

PRELIMINARY MID-TERM ASSESMENT

YEMEN

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

Mine casualties

3. Yemen reported 558 mine and ERW casualties including 59 children and 499 adults in 2021. The figure shows an increase annual casualties Yemen reported in previous years. Yemen indicated that the actual number of casualties is believed to be higher than those registered and reported.
4. The Committee appreciates Yemen disaggregating mine victims data by gender and age and it encourages Yemen to further disaggregate casualty data by disability, fatality and if possible, to include information on indirect victims such as family members of the victims, to better inform relevant policy and response.

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 (Actions #1, #6 and #33)

5. Yemen reported in 2021 the Ministry of Health with assistance provided by the King Salman Centre for Humanitarian and Relief Works provided assistive devices in Aden Governorate and that the National Mine Action Programme (YEMAC) seeks to engage with the Ministry of Health to ensure a sustainable and enabling environment in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in regard to Victim Assistance.
6. The Committee would welcome further information on approach taken by Yemen for the integration of Victim Assistance into broader frameworks, such as Yemen's humanitarian response plan.

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

7. The Committee encourages Yemen to develop and implement a national action plan to ensure a more coordinated efforts in meeting the needs and rights of the victims.

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

8. The Committee would welcome information on efforts made, including through the humanitarian emergency response, to enhance participation and inclusion of mine victims in relevant programmes and policies.

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. Yemen reported that YEMAC seeks to engage with the Ministry of Health to ensure a sustainable and enabling environment in line with CRPD.
10. The Committee encourages Yemen to scale up efforts to engage all relevant ministries and stakeholders in Victim Assistance.

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

11. Yemen reported that data on mine victims are partially shared with stakeholders through local referral systems and through the UN Cluster Meeting.
12. Like in previous years, Yemen continued reporting a lack of a centralised database or comprehensive surveillance to collect and manage data on mine victims, for various reasons including conflict, COVID-19 pandemic, lack of resources and restricted access and movements.

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

13. Yemen reported planning to provide “exceptional medical care for survivors of mine and ERW accidents and intensifying psychological and social support programs to rehabilitate and support them in the community through small projects to improve their lives and reintegrate them”.
14. The Committee would welcome further information on availability and provision of first aid and emergency medical care to victims, and updates on progress made in policy, approaches or service delivery in this regard.

Developing national referral mechanism (Action #37)

15. Yemen reported a lack of national referral system due to the conflict situation. The Committee would welcome information on plans to develop a referral mechanism and a directory of services to facilitate mine victims’ access to services.

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

16. Yemen reported on provision of assistive devices such as electric and manual wheelchairs, crutches and prosthetic limbs in Aden with assistance provided by the King Salman Centre, Red Cross and UNICEF.

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

17. Yemen reported aims to increase assistance for psychological support and social programmes to victims, and it would welcome further information on steps taken in this regard.

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

18. The Committee would welcome information on availability of social and economic opportunities to mine victims.

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

19. The Committee welcomes information, including plan or policy that Yemen may have put into place or aim to do so, to ensure the safety and protection of mine survivors during the conflicts and other situations of crisis.

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

20. The Committee would welcome information on efforts made to ensure the inclusion and participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in relevant activities, such as mine action planning and programmes.

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

21. The Committee welcomes information on national commitments by Yemen for victim assistance implementation.

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

22. Yemen provided disaggregated casualty information on numbers of girls, boys, women and men and indicated that the YEMAC and its partners are aware of the different needs of girls, women, boys and men and that these considerations are taken into account.

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

23. Yemen continued reported similar challenges it faced in previous years persist and hindered provisions of assistance to mine victims, and they are summarised as follows:

- increased areas of contamination and conflicts;
- lack of sufficient resources for victim assistance;
- difficulty to reach out to and support new increasing casualties in areas under conflicts; d) high rate of fatality among new casualties;
- poverty;
- COVID-19 pandemic;
- impact of conflicts on healthcare facilities, such as hospitals; and
- restrictions of movement.

24. Yemen called on the international community to assist by providing technical and material support to enable the country in fulfilling its Victim Assistance requirements and obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the OAP.

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker
Victim Assistance
Yemen

Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information request 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 would welcome information on plans in action plan / strategy in place to guide victim assistance efforts.
#34	# States Parties that report that they include mine victims in relevant national policy and support frameworks						The Committee welcomes Yemen to report on integration of victim assistance into broader national frameworks, such as humanitarian emergency response.
#35	# States Parties that include victims of anti-personnel mines in disability data systems						The Committee would welcome information on the existence of a centralised database and inclusion of casualty data in such a 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 a national referral system 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						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						The Committee welcomes Yemen to share information on availability of psychosocial and psychological support to mine victims.
	# States Parties that have established peer-to-peer services within their national healthcare system						The Committee would welcome 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						The Committee would welcome an update on efforts to lift barriers hampering mine victims' access to services.
#40	# States Parties that report integrating protection of mine survivors in their humanitarian response and preparedness plans						The Committee welcomes Yemen to share information on measures in place to ensure the safety and protection of mine victims in stations of risks and emergencies.
#41	# States Parties that report that they include victim representatives or their organizations in victim assistance planning at the national and local level						The Committee welcomes information on enhancement of mine victims participation and inclusion in 2021.
CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS							
#1	# States Parties that report, having included Convention implementation activities in national development plans,						The Committee would welcome information on inclusion of victim assistance in broader national policies and programmes.

	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 information on national commitments for victim assistance.
#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 the three-implementation plan and efforts to ensure resources for its implementation.
	# 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						The Committee would welcome information on challenges faced in assisting mine victims.