

Achieving the aims of the Oslo Action Plan: Progress Report 2022-2023

Submitted by the President of the Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties, the Committee on Article 5 Implementation, the Committee on Victim Assistance, the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance and the Committee on Cooperative Compliance

Introduction

1. From 25 to 29 November 2019, the international community gathered in Oslo, Norway, to reaffirm the commitment of States, international organisations and civil society to ending the suffering caused by anti-personnel mines and to achieving a world free of mines. At this historic event – the Fourth Review Conference *on a Mine-Free World* – the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, while inspired by their collective achievements, expressed their will to strengthen their efforts to overcome remaining challenges.
2. With the aim of supporting enhanced implementation and promotion of the Convention in the five-year period following the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties adopted the Oslo Action Plan (OAP) 2019-2024. The OAP details the actions States Parties will take during the period of 2019–2024 to support implementation of the Convention, building on the achievements of the Nairobi, Cartagena and Maputo Action Plans.
3. To ensure the effectiveness of the OAP, the States Parties appreciate the need to regularly monitor progress of the implementation of the actions contained within it. In particular, the States Parties highlighted that in order to monitor progress in implementing the OAP, the information submitted in the States Parties' annual Article 7 reports will serve as the main source of data to assess progress and that members of the Coordinating Committee and the President will be responsible for measuring progress within their mandate, with the support of the Implementation Support Unit. A baseline value for all indicators will be established based on the data reported in the first year of implementation, in Article 7 reports due by 30 April 2020, and progress in subsequent years will be compared to this baseline. This baseline was established by the President and the Committees and presented to the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties (18MSP) in 2020.
4. The purpose of the Progress Report 2022-2023 is to support the application of the OAP by measuring progress made during the period of 25 November 2022 to 24 November 2023 and, in doing so, to highlight priority areas of work for the States Parties in the period between the 2023 Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties (21MSP) and the 2024 Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties. It is the fourth in a series of annual progress reports that will be prepared every year until the 2024 Fifth Review Conference. The information in this report builds upon the reports and observations presented by the Committees at the 19-21 June 2023 Intersessional Meetings and is aimed at tracking the implementation of the actions of the OAP and their respective indicators. States Parties are invited to provide additional or updated information concerning their implementation efforts ahead of the closing of the 21MSP to complement the information in the report.

I. **Universalization:** Mandate of the President of the 21MSP: Germany

5. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties committed to promote universal observance of the Convention's norms and objectives, condemn violations of the norms and to take

appropriate steps to end the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines by any actor, including by armed non-State actors.

6. As of the Twentieth Meeting of the States Parties (20MSP), the Convention had entered into force for 164 States. There were thirty-three States - **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, Georgia, India, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Syrian Arab Republic, Tonga, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam** - which were not yet party to the Convention including one signatory State - **the Republic of the Marshall Islands** – which had not yet ratified the Convention.
7. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties committed to using all available avenues to promote ratification of/accession to the Convention by States not party including by encouraging their participation in the work of the Convention in accordance with **Action #11**.
8. Since the 20MSP, there have been no new ratifications/accessions to the Convention. In 2022 and 2023, universalization efforts continued, including in the framework of the Universalization Coordination Group (UCG) led by the 21MSP President.
9. The UCG, has met four times over the course of 2023 to exchange information on universalization efforts, coordinate joint demarches and discuss universalization opportunities more broadly. At present, the UCG is working to continue efforts to encourage targeted States not party to join the Convention given the affinity towards the Convention expressed by these States. The UCG has also discussed opportunities to strengthen universalization efforts in the lead up to the Fifth Review Conference to take place in December 2024.
10. In accordance with **Action # 11**, - **Germany, Japan and Switzerland** - reported using all available avenues to promote ratification or/accession to the Convention by States not party.
11. Additionally, **Germany**, as President of the Convention, appealed to all members of the Conference on Disarmament that have not yet done so to join the Convention and take a universal stand against anti-personnel mines.
12. Furthermore, three States not Party – **Azerbaijan, Armenia, Lao, People's Democratic Republic, and the United Arab Emirates** – engaged with the President of the Convention to discuss their position vis a vis accession to the Convention.
13. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties committed to continue to promote universal observance of the Convention's norms and objectives, condemn violations of these norms and take appropriate steps to end the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines by any actor, including by armed non-State actors in accordance with **Action #12**.
14. In accordance with **Action #12**, **Switzerland** reported that, to promote the observance of the Convention's norms and objectives by armed non-State actors, it regularly supports the activities of Geneva Call. **Germany** distributed a press release condemning the use of mines in **Ukraine** and alleged use by Ukraine¹. Furthermore, **Colombia, Guatemala, the Netherlands, Sweden, and the European Union** condemned the use of anti-personnel mines by any actor.
15. All States not party with the exception of three - **Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Uzbekistan** - have participated at least once in a Convention-related meeting, with some States not party regularly delivering statements and providing information about their State's position on

¹ <https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/newsroom/article/article/landmine-treaty-president-to-engage-with-ukraine-on-allegations-of-use-of-prohibited-weapon/>

the Convention and/or on their activities to implement certain provisions of the Convention as well as their contribution to mine action activities. In 2023, twelve States not party – **Armenia, Azerbaijan, India, Israel, Republic of Korea, Lao, People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Myanmar, United Arab Emirates and the United States of America** – registered to participate in the 19-21 June 2023 Intersessional Meetings and [XX] States not Party – [INSERT NAMES OF STATES NOT PARTY] participated in the 21MSP.

16. In 2023, one State not party – **Morocco** – submitted a voluntary transparency report.

17. Many States not party acknowledge and support to various degrees the humanitarian goals of the Convention and highlight the grave consequences of the use of anti-personnel mines. A number of States not party express acceptance for the Convention’s norms by choosing to vote every year in favour of the UNGA resolution. In 2022, 18 States not party – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, China, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Libya, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Singapore, Tonga and United Arab Emirates - voted in favour of the resolution. In 2023, [INSERT NUMBER] States not party - [INSERT NAMES OF STATES NOT PARTY] voted in favour of the resolution.

18. Since entry into force of the Convention eight States not party – **Egypt, Georgia, India, Israel, Kazakhstan, Korea, Republic of, Morocco and Singapore** - have indicated that they have put in place moratoria on the use, production, export and/or import of anti-personnel mines. In 2023 no additional State not party has reported putting in place such moratorium.

19. On 18 February 2021, the European Union (EU) adopted Council Decision (CFSP) 2021/257 in support of the OAP for the implementation of the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction. Part of the Decision is focused on supporting the Presidency in the implementation of its universalization mandate and supporting the activities of the Convention’s Special Envoys in this endeavour.

20. In the context of the European Council Decision 2021/257, at the time of writing, preparations were ongoing for the Convention’s Special Envoy to travel to Cambodia to engage with the representatives of State not party from the ASEAN region and engage in discussion on universalization towards the Fifth Review Conference.

II. Stockpile destruction and retention of anti-personnel mines: Mandate of the President of the 21MSP: Germany

21. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties noted the importance of ensuring that all stockpiled anti-personnel mines are expeditiously destroyed in line with Article 4 of the Convention.

22. At the close of the 20MSP, two States Parties – **Greece and Ukraine** – had outstanding commitments under Article 4. Both of these States Parties are in non-compliance with Article 4 obligations, after the expiration of their four-year implementation deadline of 1 March 2008 and 1 June 2010, respectively.

23. In accordance with **Action #14**, as of 1 September 2023, **Greece and Ukraine** have provided information on the status of implementation of their obligations in accordance with the relevant provisions of Article 7. **Greece** has provided a timeframe for the destruction of its remaining stockpiled anti-personnel and **Ukraine has yet to present a time-bound plan for completion.**

24. Since the 20MSP, **Greece** has reported that steps have been taken towards the destruction of their remaining 343,413 stockpiled anti-personnel mines. In 2023, Greece reported that on 28 November 2022, the fifth amendment to the contract between Hellenic Defence Systems (HDS)

and the competent Department of the Hellenic Army General Staff for the destruction of the anti-personnel mines stockpile was signed. Greece further reported that the said amendment foresees the transportation and destruction of the remaining quantity of anti-personnel mines at the installations of Demil-Tech company in Croatia within a period of 18 months, notwithstanding any future unforeseen circumstances beyond Greece's control. With the necessary documents now issued by the competent Croatian and Greek authorities, Greece reported that the first cargo of anti-personnel mines to the installations of the Demil Tech company in Croatia was scheduled to take place in days following the 19-21 June 2023 Intersessional Meetings and HDS was making all the necessary arrangements to ensure a smooth, safe and timely delivery to put the destruction process back on track.

25. The President noted the 18 months-timeframe communicated by Greece for the transportation and destruction of its remaining stockpiled anti-personnel mines. While it is very positive that Greece has intensified efforts towards the completion of its stockpile destruction obligations, the President notes that no mines have been destroyed in 2023 and Greece unfortunately remains in a situation of non-compliance. The President noted that it would be welcome if Greece could provide details of its plan and relevant milestones in accordance with **Action #13** of the OAP. The President encourages Greece to do its utmost to ensure that the plan put in place can be implemented without further delay and that the destruction process can take place within the set time frame. As well, the President encourages Greece to continue to inform regularly on progress and remaining challenges in this respect.
26. Since the 20MSP, **Ukraine** has not reported progress in the destruction of their remaining 3,364,433 stockpiled anti-personnel mines.
27. In information provided in its transparency report in 2023, **Ukraine** reported that the 3,364,433 stockpiled anti-personnel mines remaining to be destroyed as of 1 January 2023 included 3,363,828 PFM-type and 605 OZM-4 type mines which were left in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea occupied by the Russian Federation. Ukraine also indicated that if the warehouses and arsenals where anti-personnel mines are stored are located in the territories occupied by the Russian Federation, or if they have been subjected to air and missile strikes by the armed forces of the Russian Federation, information about such mines can be obtained only after the territory has been liberated, cleared and carrying out relevant inspections.
28. In 2023, Ukraine further indicated that the implementation of Action 14 of the OAP, according to which States Parties that have failed to meet their stockpile destruction deadline and are in non-compliance with Article 4 must provide a timely plan for completion of the work, is currently impossible. Ukraine also indicated that the anti-personnel mines declared by Ukraine as part of the implementation of Article 4 are in the warehouses of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and will be destroyed after the cessation of hostilities and the restoration of Ukraine's territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders.
29. The President concluded that Ukraine has provided information on the status of its stockpile destruction programme, including information on the total number and types of stockpiled anti-personnel mines remaining to be destroyed. The President noted that the number of remaining stockpiled anti-personnel mines will be subject to a review once information is available. The President also notes that the implementation of the stockpile destruction programme has been suspended and that no destruction took place during the reporting period.
30. The President notes that due to the current situation in Ukraine, progress in implementation of Article 4 is hampered and a plan for implementation and completion date may currently be difficult to provide. The President encourages Ukraine to continue to inform on remaining challenges and explore all existing avenues for cooperation and assistance in this regard. In particular, the

President encourages Ukraine to take steps towards a more accurate assessment of the status of its stockpiled anti-personnel mines.

31. Since the 20MSP, no State Party has provided information on the discovery of previously unknown stockpiled anti-personnel mines, in accordance with OAP, **Action #15**.
32. The President recalled that, in 2020, **the Gambia** had reported that, during the course of 2019, it became aware of a previously unknown stockpile of 3,000 anti-personnel mines. The President noted that since then no updated information has been provided by the Gambia on the progress made to destroy these anti-personnel mines in accordance with **Action #15** of the OAP. The President encouraged the Gambia to provide updated information on this matter as soon as possible.
33. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties noted the importance of ensuring that anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3 do not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for permitted purposes.
34. At the time of the 20MSP, sixty-six States Parties had reported retaining mines in accordance with Article 3.
35. Since the 20MSP, two States Parties – **Nicaragua and Nigeria** – have indicated that they no longer retain anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes.
36. At present, there are sixty-four States Parties - **Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Eritrea, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, the Netherlands, Oman, Peru, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe** - that retain anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes.
37. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties committed to annually review the number of mines retained and report on the use of retained mines in accordance with **Action #16**.
38. As of 1 September 2023, of the sixty-four States Parties that retain mines for permitted purposes thirty-nine States Parties – **Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Netherlands, Peru, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe** – submitted Article 7 reports in 2023.
39. Of these, only twenty-five States Parties – **Angola, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Japan, Netherlands, Peru, Romania, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tunisia, Türkiye and Uganda**. - reported on the use/destruction of retained mines during the reporting period and eleven States Parties – **Bangladesh, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Italy, Jordan, Senegal, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Zambia and Zimbabwe** - reported no change in the number of anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3 compared to the previous year
40. One State Party – **Cambodia** - reported an increase in the number of anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3.

41. **One State Party** – Yemen – reported that it could not provide updated information on anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3 because of the ongoing conflict.
42. **One State Party** – Ukraine – submitted an annual report but the reports did not contain information on anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3.
43. Of these, seventeen States Parties - **Angola, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Ireland, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Türkiye, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe** - reported on the current use and / or planned use of retained anti-personnel mines.
44. In accordance with **Action #17**, two States Parties – **Iraq and Zimbabwe** – reported efforts to explore alternatives to using live anti-personnel mines for training and research purposes.

III. Survey and clearance of mined areas: Mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation: Colombia, France (Chair), Iraq and Sweden.

45. At the Fourth Review Conference the States Parties, while recognizing that considerable progress has been made in addressing mined areas, reiterated the need to increase the pace of survey and clearance activities to meet Article 5 obligations as soon as possible. To ensure significant progress towards their ambition of completing their time-bound obligations to the fullest extent possible by 2025, the States Parties agreed that accelerated survey and clearance would provide the greatest contribution to reducing human suffering and to protecting people from the risk posed by anti-personnel mines. The States Parties adopted a number of actions in this regard.
46. At the close of the 20MSP – thirty-three States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, State of Palestine, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – were in the process of implementing Article 5 obligations.
47. Since the 20MSP, no State Party has declared completion of their Article 5 obligations under the Convention.
48. Of the 33 States Parties with Article 5 obligations, as of 1 September 2023, twenty-four States Parties - **Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Niger, the State of Palestine, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – have submitted Article 7 reports containing updated information on progress in implementation of Article 5 with twenty States Parties – **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – employing the Guide to Reporting in accordance with **Action #8**.
49. In the lead up to the 19 – 21 June 2023 Intersessional Meetings of the Convention, the Committee on Article 5 Implementation prepared preliminary observations on information submitted by twenty-two States Parties - **Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Niger, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen and Zimbabwe**. Observations were shared with the respective States Parties to seek clarifications or further information. The preliminary observations were made available on the Convention’s website².

² Preliminary observations prepared by the Committee on Article 5 on information submitted by the States Parties with Article 5 obligations as of 2 June 2023, can be found at: <https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/intersessional-meetings/2023im/documents/>

50. As of 1 September 2023, nine of the thirty-three States Parties implementing Article 5 – **Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Oman, Somalia, and Ukraine** - have not submitted Article 7 reports.
51. One State Party, **Mozambique**, which declared completion in 2015, noted at the time that areas remain seasonally or permanently submerged under water in Inhambane Province. Mozambique further indicated that the portion of the suspected hazardous area that remains underwater will be marked and regularly monitored to confirm if the area ever dries enough to allow further technical survey. In 2019, Mozambique reported four remaining areas measuring 1,881 square meters which remain inaccessible. In its 2022 Article 7 report, Mozambique indicated that it had declared completion in 2015 and that it is dealing with residual contamination. The report did not contain information on flooded areas.
52. The Committee welcomed the information submitted by States Parties and noted a slight decrease in the quality of reports compared to those submitted in 2022. . The Committee observed that six States Parties – **Iraq, Peru, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand and Zimbabwe** - provided a *high degree of clarity*³ on their remaining challenge, three States Parties - **Colombia, Croatia and Sri Lanka** - provided *clarity*⁴ and thirteen States Parties – **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Guinea-Bissau, Niger, Nigeria, the State of Palestine, Senegal, Serbia, Türkiye, Ukraine and Yemen** - provided *some clarity*⁵.
53. As of 1 September 2023, of the two States Parties – **Eritrea and Ukraine** - with Article 5 deadlines in December 2020 and 2023, respectively, one State Party -**Ukraine**- submitted a request for extension on 31 March 2023.
54. As of 1 September 2023, **Eritrea** had not submitted a request for extension of its 31 December 2020 Article 5 deadline.
55. Of the twelve States Parties – **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Ethiopia, Iraq, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Senegal, Somalia, Tajikistan and Türkiye** - that were due to submit updated work plans in 2023 pursuant to decisions taken by the States Parties on their requests for extension, two State Parties **Colombia** (28 April 2023) and **Türkiye** (30 April 2023) - submitted updated work plans by 30 April 2023. Three States Parties – **Mauritania** (25 August) **Nigeria** (25 May 2023), **Senegal** (19 May 2023), **Somalia** (2 May 2023) submitted updated work plans in following April 2023.
56. Two States Parties - **Ethiopia and Niger** - that were due to submit updated work plans by 30 April 2021 and 30 April 2023 in accordance with previously granted extension requests, as of 1 September, have not submitted updated work plans.

³ State Party has provided a list of all remaining areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines and with this list including the estimated size of each area, the status of each area (i.e., “known” or “suspected”), and information on the geographic location of each area.

⁴ State Party has provided a summary table of all remaining areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines according to regions / provinces / districts within the State, with this list including the number of areas known to contain anti-personnel mines and the number of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in each region / province / district within the State, and the estimated size of the area concerned per region / province / district.

⁵ State Party has provided a summary table of all remaining areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines according to regions / provinces / districts within the State, with this list including the number of areas known to contain anti-personnel mines and the number of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in each region / province / district within the State, and the estimated size of the area concerned per region / province / district.

57. As of 1 September 2023, the following States Parties had not submitted an updated work plan following the decisions of the States Parties in 2023; **Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Mauritania.**
58. In addition, One State Party – **Tajikistan** – is due to submit an updated work plan by 31 October 2023, and One State Party – **Iraq** - is due to submit an updated work plan by the 21MSP.
59. In accordance with **Action #18**, nineteen States Parties – **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Nigeria, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - reported on efforts to establish an evidence-based baseline of contamination.
60. In accordance with **Action #18**, nine States Parties – **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Türkiye, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - reported having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men.
61. In accordance with **Action #19**, twenty-two States Parties – **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** – reported having evidence-based and costed national work plans in place.
62. In accordance with **Action #20**, fifteen States Parties – **Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, State of Palestine, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** – provided annual updates and adjusted milestones (qualitative and quantitative) for implementation.
63. In accordance with **Action #21**, eight States Parties - **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Iraq, Niger, Nigeria, Türkiye, and Yemen** - reported being affected by anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature and are applying the provision of the Convention including survey, clearance and reporting.
64. In accordance with **Action #22**, sixteen States Parties – **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - reported on progress and status of implementation in their Article 7 reports in a manner consistent with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). In addition, seventeen States Parties – **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, State of Palestine, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - provided updated survey and clearance data, disaggregating by type of contamination.
65. In accordance with **Action #23**, one State Party – **Ukraine** – submitted an extension request in accordance with the process established by the States Parties. . Ukraine’s request for extension does not include a multiyear work plans for the period of the extension.
66. In accordance with **Action #24**, one State Party – **Ukraine** - submitted a request for extension. Ukraine’s extension request does not provide plans to implement mine risk education and reduction during the extension period.
67. In accordance with **Action #26**, thirteen States Parties – **Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Nigeria, Peru, Serbia, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** – reported

on efforts to establish a national sustainable capacity and four States Parties – **Colombia, Thailand, Türkiye, and Zimbabwe** - reported having put in place a sustainable capacity.

68. In accordance with **Action #26**, in 2023, no State Party reported having discovered previously unknown mined areas.

69. In accordance with **Action #27**, seventeen States Parties – **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Nigeria, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - reported on efforts to improve effectiveness and efficiency primarily through the updating of National Mine Action Standards (NMAS).

IV. Mine risk education and reduction: Mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation: Colombia, France (Chair), Iraq and Sweden.

70. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties committed to intensifying their efforts to prevent new casualties in affected areas and providing effective, relevant and targeted mine risk education and other risk reduction measures to all groups at risk to increase protection until the threat of anti-personnel mines can be removed.

71. In accordance with **Action #28**, fourteen States Parties – **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Nigeria, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - reported on efforts to integrate mine risk education and reduction programmes into wider humanitarian, development, protection and education programmes.

72. In accordance with **Action #29**, twelve States Parties – **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - reported having mine risk education and reduction programmes in place that are tailored to the threat encountered by the population and have reported data in a disaggregated manner. Additionally, nine States Parties – **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, South Sudan, Türkiye, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** – reported carrying out mine risk education and reduction activities that collect, analyse and report data disaggregated by gender, age, disability and other diverse needs.

73. In accordance with **Action #30**, eleven States Parties – **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Türkiye, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** – reported on their efforts to prioritise people most at risk through an analysis of available casualty and contamination data.

74. In accordance with **Action #31**, thirteen States Parties – **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Nigeria, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - reported updates on their efforts to build a national capacity to deliver mine risk education and reduction programmes.

75. In accordance with **Action #32**, twenty-two States Parties – **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - provided information on actions taken to effectively increase the protection of all affected populations and groups at risk.

V. Victim Assistance: Mandate of the Committee on Victim Assistance: Italy, Slovenia, Uganda (Chair) and Zambia.

76. At the 20MSP, the States Parties reaffirmed their determination to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines and to ensure the full and equal inclusion of survivors and victims. The States Parties noted the persistent challenges in the implementation of victim assistance including those related to the lack of financial means and highlighted the importance of making continued progress in integrating victim assistance into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks relating to the rights of persons with disabilities, and to health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction in support of the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

77. At the close of 20MSP, thirty-six States Parties - **Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, State of Palestine, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – had reported mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control.

78. Since the 20MSP, two more States Parties - **Niger and Nigeria** - reported mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control, increasing the number of States Parties that reported mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control, to thirty-eight⁶.

79. Of the thirty-eight States Parties, as of 1 September 2023, twenty-seven States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, State of Palestine, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - submitted Article 7 reports for the year 2022.

80. Of the twenty-seven States Parties, twenty-four States - **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - included updated information in their Article 7 reports on Victim Assistance activities and two States Parties – **the State of Palestine and Niger** – provided information on casualties only.

81. In the lead up to the 2023 Intersessional Meetings, the Committee on Victim Assistance prepared preliminary observations on information submitted by twenty-three States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen and Zimbabwe**. Subsequently the observations were shared with the respective States Parties and published on the Convention's website⁷ seeking clarifications or further information.

⁶ Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, State of Palestine, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe

⁷ Preliminary observations by the Committee on Victim Assistance on information submitted by the States Parties with Victim Assistance responsibilities, can be found at: <https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/intersessional-meetings/2023im/documents/>

82. Following the 2023 Intersessional Meetings, three States Parties – **State of Palestine, Niger and Uganda** – submitted Article 7 reports, which could not be included in the preliminary observations the Committee developed prior to the Intersessional Meetings.
83. As of 1 September 2022, eight States Parties – **Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Croatia, Nicaragua, Serbia, Thailand and Türkiye** - responded to preliminary observations presented at the 2023 Intersessional Meetings by the Committee on Victim Assistance.
84. Of the thirty-eight States Parties that have reported mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control, as of 1 September 2023, eleven States Parties - **Afghanistan, Burundi, Chile, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Mozambique, Somalia and Sudan** - have not submitted updated information on their efforts to implement Victim Assistance commitments. Additionally, two State Parties – **Niger and Ukraine** - that submitted Article 7 reports, did not include information on their victim assistance activities in their reports. Of the eleven States Parties, three – **Mauritania, Mozambique and Ukraine** – provided updates on their victim assistance efforts at the 2023 Intersessional Meetings.
85. Of the twenty-seven States Parties that have reported on their victim assistance efforts, nine States Parties – **Albania, Guinea-Bissau, Jordan, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia and Uganda** – have not reported new casualties in 2022.
86. Sixteen States Parties - **Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – reported new casualties in 2022, with the highest number of casualties reported by **Yemen (279), Colombia (135), Iraq (50), Cambodia (41), South Sudan (40), Angola (35) and Türkiye (32)**. While anti-personnel mines and other explosive ordnances continue taking a heavy toll, the overall number of new casualties has been reducing , with significant reductions reported by **Yemen and Türkiye** compared to 2021. As in 2022, no data on affected families and communities was collected or reported in most cases,
87. States Parties implementing victim assistance continue to report progress in integrating Victim Assistance commitments into broader policies and programmes primarily associated with the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and other health, development, human rights, education and poverty reduction, with twenty-one States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda and Zimbabwe** – which provided updates in this regard. Fourteen States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Nicaragua, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - provided information on activities undertaken or measures put in place to remove or reduce barriers facing the participation or inclusion of mine survivors and other persons with disabilities.
88. In accordance with **Action #33**, twenty-four States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen, Uganda and Zimbabwe** – reported having national entities mandated to coordinate victim assistance-related activities including their integration into broader national policies and programmes.
89. In accordance with **Action #33**, twenty-one States Parties – **Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda and**

Zimbabwe - reported having developed or in being in the process of developing/renewing national action plans. This includes the States Parties that have included the needs and rights of mine survivors into existing plans that concern broader issues, such as disability, health, social protection, humanitarian response and other frameworks.

90. In accordance with **Action #34**, twenty-three States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen, Uganda and Zimbabwe** - reported undertaking multi-sectoral approach to ensure that the needs and rights of mine victims are effectively addressed. Fourteen States Parties – **Albania, Algeria, Cambodia, Colombia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, South Sudan⁸, Tajikistan⁹, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda and Zimbabwe** – reported that they have taken steps to align victim assistance activities with provisions of the CRPD. Thirty-six of the thirty-eight States Parties with mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control - **Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, State of Palestine, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - are party to the CRPD and the majority of them have also joined its Optional Protocol.

91. In accordance with **Action #35**, eighteen States Parties – **Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye and Zimbabwe** – reported having a national database with capacity to integrate data on mine victims or have reported on taken steps to create/strengthen a centralised database or integrating victim assistance information into disability data systems.

92. In accordance with **Action #36**, twenty-two States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen, Uganda and Zimbabwe** - reported on availability of emergency assistance and/or healthcare, while, some of these States encountering challenges such as shortages in provision or delivery of first aid, capacity to respond efficiently or shortages in the number of healthcare centres, health workers and first responders in or around affected remote areas and/or limited equipment required for emergency response.

93. In accordance with **Action #37**, fifteen States Parties – **Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Serbia, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye and Zimbabwe** – reported having in place or plan to develop a national referral mechanism and/or a national directory of services to facilitate access to services for mine victims. Some of these States Parties reported referrals systems being used solely within healthcare sectors only.

94. In accordance with **Action #38**, twenty-six States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, State Palestine, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen, Uganda, and Zimbabwe** - reported on availability of rehabilitation and assistive technology.

95. Also, in accordance with **Action #38**, twenty States Parties – **Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, State of Palestine,**

⁸ South Sudan is in the process of ratifying the CRPD, and in the meantime, making efforts to align its relevant policies and plans with the CRPD provisions.

⁹ While Tajikistan is a signatory to the CRPD and yet to ratify, it has been reporting efforts in aligning relevant policies and programmes with provisions of the CRPD.

Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine and Zimbabwe - provided information on the availability of psychological, psychosocial support most of which indicated that these services are available at public hospitals and open to everyone in need including mine victims. Four States Parties – **Algeria, Cambodia, Croatia and Thailand** - reported on availability of peer-to-peer support, to assist mine survivors in their psychological recovery.

96. In accordance with **Action #39**, twenty-two States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Yemen, Uganda, Ukraine and Zimbabwe** - reported making progress in meeting the social and economic needs of mine survivors by providing various types of assistance such as vocational training/education, employment opportunities, pension, and improving national frameworks, consistent to efforts reported in previous years.

97. In accordance with **Action #40**, fourteen States Parties – **Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Mozambique, Serbia, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye and Zimbabwe** – reported on the integration of protection measures into national humanitarian response or preparedness plans or other national efforts to address the safety and protection of mine survivors and other persons with disabilities in situations of emergencies and risks.

98. In accordance with **Action #41**, twenty States Parties – **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda and Zimbabwe** - reported on efforts made concerning inclusion and participation of mine survivors and their representative organisations in relevant policies and programmes.

VI. International Cooperation and Assistance - Mandate of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance: **Algeria, Japan, Thailand (Chair) and the Netherlands**

99. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties noted that while each State Party is ultimately responsible for implementing the provisions of the Convention in areas under its jurisdiction or control, enhanced cooperation could support implementation of Convention obligations as soon as possible.

100. In accordance with **Action #42**, twenty-one States Parties – **Angola, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reported making national financial commitments to the implementation of their Convention obligations. This number includes eighteen States Parties - **Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reporting having provided a financial commitment to mine clearance and fifteen States Parties – **Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Jordan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Türkiye and Zimbabwe** – reporting having provided a financial commitment for victim assistance implementation. Among these States Parties, two States Parties – **Cambodia** and the **United Kingdom** – have reported on efforts to explore alternative and/or innovative sources of funding and encourage other States to do the same.

101. Additionally, sixteen States Parties – **Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Japan, Lithuania, New Zealand, Norway, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, the**

Netherlands and the United Kingdom —reported providing financial or other support to affected States Parties. Of these, six States Parties – **Canada, Japan, Finland, Germany, Switzerland and the United Kingdom**– provided information on how their support incorporates considerations for gender.

102. In accordance with **Action #43**, thirty States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, State of Palestine, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe** — provided information on progress, challenges and requirements for assistance in Article 7 reports and Convention meetings.

103. Also in accordance with **Action #43**, one State Party – **Senegal** – took advantage of the Individualised Approach on the margins of the 19-21 June 2023 Intersessional Meetings. Furthermore **[INSERT NUMBER]** – **[INSERT NAME OF STATES]** – took advantage of the Individualised Approach on the margins of the 20MSP.

104. In accordance with **Action #44**, three States Parties – **Angola, Sri Lanka and Yemen** – reported on efforts to strengthen national dialogue and ensuring regular dialogue with national and international stakeholders and establishing an in-country platform for dialogue between stakeholders.

105. In accordance with **Action #45**, nineteen States Parties –**Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom**– reported providing funding or other support to affected States Parties. Ten States Parties –**Belgium, Finland, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Slovakia, Sweden and Switzerland** - reported providing funding or other support for victim assistance efforts and eighteen States Parties - **Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom** -reported providing funding or other support for mine clearance efforts.

106. In accordance with **Action #46**, seven States Parties – **Australia, Canada, Germany, Finland, Japan, Switzerland and the Netherlands** - reported on efforts to coordinate their support for the effective implementation of the Convention.

107. In accordance with **Action #47**, ten States Parties – **Australia, Brazil, Croatia, France, Japan, Peru, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Türkiye**– reported sharing best practices and lesson learned through international, regional, South-South and/or bilateral cooperation.

VII. Measures to ensure compliance – Mandate of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance: Germany (Chair), Norway, South Africa, Switzerland and Türkiye

108. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties recognized the importance of compliance with the provisions of the Convention and committed to promote compliance to meet the Convention’s objectives.

109. In this regard, **Action #48** of the OAP, the States Parties committed to ensure that, in the event of alleged or known non-compliance with the general obligations under Article 1, the State Party concerned will provide information on the situation to all States Parties in the most expeditious, comprehensive and transparent manner possible and will work together with other States Parties

in a spirit of cooperation to resolve the matter in an expeditious and effective manner, in accordance with Article 8.1.

110. Since the close of the 20MSP, the Committee has continued its consideration of cases of non-compliance and allegations of non-compliance with Article 1.1 of the Convention by two States Parties – **Sudan** and **Yemen**. Since the 20MSP, new allegations of use of anti-personnel mines by **Ukraine** have been brought to the attention of the Committee.
111. The Committee welcomes the dialogue sustained with these three States Parties over the course of the year. The Committee also welcomes the interaction with civil society organisations in the deliberation of their work, including Human Rights Watch and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines.
112. Concerning **Sudan**, the Committee appreciates Sudan’s engagement with the Committee and welcomes Sudan to continue to act upon its commitment under **Action #48**. However, the Committee recognised that the current situation may prevent Sudan from acting upon this action of the OAP. The Committee would welcome continued updated information on the security situation in light of the ongoing peace negotiations in the remaining areas where allegations of the use of anti-personnel mines have surfaced and where Sudan indicated security presents an impediment to investigations. The Committee encourages Sudan to continue working with all partners in order to ensure that investigations can take place as soon as possible.
113. Concerning **Ukraine**, the Committee appreciates Ukraine’s engagement with the Committee since the allegations surfaced and looks forward to further engagement. The Committee welcomes that Ukraine has engaged in a cooperative dialogue with the Committee as foreseen in Article 8.1 of the Convention and encourages it to act upon **Action #48** of the OAP. The Committee would welcome continued updated information on the efforts to address these allegations. The Committee further welcomes information from Ukraine on the status of its remaining stockpiled mines, in particular to ascertain which stockpiles are under the control of Ukraine and those that are currently outside of its control. The Committee further encourages Ukraine to continue working with all partners in order to ensure that investigations can take place as soon as possible.
114. Concerning **Yemen**, the Committee appreciates Yemen’s engagement with the Committee and looks forward to further engagement. The Committee welcomes Yemen acting upon its commitments under **Action #48** including by having provided an update on the situation during the 19-21 June 2023 Intersessional Meetings. The Committee would welcome continued updated information on the security situation and efforts made by Yemen to carry out investigations on allegations of the use of anti-personnel mines, as well as on the transfer and use of anti-personnel mines within areas under its jurisdiction or control.
115. To ensure compliance with the Convention, the States Parties recognized in the context of **Action #49** of the OAP, the importance of States Parties submitting Article 7 reports on an annual basis, in particular States Parties with obligations under Article 4 or 5 or retaining or transferring anti-personnel mines in line with Article 3.
116. In this regard, as of 1 September 2023, the following States Parties have not submitted reports in 2023:
 - a. Concerning the thirty-three States Parties with Article 5 obligations, nine States Parties – **Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Oman, Somalia** and **Sudan** – have not submitted an Article 7 report. Of these, four States Parties –

Afghanistan (last report in 2021), **Eritrea** (last report in 2014), **Oman** (last report in 2021), **Somalia** (last report in 2020) - have not submitted an Article 7 report in the last two years. The Committee notes that two of these States **Somalia and Sudan** submitted requests for extension of their Article 5 deadline in 2021 and 2022 respectively with information on their implementation of Article 5. The Committee further notes that Afghanistan which also submitted a request for extension in 2022 was unfortunately unable to provide information on the remaining challenge and a detailed work plan to address the challenge due to the extraordinary circumstances it faced.

- b. Concerning the sixty-four States Parties retaining mines under Article 3, twenty-five States Parties – **Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Eritrea, Gambia, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Oman, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania (United Republic of), Togo, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)** - have not submitted an Article 7 report.. One State Party – **Ukraine** – submitted an annual Article 7 report, but the report did not contain information on the number of anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3. Of the sixty-four States Parties retaining mines under Article 3, twenty States Parties – **Benin (2008), Burundi (2021), Cameroon (2009), Cape Verde (2009), Congo (2009), Côte d’Ivoire (2014), Djibouti (2005), Eritrea (2014), Gambia (2020), Guyana (2021), Honduras (2007), Indonesia (2020), Kenya (2008), Mali (2005), Namibia (2010), Oman (2021), Rwanda (2008), Tanzania (2009), Togo (2003) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (2012)** – have not submitted an Article 7 report in at least the last two years.

117. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties recognized the importance of States Parties urgently fulfilling their obligations under Article 9 in accordance with **Action #50**. At the close of the Convention’s 20MSP, forty-seven States Parties had not reported having adopted legislation or that they considered existing laws to be sufficient in the context of Article 9.

118. Since the 20MSP, one State Party - **Eritrea** – had been erroneously listed amongst the States Parties that had not yet reported on measures taken to implement Article 9.

119. As of 1 September 2023, forty-six States Parties - **Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Comoros, Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Haiti, Jamaica, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Nauru, Nigeria, Palau, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Uruguay and Vanuatu** - have not reported on the adoption of national legislation or if they consider existing national laws to be sufficient to give effect to the Convention.

VIII. Best practices for implementing the Convention

120. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties, in committing to meet their obligations in the Convention’s traditional spirit of cooperation and transparency, identified several best practices that are key to the successful implementation of the Convention’s obligations.

121. In accordance with **Action #1**, twenty-one States Parties – **Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – have reported on the integration of Convention implementation activities into other national frameworks associated with development, poverty reduction, humanitarian response and

disabilities. This includes fourteen States Parties - **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Nigeria, Serbia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - reporting having integrated mine action activities into national plans and twenty-four States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen, Uganda and Zimbabwe** – reporting having assigned an entity such as the Ministry of Health or Ministry of Social Affairs and/or national disability council to lead or co-lead on the integration of victim assistance into broader frameworks.

122. Additionally, in accordance with **Action #1**, twenty-one States Parties – **Angola, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reported making national financial commitments to the implementation of their Article 5 and or victim assistance obligations under the Convention. This includes eighteen States Parties - **Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - reporting having provided a financial commitment to mine clearance and fifteen States Parties – **Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Jordan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Türkiye and Zimbabwe** – reported activities and implementing plans and policies that demonstrate national ownerships in implementation of victim assistance obligation, with some States indicating allocation of national funds.
123. In accordance with **Action #2**, twenty-six States Parties – **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – reported having evidence-based costed and timebound national strategies and work plans in place for achieving their mine clearance obligations. This includes twenty-two States Parties - **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reporting having strategies and work plans in place to address their mine clearance commitments and twenty-one – **Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda and Zimbabwe** - - reporting having developed or in the process of developing national action plans – this includes the States Parties that reported embedding the needs of mine survivors into existing plans, such as disability, health, social protection, humanitarian response and other frameworks.
124. In accordance with **Action #3**, twenty-two States Parties – **Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reported on efforts to ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered and inform all areas of Convention implementation. This includes ten States Parties- **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Nigeria, Peru, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reporting on efforts to ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered in the implementation of mine clearance commitments and twenty-one States Parties – **Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – reporting on measures in place including through national laws and progress achieved with regards to

consideration of gender, age, disability and/or other diversity dimensions in implementation of their victim assistance activities.

125. In accordance with **Action #3**, of the eighty-two delegations of States Parties registered to attend the 19-21 June 2023 Intersessional Meetings, forty-one delegations of States Parties – **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Colombia, Congo, the Democratic Republic of the, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Mozambique, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, State of Palestine, Serbia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Zambia and Zimbabwe** – included women in their delegations.
126. In accordance with Action #4, twenty-one States Parties – **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – reported developing their national strategies /work plans in an inclusive manner taking into consideration the needs of affected communities. This includes nine States Parties - **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Türkiye, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reporting an inclusive approach in the development of their national strategies/ work plans for mine clearance and twenty States Parties – **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda and Zimbabwe**- reporting an inclusive approach in the development of their national strategies and work plans for victim assistance. Finally, no delegation that registered to attend the 19-21 June 2023 Intersessional Meetings reported mine victims on their respective delegations.
127. In accordance with **Action #5**, sixteen States Parties – **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Serbia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reported having national mine action standards based on IMAS in place and six States Parties – **Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Türkiye and Zimbabwe** – also reported that they were in the process of updating NMAS during the reporting period.
128. In accordance with Action #6, twenty-four States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reported having included mine action related activities within their humanitarian response plans, peacebuilding, development or human rights plans, where relevant. This includes fourteen States Parties - **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Nigeria, Peru, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reporting the inclusion of mine clearance related activities within other frameworks and twenty-three States Parties - **Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reporting the inclusion of victim assistance activities within other frameworks.
129. In accordance with **Action #7**, eighteen States Parties – **Australia, Austria, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Japan, Lithuania, New Zealand, Norway, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom** – reported on partnership with other States Parties in support of fulfilment of the Convention obligations with fifteen States Parties - **Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands and the United**

Kingdom - reporting financial or other support and six States Parties – **Australia, Belgium, Canada, the Netherlands, New Zealand and United Kingdom** – reporting providing multi-year funding to affected States Parties.

130. In accordance with **Action #8**, twenty-four States Parties – **Albania, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – prepared their Article 7 report using the Guide to Reporting. This includes twenty States Parties - **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - reporting on mine clearance related activities and sixteen States Parties - **Albania, Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Jordan, Mozambique, Nigeria, Serbia, South Sudan, Thailand, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - sharing information on challenges they encounter in providing assistance to mine victims.
131. Additionally, twenty-nine States Parties – **Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Kuwait, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - provided information on progress and challenges in implementation including during the 19-21 June 2023 Intersessional Meetings and a further **[# STATES PARTIES] – [NAMES OF STATES PARTIES]** – did so during the 21MSP. This includes twenty-seven States Parties - **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Kuwait, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reporting on progress and challenges mine clearance related activities and seventeen States Parties - **Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Iraq, Mauritania, Mozambique, Peru, Somalia, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reporting on progress and challenges in victim assistance related activities during the 19-21 June 2023 Intersessional Meetings.
132. In accordance with **Action #9**, twelve States Parties – **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Nigeria, Serbia, Thailand, Türkiye, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – highlighted that they maintain a national information management system with updated information on the status of implementation.
133. In accordance with **Action #10**, as of 31 August 2023, 116 States Parties have no outstanding contributions in 2023 or have paid their assessed contributions for the 21MSP by 31 August 2023. As of 31 August 2023, according to the UN Financial Dashboard, forty-eight States Parties have outstanding contributions. In some cases States Parties have indicated that their payments are forthcoming and in other cases States did send in their payment but due to a small difference in the amount paid and the amount owed the State appears to have outstanding contributions. Additionally, in other cases the State may have an overpayment but has not indicated that they wish that the overpayment covers the balance of the outstanding amount and therefore appears to have an outstanding contribution.
134. In line with **Action #10**, as of 1 September 2023, thirteen States Parties – **Australia, Belgium, Canada, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Peru, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand and the Netherlands**, – have contributed to the Convention’s Implementation Support Unit in 2023. Additionally, six States Parties – **Austria, Czech Republic, Spain, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden, Switzerland** – have indicated that they will contribute to the ISU in 2023.