



Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Intersessional meetings | 18-20 June 2024 World Meteorological Organisation Building, Geneva

Guidance for Participants

The 2024 Intersessional Meetings' programme is divided into thematic matters. Delegations are encouraged to prepare presentations on these thematic matters using the questions provided in this document and place an emphasis on providing only new information since the Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties (21MSP).

Given the volume of work that must be dealt with during this year's 2.5 day Intersessional Meetings, unless otherwise indicated **delegations providing updates on progress in implementation of their commitments under the Convention will be asked to limit their interventions to 5 minutes. Other States Parties and organisations that wish to take the floor following the interventions from these States Parties are asked to limit their interventions to 3 minutes.** Delegations are requested to transmit the additional information that cannot be covered within the time allocated for presentations in a written document that can be made available to all participants through the Convention's website by the ISU, preferably in advance of the intersessional meetings if possible.

Finally, in preparing presentations, delegations are **encouraged to reflect on gender and diversity matters and, where possible, include age- and sex-disaggregated data.**

Agenda item 2: Matters related to the mandate of the Committee on Victim Assistance

During this agenda item the Committee will present its preliminary observations on the implementation by States Parties of their victim assistance commitments under the *Oslo Action Plan* (Actions #33 to #41) and invite relevant States Parties¹ to offer updates.

Following the presentation by the Committee and relevant States Parties, other States Parties and organisations will be invited to take the floor to address matters related to the updated information presented by delegations.

Questions for States Parties implementing Victim Assistance commitments under the Convention

1. What progress has been made to increase the well-being and guarantee the rights of mine victims since the last update provided at the 21MSP in line with the Oslo Action Plan?
2. What are the main challenges that remain to be addressed and what are the obstacles to overcoming these challenges?

3. What, if relevant, are the main priorities for assistance in the implementation of your State's Victim Assistance obligations?

Agenda item 3: Matters related to the mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation

During this agenda item the Committee will present its preliminary observations on the implementation of Article 5 and on the implementation of the mine clearance and mine risk education and reduction actions of the *Oslo Action Plan* (Actions #18 to #32) and invite relevant States Parties² to offer updates in accordance with the categories of States Parties stipulated below.

States Parties requesting an extension of their Article 5 deadline in 2024³ will be invited to offer an overview of their extension request (presentations should be 5-8 minutes and additional guidance will be provided by the Committee) followed by an invitation for other States Parties and organisations to take the floor (3 minutes) to address matters related to that State Party's request for extension. This process will continue alphabetically with each requesting State Party.

Questions to consider in the presentations by States Parties that have requested or have indicated that they will request extensions of their Article 5 deadlines (5-8 minutes)

1. What are the circumstances that impede the ability of your State to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control?
2. What work remains in order for your State to be in compliance with its obligation to have destroyed or ensured the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control?
3. What is the amount of time requested and what is the rationale for this request?
4. What is your State's plan to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control and for the delivery of context-specific mine risk education and reduction?
5. What, if any, are the main challenges faced and what are the priorities for external assistance in the fulfilment of your State's Article 5 obligations up to and during the requested extension period?

States Parties submitting updated work plans⁴ will be invited to present their progress in implementation (presentations should be 5 minutes. Additional guidance will be provided by the Committee) followed by an invitation to other States Parties and organisations to take the floor (3 minutes) to address matters related to the updated information presented by delegations.

Questions for consideration in the presentations by States Parties submitting updated work plans (5 minutes)

1. What progress has been made in the implementation of your State's national demining programme since the last update provided to the States Parties at the 21MSP?

³ Afghanistan, Chad, Cyprus, Eritrea, Guinea-Bissau, Niger, Oman, Peru, and Serbia

⁴ Cambodia, Croatia, Ecuador, South Sudan, Thailand, Ukraine, and Yemen

2. What work remains in order for your State to be in compliance with its Article 5 obligations?
3. What is your State's plan for implementation of Article 5, including for the delivery of context-specific mine risk education and reduction?
4. Is your State on track to fulfilling its mine clearance obligations under Article 5 by its deadline?
5. What, if any, are the main challenges faced and what are your priorities for external assistance to support your State's fulfilment of its Article 5 obligations?

Other States Parties implementing Article 5 obligations will be invited to present their progress in implementation (presentations should be 3 minutes) followed by an invitation to other States Parties and organisations to take the floor (3 minutes) to address matters related to the updated information presented by delegations.

Questions for consideration in the presentations by all other States Parties in the process of implementing Article 5 (5 minutes)

1. What progress has been made in the implementation of your State's national demining programme since the last update provided to the States Parties at the 21MSP?
2. What work remains in order for your State to be in compliance with its Article 5 obligations?
3. What is your State's plan for the implementation of Article 5, including for the delivery of context-specific mine risk education and reduction?
4. Is your State on track to fulfilling its mine clearance obligations under Article 5 by its deadline?
5. What, if any, are the main challenges faced and what are your priorities for external assistance to support your State's fulfilment of its Article 5 obligations?

Lastly, other States Parties and organisations with general remarks on Article 5 implementation will be given the floor (3 minutes).

Agenda item 4: Matters related to the mandate of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance

During this agenda item the Committee will present its preliminary observations on the Committee's efforts to promote cooperation and assistance and facilitate the fostering of partnerships for the implementation of Article 6 and implementation of the relevant actions of the *Oslo Action Plan* (Actions #42 to #47).

Following the presentation by the Committee, States Parties and organisations will be invited to take the floor to address matters related to the information presented by delegations.

Questions for consideration by States Parties seeking assistance

1. What efforts has your State carried out to encourage support to flow to the national mine action program including by carrying out actions that demonstrate high-level national ownership as defined by the States Parties, including by ensuring:

- i. high level interest and leadership in fulfilling obligations and addressing challenge;
- ii. State entity empowered and provided with the human, financial and material capacity to carry out its responsibilities;
- iii. a clear understanding of the size, location and quality of the challenge or a commitment to promptly acquire such an understanding;
- iv. a realistic but not unambitious plan to address the challenge as soon as possible; and
- v. a regular significant national financial commitment by the affected State itself.

2. What challenges does your State face in this regard and what have been the results of these efforts?

Questions for consideration by States Parties in a position to provide assistance

1. How has your State developed and promoted bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including South-South cooperation by sharing its national experience and good practices, resources, technology and expertise to implement the Convention?
2. How has your State effectively used all possible avenues to support States Parties seeking assistance to complete implementation of their mine clearance obligations and to support mine risk education, stockpile destruction, adoption of appropriate national implementation measures, as well as meeting victims' needs and guaranteeing their rights?
3. What efforts has your State carried out to coordinate its efforts with other States in a position to provide assistance?

Agenda item 5: Matters related to the mandate of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance

During this agenda item the Committee will present its preliminary observations and invite relevant States Parties⁵ to offer updates, in accordance with the *Oslo Action Plan* (Actions #48 and #50), on the situation in their State, on ongoing investigations and on measures in place to prevent and suppress activities prohibited by the Convention.

Following the presentation by the Committee and relevant States Parties, other States Parties and organisations will be invited to take the floor to address matters related to the updated information presented by delegations.

Questions for consideration by States Parties in which allegations of use of anti-personnel mines have been reported

1. Can your State provide updated information on measures taken to address the allegations of use of anti-personnel mines in your State?
2. If it has not yet done so, what progress has your State made to take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures to prevent and suppress any activity that is prohibited under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control?

Questions for consideration by all States Parties

⁵ Sudan, Ukraine and Yemen.

If it has not yet done so, what progress has your State made to take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures to prevent and suppress any activity that is prohibited under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control?

Agenda item 6: Matters related to the mandate of the President

Universalization

During this agenda item the President will present his activities on universalization. The President will then invite interested States not party participating in the meeting to take the floor to provide updates on steps they are taking to accede to the Convention.

The President will then give the floor to other States Parties and organisations to offer updates on any other matter concerning universalization in accordance with the *Oslo Action Plan* (Actions #11-12).

Questions for consideration by States not party

1. Has your State taken any practical steps, such as formalised commitments not to use, produce or transfer anti-personnel, or to destroy stockpiles?
2. What is your position on ratifying or acceding to the Convention in the near term, in the medium term and in the long term?
3. What is the primary reason for your State not acceding to the Convention?

Questions for consideration by all States Parties

1. What actions has your State taken since the 21MSP to promote formal adherence to the Convention by States not party?
2. What actions has your State taken to condemn violation of the Convention's norms? (Oslo Action Plan Action #12)

Stockpile destruction and retained anti-personnel mines

During this agenda item, the President will present his activities on matters related to stockpile destruction under Article 4 and on matters related to numbers of anti-personnel mines retained for training and other permitted purposes under Article 3. Relevant States Parties⁶ will be invited to offer updates in accordance with the Oslo Action Plan (Actions #13 - 17).

The President will then give the floor to other States Parties and organisations to address matters related to the updated information presented by delegations.

Questions for consideration by States Parties which are in the process of implementing Article 4

1. What is your State's plan to intensify efforts to ensure completion of remaining / ongoing Article 4 obligations as soon as possible?
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2. What progress has been achieved by your State in the implementation of Article 4 since the Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties?
3. Are there any issues of concern or challenges faced by your State's in its efforts to achieve the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines?
4. What is your expected completion date?

Questions for consideration by States Parties which have reported anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3

1. Since the 21MSP, has your State "reviewed the number of retained anti-personnel mines to ensure that they constitute the minimum number absolutely necessary for permitted purposes"?
2. Has your State destroyed all those anti-personnel mines exceeding that number and where appropriate explored available alternatives to using live anti-personnel mines for training and research activities?
3. What are the purposes for which retained mines have been used and what have been the results of this use, including for example:
 - a. What mine detection, mine clearance or destruction techniques have been / are being developed?
 - b. What mine detection, clearance or destruction training has been carried out?
 - c. What number of personnel has been trained and to what standard?
4. Can your State explain any increase or decrease in the number of retained anti-personnel mines?