

## PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

### COMMITTEE ON ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION (Colombia, France (Chair), Iraq, and Sweden)

#### Intersessional Meetings 19 – 21 June 2023

#### PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 5 BY NIGERIA

##### I. Progress in implementation (OAP Action #8, #20, #22)

1. Nigeria reported that in 2022 the National Humanitarian Mine Action Committee was inaugurated with the mandate to coordinate and advise the Federal Government of Nigeria on all matters related to Mine Action.
2. The Committee recalled that Nigeria, in its 2021 extension request indicated to be affected by anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature and welcomes Nigeria's efforts to apply all provisions and obligations under the Convention to such contamination (Action #21).
3. The Committee observed that the information provided by Nigeria on progress in implementation allowed for some comparability with that provided in its 2021 extension request. The Committee observed that Nigeria had reported by providing quality information on progress and challenges in implementing the Convention, employing the guide to reporting (Action #8).
4. Action #22 of the Oslo Action Plan (OAP) requests States to report in a manner consistent with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) by providing information on progress in accordance with the land release methodology employed, (cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey, or cleared through clearance) and disaggregated by type of contamination.

##### II. Clarity regarding remaining challenge (OAP Action #18, #22)

5. The Committee observed that Nigeria provided some clarity<sup>1</sup> concerning its remaining challenge (Action #18). Nigeria reported the presence of mined areas in four States, Borno, Adamawa, Yobe, and Imo States. (Action #22).
6. Action #22 of the OAP requests States to report in a manner consistent with IMAS by providing information on the remaining challenges, disaggregating by 'suspected hazardous areas' and 'confirmed hazardous areas' and their relative size, as well as by type of contamination. The Committee observed that Nigeria was in the process of implementing survey and clearance activities and encouraged Nigeria to report on its remaining challenge in a manner consistent with the IMAS by providing information disaggregated by suspected hazardous areas and confirmed hazardous areas.

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<sup>1</sup> "Some clarity" has been used when a State Party has provided a summary table listing some information related to the number of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in each region / province / district within the State.

7. Action #18 of the OAP requests States that have not yet done so will identify the precise perimeter of mined areas, to the extent possible, and establish evidence based, accurate baselines of contamination based on information collected from all relevant sources, no later than by the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties in 2021. The Committee observed that Nigeria was still in the process of identifying the precise perimeter of mined areas and would welcome updated information from Nigeria on these efforts.
8. Action #18 of the OAP requests States to report on having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men. The Committee observed that Nigeria reported on its efforts to ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered and inform all areas of Convention implementation and mine action programmes, including the establishment of a Gender office within the National Humanitarian Mine Action Committee (NHMAC) with 50% of the staff being women, with provision of online courses on Gender and Mine Action.

### **III. National plans for clearance and survey (OAP Actions #1, #2, #3, #6, #19, #20, #26)**

9. The Committee recalled that Nigeria's extension request submitted in 2021 contained a national work plan to; i) Establish a National Mine Action Centre (NMAC) to address the threat (2021 and 2022), ii) Conduct a study visit to mine action programme (2021 and 2022), iii) Develop National Mine Action Standard (2021 and 2022), iv) Strengthen the coordination of delivery of EORE (2021-2025), v) Continue information collection efforts on the threat posed by anti-personnel mines, and vi) Develop a national mine action strategy and a work plan for implementation (2021 and 2022). The Committee observed that Nigeria had a national humanitarian mine action strategy in place for the period 2023-2028 (Action #2, Action #19).
10. Action #20 of the OAP requests States to annually update their national work plans based on new evidenced and report on adjusted milestones. The Committee observed that while Nigeria had in place a work plan, Nigeria was not yet in a position to report annual adjusted milestones and on how priorities have been established. The Committee also observed that Nigeria in its Mine Action Strategy indicated that specific objectives related to the institutional framework aim at establishing the Nigerian NMAC as an official entity responsible for managing the programme by the end of 2023, and that the Mine Action response will work with other sectors, including with the Education Sector and Child Protection sub-sector.
11. Nigeria reported on its efforts to make annual national financial contributions towards implementation, highlighting that due to the NHMAC being established after the 2023 budget was passed a limited amount of money was allocated to the NHMAC with which it convened several stakeholder meetings for the drafting of Nigeria's National Humanitarian Mine Action Strategy 2023-2028 and that it is expected that further financing for the activities of the NHMAC will be captured in the 2024 budget (Action #1).
12. Nigeria reported on its efforts to integrate Convention implementation activities into national development plans, including the Northeast Stabilization and Development Master Plan (NESDMP) and in the development, poverty reduction and humanitarian response plans for the North Eastern states affected by Boko Haram/IS insurgency. The Committee observed that Nigeria, in its Mine Action strategy indicated that Mine Action was aligned with the Protection Sector Strategy and the Humanitarian Response Plan's strategic objectives (Action #1, Action #6).

13. Nigeria reported on its efforts to ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered, including the recruitment of a gender officer, and that gender and diversity are mainstreamed in all mine action interventions and activities (Action #3).

14. Nigeria reported on its efforts to develop a sustainable national capacity to address previously unknown mined areas, including on its efforts to establish the NHMAC and its National Humanitarian Mine Action Strategy (2023-2028) which includes specific objectives to build a sustainable human and organizational national mine action capacity at the NMAC that will allow for the accurate definition, formulation, management, and monitoring of all future Mine Action in Nigeria (Action #26).

#### **IV. Efficient and expedient implementation (OAP Actions #5, #9, #27)**

15. Nigeria reported on its efforts to keep national mine action standards (NMAS) up to date, including drafting NMAS on Risk Education and Victim Assistance, in accordance with the latest IMAS (Action #5).

16. Nigeria reported on its efforts to establish and maintain an information management system, including training of staff and discussions with international partners to raise national capacity and ensure national ownership and sustainability (Action #9).

17. Nigeria reported on its efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of survey and clearance, including continued efforts to strengthen the capacity to manage and implement mine action through international exchange visits (Action #27).

#### **V. Actions in accordance with plans in extension requests and decisions on them**

18. In considering Nigeria's 2021 extension request, the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties (19MSP) requested Nigeria to submit updated information on several matters. The Committee welcomes the information provided by Nigeria on:

- Progress made relative to the commitments contained in Nigeria's work plan, including progress in the establishment of a National Mine Action Centre, development of National Mine Action Standards, strengthening coordination of delivery of Explosive Ordnance Risk Education, information collection efforts and the development of a National Mine Action Strategy and associated work plan;
- Updates on Nigeria's efforts to establish a national information management system and its data collection efforts to ensure that Nigeria maintains accurate and up-to-date data on the status of implementation;
- Updates on efforts to strengthen coordination amongst partners in Nigeria, including by consideration to the establishment of a national mine action platform to ensure regular dialogue;
- Updates regarding the implementation of mine risk education and reduction efforts in affected communities, including information on the methodologies used, priorities for implementation, the challenges faced and the results achieved, with information disaggregated by gender and age;

- Information on how implementation efforts take into consideration the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities;
- Updates regarding resource mobilization efforts including resources made available by the Government of Nigeria, including through the empowerment and provision to State entities of the required human, financial and material capacity to carry out its Article 5 commitments, and external financing received to support implementation efforts and the effects of the funding level on the implementation of the work plan, and;
- Changes in the security situation and how these changes positively or negatively affect implementation.

19. The Committee would welcome updated information from Nigeria on the following decisions of the 19MSP:

- Progress made in survey and clearance activities presented in a manner consistent with IMAS, and progress in accordance with the land release methodology employed, (i.e., cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey, or cleared through clearance);
- Update on how additional clarity obtained changes Nigeria's assessment of the remaining implementation challenge, providing information on the remaining challenges, disaggregating by 'suspected hazardous areas' and 'confirmed hazardous areas' and their relative size, as well as by the type of contamination, and;
- Adjusted milestones, including information on the number of mined areas and total area to be addressed annually and how priorities have been established.

20. The Committee recalled that in considering Nigeria's 2021 extension request, the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties (19MSP) requested Nigeria to submit to the States Parties by 30 April 2023 an updated detailed work plan for the remaining period covered by the extension. The meeting noted that this work plan should contain an updated list of all areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines, to the extent possible, annual costed projections of which areas will be addressed by which organisations during the remaining period covered by the request, and a detailed, costed and multi-year plan for context-specific mine risk education and reduction in affected communities indicating how priorities have been established. The Meeting further noted that this work plan should be developed in an inclusive manner taking into consideration gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities. The Committee observed that Nigeria had acted on the decisions of the 19MSP by submitting an updated workplan on 25 May 2023.

## **VI. Mine risk education and reduction (OAP Actions #28-32)**

20. Action #32 of the OAP requests States to report on mine risk education and other risk reduction programmes in Article 7 reports (MRE/R), including the methodologies used, the challenges faced and the results achieved, with information disaggregated by gender and age. The Committee observed that, while Nigeria reported on the development of a national mine action standard on MRE/R, and that Nigeria in its National Mine Action Strategy indicated a number of different communication and educational techniques and materials presently in use in the area of risk education, including: i) posters, ii) radio, iii) theatre, iv) leaflets, v) audio tapes, vi) photographs,

and, vii) games, Nigeria had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on the methodologies used and challenges faced and would welcome further information in this regard.

21. Nigeria reported on its efforts to integrate mine risk education with wider efforts including the coordinated delivery of risk education through the NHMAC to all mine action stakeholders and through the North East Development Commission. Nigeria also reported that MRE/R was aligned with the Protection Sector Strategy and the Humanitarian Response Plan's strategic objectives (Action #28).
22. Action #29 of the OAP requests States to provide context-specific mine risk education and reduction programmes, (MRE/R) for all affected populations and groups at risk. To ensure if such programmes were developed on the basis of a needs assessment that they are tailored to the threat encountered by the population, and are sensitive to gender, age, disability and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account. The Committee observed that while Nigeria reported on the importance of making risk education to be systematised, culturally sensitive, and locally relevant in terms of materials used and messages broadcasted and that both of these efforts are designed to raise public awareness and change behaviour in all communities at risk, Nigeria had not provided information in its Article 7 report that such programmes were developed on the basis of a needs assessment, and are tailored to the threat encountered by the population, and would welcome further information in this regard.
23. Action #30 of the OAP requests States to Prioritise people most at risk by linking mine risk education and reduction programmes and messages directly to an analysis of available casualty and contamination data, an understanding of the affected population's behaviour, risk pattern and coping mechanisms, and, wherever possible, anticipated population movements. The Committee observed that Nigeria had not provided updated information on the implementation of Action #30 and would welcome information in this regard.
24. Nigeria reported on its efforts to build national capacity to deliver mine risk education and reduction programmes with the ability to adapt to changing needs and contexts, including the delivery of such programmes to affected communities in the case that previously unknown mined areas are discovered, including the delivery of MRE/R by non-governmental organization and international non-governmental organisations and the North East Development Commission which trained 360 EORE Community Liaison offices in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe States using a local Mine Action Organisation, MAKESAFE humanitarian Safety Services. (Action #31).

## **VII. Challenges in implementation (OAP Action #8)**

25. The Committee observed that Nigeria provided quality information on challenges in implementation, including technical and operational challenges, including a lack of national capacity, lack of knowledge of the precise size of contaminated areas, and that the NHMAC was established after the 2023 budget was passed and that the Committee is in need of support in cash, kind and technical expertise e.g. to set up NMAC, office space, office furniture, vehicles, demining equipment, prosthetics, and capacity building.

**The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker**  
**Article 5 Implementation**  
**Nigeria**  
**CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS**

| Actions | Indicators  | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 28 July) |
|---------|---|------|------|------|------|------|--|
| #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  |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| #2      | % mine-affected States Parties that report having evidence-based, costed and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place   |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| #3      | % affected States Parties whose national work plans and strategies integrate gender and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account   |      |      |      |      |      |  |
|         | # women in States Parties' delegations attending Convention meetings  |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| #5      | % States Parties that have updated their national standards to address new challenges and ensure the employment of best practices, taking into consideration the latest IMAS  |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| #6      | # States Parties that report having included mine action related activities within their humanitarian response plans, peacebuilding, development or human rights plans, where relevant  |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| #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   |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| #9      | % States Parties that report having a sustainable national information management system in place   |      |      |      |      |      |  |

**SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OF MINED AREAS**

| Actions | Indicators  | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 28 July)  |
|---------|---|------|------|------|------|------|---|
| #18     | % affected States Parties that have established an accurate and evidence-based contamination baseline no later than the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties in 2021 (and by each year thereafter if not all affected States Parties have done so by 19MSP) |      |      |      |      |      |   |
|         | % affected States Parties who report having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men  |      |      |      |      |      | The Committee would welcome information on Nigeria's efforts on having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men.  |
| #19     | % affected States Parties presenting work plans for the implementation of Article 5 by the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties (and MSPs thereafter and by each year thereafter if not all affected States Parties have done so by 18MSP)                  |      |      |      |      |      |   |
| #20     | # affected States Parties that have reported annual updates and adjusted milestones to their national work plans in their 30 April transparency reports   |      |      |      |      |      |   |
|         | # States Parties that have fulfilled their obligations under Article 5  |      |      |      |      |      |   |
| #21     | # States Parties that apply the provisions of the Convention to anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature (for the purpose of this indicator: survey, clear and report)  |      |      |      |      |      |   |
| #22     | % of affected States Parties reporting on the remaining challenge and progress made in accordance with IMAS   |      |      |      |      |      | The Committee would welcome information on Nigeria's efforts to report on its remaining challenge in a manner consistent with the IMAS by providing information disaggregated by suspected hazardous areas and confirmed hazardous areas and would welcome additional information from Nigeria in this regard |
|         | % of affected States Parties providing survey and clearance data in Article 5 extension requests and Article 7 reports that disaggregates by type of contamination  |      |      |      |      |      |   |
| #23     | % extension requests that include detailed, costed and multi-year work plans for the extension period   |      |      |      |      |      |   |
|         | % extension requests that are submitted in accordance with the process established by the States Parties  |      |      |      |      |      |   |
| #24     | % extension requests that include appropriate plans for risk education and reduction activities   |      |      |      |      |      |   |

| #25                                      | % States Parties that have completed their Article 5 obligations and that submit voluntary declarations of completion  |      |      |      |      |      |   |
|--|--|------|------|------|------|------|---|
| #26                                      | % affected States Parties that include provisions for addressing previously unknown mined areas in their national strategies and/or completion plans   |      |      |      |      |      |   |
|  | % affected States Parties that report having put in place sustainable national capacities to address the discovery of previously unknown mined areas   |      |      |      |      |      |   |
|  | % States Parties that discover previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas, that apply the decision of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties   |      |      |      |      |      |   |
| #27                                      | # States Parties that report promoting research, application and sharing of innovative technological means   |      |      |      |      |      |   |
| <b>MINE RISK EDUCATION AND REDUCTION</b> |  |      |      |      |      |      |   |
| Actions                                  | Indicators   | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 28 July)  |
| #28                                      | % affected States Parties that report having included mine risk education and reduction programmes in their humanitarian response and protection plans and/or development plans, as well as in their mine action plans, where relevant |      |      |      |      |      |   |
| #29                                      | % affected States Parties that report having mine risk education and reduction programmes for all affected populations in place  |      |      |      |      |      | The Committee would welcome information on Nigeria's efforts to provide context-specific mine risk education and reduction programmes, (MRE/R) for all affected populations and groups at risk.   |
|  | % States Parties that report carrying out mine risk education and reduction activities that collect, analyse and report data disaggregated by gender, age, disability and other diverse needs  |      |      |      |      |      | The Committee would welcome information on Nigeria's efforts to ensure if such programmes were developed on the basis of a needs assessment that they are tailored to the threat encountered by the population, and are sensitive to gender, age, disability and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account. |
| #30                                      | # States Parties that report having established an evidence-based priority-setting mechanism for mine risk education and reduction programmes  |      |      |      |      |      | The Committee would welcome information on Nigeria's efforts to prioritise people most at risk by linking mine risk education and reduction programmes and messages directly to an analysis of available casualty and contamination data, an understanding of the affected population's behaviour, risk   |



|            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|            |  |  |  |  |  | pattern and coping mechanisms, and, wherever possible, anticipated population movements. |
| <b>#31</b> | # States Parties that provide risk education and reduction programmes to affected communities in the case that previously unknown mined areas are discovered |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>#32</b> | # States Parties reporting on their mine risk education and other risk reduction programmes and results  |  |  |  |  |  |

