## Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties to the 14 August 2024 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

Second Preparatory Meeting Geneva, 18 September 2024

Item 4(d) of the provisional agenda

Draft elements for the Siem Reap Angkor political declaration on a mine-free world.

## Draft Siem Reap-Angkor Declaration on a Mine-Free World 2024\*, \*\*

## A Renewed Commitment for a Safer Future

- 1. In the heart of Siem Reap, Cambodia, we, the 164 States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production, and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines, reaffirm our unwavering commitment to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, that kill or main hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians and especially children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons, and have other severe consequences years after emplacement.
- 2. We stand on a foundation of tremendous progress since the Convention's inception and thank all stakeholders for their unwavering commitment. We also recognize the persistent challenges that lie ahead and renew our dedication to meeting the Convention's obligations fully and effectively, driven by the vision of a mine-free world.
- 3. While recognizing that the Convention has achieved near-universal acceptance with 164 States Parties, our work is far from complete. We commit to intensifying our coordinated diplomatic outreach efforts to achieve this goal, ensuring no State remains outside this global norm. We recognize the critical role of universal adherence to the Convention in achieving a mine-free world and call upon all remaining States to join the Convention immediately.
- 4. We remain deeply concerned about the continued presence and use of anti-personnel mines, including those of an improvised nature, by states and armed non-state actors. The rise in casualties caused by anti-personnel mines is a stark reminder of the ongoing relevance and urgency of our mission. We therefore pledge to uphold and strengthen the norm against the use of anti-personnel mines, jointly condemning any violations by any actor, anywhere.
- 5. We recognize the importance of preventing new casualties, including in areas of difficult access. In this regard, we commit to delivering effective, context-specific mine risk education and other risk reduction measures to all groups at risk to provide them with the tools to protect themselves until the threat of anti- personnel mines can be addressed.
- 6. Recalling that the rights and needs of survivors, their families and communities are at the core of our efforts, we commit to providing comprehensive support through a human rights-based approach, strengthening national coordination mechanisms, and strengthening our cooperation and assistance efforts. Our victim assistance programs will be inclusive, non-

<sup>\*</sup> The present document is being issued without formal editing.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The present document was submitted to the conference services for processing after the deadline so as to include the most recent information.

discriminatory, and integrated into broader national policies related to health, disability, education, employment, and development. Guided by human rights principles, we will ensure the full and effective participation an inclusion of mine victim in the social, cultural, economic and political life of their communities.

- 7. We will intensify our implementation efforts to meet our outstanding obligations including by increase the speed of survey and clearance and ensuring the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines. Our resolve is steadfast: we will ensure the full and timely implementation of all the Convention's provisions, leaving no room for complacency. We further reaffirm our commitment to robust compliance and accountability.
- 8. Recognizing that the success of the Convention relies on a unique partnership between affected States, donor States, international organizations and civil society, we will continue to foster and strengthen these partnerships, leveraging each other's strengths and resources to achieve our shared goals.
- 9. Given the critical role of national ownership and international cooperation and assistance in the success of the Convention, we commit to strengthening national ownership and to work together to forge partnerships between mine affected States Parties, States Parties in a position to provide assistance, international organization as well as with civil society. We will commit the necessary national and international resources in support of mine affected States Parties and explore new mechanisms for fostering cooperation and assistance and jointly ensure that no state is left behind in their implementation efforts.
- 10. We recognize the importance of synergies with other international frameworks such as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the work of the World Health Organization on rehabilitation and assistive technology, the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSC) 1325, on women, peace, and security, amongst other, and will strive to take full advantage of these synergies to strengthen the Convention's implementation.
- 11. We recognize that effective implementation of the Convention directly contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. We will continue to develop synergies between the Convention and the sustainable development agenda, ensuring the greatest benefits for affected communities. In doing so, we recognize the importance of integrating considerations for the different needs and vulnerabilities of women, men, boys, and girls, including mine victims, in mine affected communities. Additionally, we recognize that climate change and environmental degradation can exacerbate challenges in affected communities and commit to adopting environmentally sound practices and take climate considerations into account in the prioritization and implementation of the Convention.
- 12. As we look towards a future free from the threat of anti-personnel mines, we are guided by the humanitarian imperative that led to the Convention's creation. We reaffirm our commitment to implementation in the Convention's traditional spirit of transparency and cooperation with the urgency that our work requires. We will spare no effort to achieve a mine-free world and appeal to all States and stakeholders to join us in this endeavour. We aspire to meet these goals to the fullest extent possible by the Sixth Review Conference in 2029.
- 13. The Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan 2025-2029 will be an essential tool towards the fulfilment of this ambition and encourage all States and parties involved to commit to its full implementation.

Adopted in Siem Reap, Cambodia, November 2024.