

Dear Chair, dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen!

First of all I would like to thank the ISU and Committee on Victim Assistance for continuous support and organizing VA experts meeting! Today we are here to understand current status of implementation of Actions 30 and 31 in our countries and to identify challenges and the ways to address challenges in implementation of Siem Reap – Angkor Action Plan (SRAAP). We are here to share our experiences and learn best practices from each other.

With regards to Action 30: Tajikistan National Mine Action Centre (TNMAC) which have been established on 3-rd January 2014 by the Government decree as a Government institution. So, TNMAC is the government entity **which has mandate** of coordination and management of all mine action activities in Tajikistan, including victim assistance activities. Victim Assistance pillar in TNMAC is presented by Victim Assistance expert. TNMAC VA is responsible to oversee the integration of victim assistance into broader national policies, plans, budgets and legal frameworks to ensure its sustainability, including upon Article 5 completion.

While the authority and mandate is clear, and we have a specific, measurable, realistic, and time-bound Action Plan contained in our current “National Strategy of the RT on humanitarian Mine Action for 2021-2030”, but we are lacking resources (both from Government and Donors) to carry out our work as it is highlighted in the SRAAP.

There is multi-sectoral approach (Action 31) in Tajikistan to ensure that the needs and rights of mine victims are effectively addressed. In order to achieve multi-sectoral approach, **Victim Assistance Technical Working Group** was established, which includes representatives of the relevant ministries: Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population (MoHSPP), Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Labor, Local Authorities, OSCE, WHO, ICRC, Tajikistan Red Crescent Society, FSD, NPA and public organizations of persons with disabilities and landmine survivors. TNMAC organizes Victim Assistance Technical Working Group at quarterly basis in the regional centers and Dushanbe.

Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population (MoHSPP) and its structures, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of labour and Local Authorities and Local Authorities are actively collaborating and participate in the coordination meetings.

Usually TNMAC send official letters to relevant ministries and organizations one month ahead inviting them to TWG meetings.

In 2025, five Victim Assistance Technical Working Group meetings organized in the regional centers (120 participants) Bokhtar, Khujand, Rasht, Khorog and Dushanbe. We are planning to organize more three VA TWGs meetings in the regional centers and Dushanbe.

From 3 till 17 August 2025, Tajikistan National Mine Action Center with financial support of the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe organized two-weeks summer rehabilitation camp for victims of landmines and explosive remnants of war in the recreation zone of the National Bank of Tajikistan situated Guliston city, Sugd region.

In the result 40 landmine/ERW survivors and family members of survivors accompanying them (31 men and 9 women) from remote mine-affected districts received rest and

rehabilitation, improved general health and enhanced their knowledges and social-integration skills in Guliston city, Sugd oblast.

From the very beginning of Victim Assistance Programme, Tajikistan has aligned all its victim assistance efforts with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD). Since its establishment, TNMAC is one of the active advocates for Tajikistan signing and further ratification of the UN CRPD. After Tajikistan President signing the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2018, TNMAC Director was a part of the Governmental Working Group to develop the road-map to prepare the Republic of Tajikistan for the ratification and implementation of the CRPD.

When road-map was approved by the Government of RT, another Inter-ministerial Working Group for disability issues in general was created in 2021 by the Government Decree with mandate to monitor the progress of the implementation of the “National Action Plan on the preparation of the Republic of Tajikistan for the ratification and implementation of the CRPD”. TNMAC VA Officer is a member of this WG and participates in the meetings, where the progress made by the Republic of Tajikistan towards ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was reported by different ministries and agencies.

The main elements of our States’s plan are followings: strengthening the technical capacity of the NOC, Conducting trainings for health workers on the provision of first aid, social and psychological assistance to mine victims, Providing mine survivors with prosthetics and Assistive Devices, medical and rehabilitation services, social and psychological assistance and Ensuring access for mines/UXO victims to legal, socio-economic assistance (grants, loans) and promoting their integration into the society.

Our State is doing it utmost to allocate sufficient national budget for Disability and Victim Assistance, but, **there is limited national budget allocated specifically for victim assistance activities and for coordinating efforts to integrate victim assistance into broader frameworks.** Tajikistan still **faces challenges in financial and technical support in order to fulfill Victim Assistance obligations contained in the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan (SRAAP), including for Action 30 and 31.**

Thank you very much for your attention!