### **Activities and Priorities for Implementation 2025-2026**

#### COMMITTEE ON THE ENHANCEMENT OF COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

## Cameroon, Denmark (Chair), Switzerland, Türkiye (Chair)

### I. Activities of the Committee

- 1. The Committee first met on 27 January 2025 to discuss its work plan for 2025.
- 2. Early in the year, in the Committee's efforts to select a Chair among the States Parties serving the second year of their two-year terms, Denmark and Türkiye agreed to split the duties of Chair with Denmark serving from January until the end of the Intersessional Meetings and Türkiye then serving as Chair until the end of the Twenty-Second Meeting of the States Parties (22MSP).
- 3. In implementing its mandate to appoint a focal point among its members to provide advice on gender mainstreaming and ensure that the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities are taken into account in the implementation of the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan 2025-2029 (SRAAP), Cameroon was selected as gender focal point.
- 4. On 26 March 2025, the Committee, together with the President and representatives of the Coordinating Committee participated in a workshop encouraging adherence of States Parties to their obligation to submit Article 7 reports by 30 April 2025 and encouraging States Parties to include detailed information on the challenges, their requirements for assistance as well as their cooperation and assistance efforts in line with the Guide to reporting and the commitments of the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan. The Committee used the workshop as an opportunity to further promote the online reporting tool and to ensure the integration of matters related to cooperation and assistance and gender and diversity in the reports of States Parties.
- 5. On 11 June 2025, the Committee met with the Chair of the Mine Action Support Group (MASG), the United Kingdom, to discuss potential opportunities for engagement and to share information on key areas of work of the Committee including the individualised approach and the national mine action platforms. The Committee and the Chair of the MASG recognised the importance of meeting on a regular basis.
- 6. The Committee implemented its new mandate, as adopted by the Fifth Review Conference, to support the Committee on Article 5 in their analysis of submitted requests for extension as concerns matters related to expressed requirements for assistance (e.g. budgets, resource mobilisation plans). In doing so the Committee provided feedback on requests to the Committee on Article 5 Implementation to support their engagement with requesting States Parties and their analysis efforts. Furthermore, during the 17-20 June 2025 Intersessional Meetings, the Committee joined the Article 5 Committees during engagement with requesting States.
- 7. In the lead up to the 17-20 June 2025 Intersessional Meetings, the Committee worked on the development of preliminary observations¹ based on information submitted by States Parties in their Article 7 transparency report. The methodology for the preparation of preliminary observations was based on the Committee's mandate to review relevant information provided by the States Parties on implementation of cooperation and assistance commitments contained in the SRAAP, as well as on matters regarding gender and the diverse needs of affected communities. The Committee presented preliminary observations to the Intersessional Meetings based on the reports submitted by:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/meetings/intersessional-meetings/2025-im/documents-1

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Mali, Mauritania, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, Yemen, and Zimbabwe.

- 8. Following engagement with the Committee at the Fifth Review Conference, the Committee supported Guinea-Bissau and South Sudan in holding an Individualized Approach (IA) meeting on the margins of the 17 20 June 2025 Intersessional Meetings. The meetings offered an opportunity for Guinea-Bissau and South Sudan to share the status and challenges of their mine action programmes with stakeholders. A final report of these meetings was drafted and will be placed on their respective pages on the Convention's website as follows:
  - a. https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/membership/south-sudan
  - b. <a href="https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/membership/guinea-bissau">https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/membership/guinea-bissau</a>
- 9. During the 17 20 June 2025 Intersessional Meetings, the Committee organised a thematic panel entitled "Financing mine action: challenges and new opportunities", which was moderated by Denmark, as Chair of the Committee. The panel took stock of the global mine action funding situation and progress made in exploring new opportunities, including voluntary trust funds, innovative financial mechanisms and context specific funding modalities. Experts speaking on this subject included representatives from the Landmine Monitor, the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority, Symbio Impact Ltd, and the United Kingdom.
- 10. Following an expression of interest from the delegation of Sudan to host an Individualized Approach meeting on the margins of the Twenty-Second Meeting of the States Parties (22MSP) the Committee invited Sudan to meet on 27 August 2025 to discuss the timeline for preparations.
- 11.The Committee sought feedback from Nigeria and Türkiye following the visit from government representatives of Nigeria to Türkiye (the Turkish Mine Action Centre). The objective of the exchange visit was for Nigeria to gain insight into the experience of Türkiye in establishing and operating its mine action structure. On 26 May 2025, Türkiye provided input which will support the Committee in strengthening the working methods of the Cooperation and Assistance Fund.

# **II.** Priorities of the Committee

- 12. The Committee will continue to encourage and support States Parties in taking advantage of the Individualised Approach during the 2026 Intersessional Meetings as well as on the margins of the Twenty-Third Meeting of the States Parties (23MSP).
- 13. In light of the low number of States Parties reporting on efforts to establish national mine action platforms, the Committee will continue to strengthen the implementation of its mandate to encourage and support the establishment of national mine action platforms to strengthen partnerships and coordination between all stakeholders, including States Parties in a position to provide assistance.
- 14. The Committee will strengthen the Cooperation and Assistance Fund to support the exchange of best practices and facilitate cooperation by ensuring that the lessons learned from the pilot project are incorporated into the working methods of the fund. The Committee will aim to support an additional exchange visit in 2026.

- 15. The Committee will continue to encourage States Parties to include in their Article 7 reports the challenges and requirements of assistance in support of their implementation efforts as well as their cooperation and assistance efforts, including reporting on their efforts to promote innovative financing and resource mobilisation efforts. The Committee will also continue encouraging States Parties to report on matter related to the consideration for matters related to gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities in their cooperation and assistance efforts.
- 16. The Committee will continue its engagement with the Mine Action Support Group over the course of 2026 and find avenues to strengthen cooperation following the engagement with the Chair of the MASG in 2025.
- 17. The Committee will continue to support the Committee on Article 5 Implementation throughout the extension request process, in accordance with its mandate, and to coordinate its work with the Convention's other Committees and stakeholders.
- 18. The Committee will take advantage of the European Union Council Decision support to ensure that matters related to Cooperation and Assistance are included in national and regional dialogues on mine clearance and victim assistance and in furthering its mandate to promote cooperation and assistance under the Convention, including by organising or encouraging the organisation of multilateral, regional or national dialogues on cooperation and assistance, in Geneva or elsewhere.