Sudan made in 2021 to implement victim assistance.

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

25. The Committee recalls that Sudan reported that gender equality and the diverse needs of the people who benefit from mine action have been taken into consideration in all mine action activities including victim assistance.

Challenges in implementation of victim assistance commitments (Action #8)

26. Sudan reported experiencing several challenges in mine action including victim assistance, such as the followings:

- Shortages of financing;
- The precarious security situation in some parts of Blue Nile and South Kordofan states has made it difficult to reach out to mine victims in these areas;
- Discontinuity of funds which used to be directed to the victims of mines and ERWs in eastern states, following completion of clearance in these states;
- Disadvantageous climatic conditions substantially limit the delivery of services;
- The geographical remoteness of some mine/ERW affected areas, unsafe security situation and transport problems have prevented the gathering data on mine victims; and
- COVID-19 pandemic.

27. The Committee noted that Sudan provided information on areas that will need to be improved such as national capacity, physical rehabilitation centre in affected areas, data collection and socio-economic inclusion, to address challenges faced in assisting mine victims.

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker
Victim Assistance
Sudan

Actions	Indicators						Additional information request by the Committee (deadline 9 August)
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
#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 would welcome information on adoption of the draft national plan on victim assistance.
#34	# States Parties that report that they include mine victims in relevant national policy and support frameworks						The Committee would welcome information on efforts made to lifting barriers that hamper participation and inclusion of mine victims in Sudan.
#35	# States Parties that include victims of anti-personnel mines in disability data systems						The Committee welcomes Sudan to provide information on integration of the mine casualty data collected by the NMAC into the disability centralised database.
	# 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						The Committee would welcome information on availability of referral mechanism and directory of services.
	# States Parties that report having a directory of services in place						
#38	# States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability and accessibility of comprehensive rehabilitation services						
	# 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 welcomes Sudan to provide information on peer counselling and its integration into health systems.
#39	# States Parties reporting on efforts to remove barriers to the social and economic inclusion of mine victims						
#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 welcomes Sudan to provide information on financial commitments made in 2021 for victim assistance implementation
#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 on implementation of action 3 in relation to victim assistance.
	# 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	■	■	■			