



REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

**INTERVENTION BY MOZAMBIQUE
ON THE OCCASION OF THE 5TH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF
THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE,
STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-
PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION, SIEM
REAP, CAMBODIA, 24-29 NOVEMBER 2024**

Item 6: Renewing the Political Commitment to the Convention

By Mrs. Laurinda Banze, Disarmament Expert, PM in Geneva

Mr President,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with great honour that Mozambique addresses this 5th Review Conference of the Anti-Personnel Mine Convention.

Allow me first of all, to join the speakers who preceded me in greeting the Kingdom of Cambodia for the warm hospitality and traditional hospitality that has been dedicated to us since our arrival in this beautiful city of Siem Reap.

Our thanks are extended to the Implementation Support Unit of the convention and to all those who contributed to enabling more countries like Mozambique to be represented at this Conference.

Mozambique aligns itself with the intervention made on behalf of the African Group.

Mr President,

Today, Mozambique is a concrete example of the positive impact of the effective implementation of the Ottawa Convention. We declared ourselves free of anti-personnel mines in 2015, after decades of hard work and an unwavering commitment to the cause of humanitarian disarmament.

This achievement was possible thanks to national leadership, collaboration with international partners, the resilience of affected communities and, above all, the spirit of solidarity that unites the States Parties to this Convention.

Our commitment to this cause did not end with the eradication of mines in our territory, as the devastating impact of anti-personnel mines continues to be a reality, with a high number of victims in need of support.

In this context, Mozambique reaffirms its solidarity with the nations still affected by this scourge and reiterates its willingness to share experiences and expertise in mine clearance, reintegration of survivors and reconstruction of communities.

Mr President,

The Anti-Personnel Mine Convention has been a milestone in international humanitarian law and disarmament. However, despite the progress made, we still face significant challenges:

On universalisation, it is imperative that we continue to put pressure on states that have not yet acceded to the Convention to join our efforts to eradicate anti-personnel mines, and in this way contribute to global peace and security.

On Victims Assistance, we call on States Parties to strengthen financial and technical support for victim assistance programmes, which are an essential component of this Convention.

In the field of innovation, the proliferation of improvised explosive devices and other forms of weaponry calls for a coordinated response, adapting and strengthening the mechanisms of the Convention to address these new realities.

Mr President,

Mozambique's experience demonstrates that with political will, international co-operation and the involvement of local communities, the goal of a world free of anti-personnel mines is achievable. In this regard, we urge all States Parties to redouble their efforts to fulfil the Convention's targets.

Before concluding, I would like to express Mozambique's strong support for the approval of the Siem Reap Action Plan 2025-2029, which provides a road-map toward a mine free world.

We also congratulate Zambia for their election to preside over the 23rd meeting of States Parties in 2026.

Finally, we renew our gratitude to all the partners who have stood by Mozambique and other affected countries in this common cause. Together, we can build a safer and more humane world for future generations.

Thank you, for your attention.