



Anti -Personnel Mine Ban Convention  
Intersessional Meeting  
Geneva, 17 – 20 June 2025

Statement of the Federal Republic of Somalia on Victim Assistance  
Presented by Dahir Abdirahman Abdulle (Director General of SEMA)

Victim Assistance is one of the five pillars of mine action,

The Government has prioritized to establish a comprehensive information on the number and situation of persons with disability in Somalia. The National Disability Agency (NDA), which was established in 2021 with a mandate to implement the CRPD in Somalia, spearheaded a study to understand the perceptions and priorities of persons with disabilities across a range of sectors, launched the findings in December 2023.

SEMA has consolidated the national data including data related to victims and accidents to have the full picture of the reported victims recorded in the national database.

SEMA completed and launched the national action plan for victim and disability assistance on 4 April Mine Action Day in 2022, in Mogadishu, with the presence of civil society, DPOs, and mine action agencies. The plan is yet to receive financial resources to support the implementation of the action plan.

As this year is the first year of implementation of the SRAAP, the Ministry of Internal Security, SEMA and UNMAS are planning to draft anew action plan for victim assistance as the previous Action Plan will expire soon.

SEMA is also closely working with victims and disability assistance organizations to coordinate the provision of available services.

This year 2025 a local Somali organization called Jubaland Mine Action Network (JUMAN) is implementing a dedicated Victim Assistance (VA) initiative to support individuals and communities affected by explosive ordnance (EO) in conflict-impacted areas of Jubaland, particularly Kismayo and Qoryooley. This survivor-centered intervention aligns with our national mine action plan on victim assistance, national and international mine action standards and complements risk education and clearance efforts.

JUMAN's VA project focuses on enhancing the physical, psychological, and socio-economic well-being of EO survivors and persons with disabilities through a set of

integrated, community-based activities. Key components include the identification and registration of victims; provision and facilitation of medical and psychosocial support; delivery of assistive devices and rehabilitation services; and targeted livelihood support to promote self-reliance. Survivors are referred to specialized service providers using established local networks and coordinated pathways.

The current project targets **500 persons with disabilities** for support through the **provision of all types of assistive devices**, ensuring that individuals with mobility, visual, hearing, or other impairments receive the equipment necessary to improve their daily functioning and independence.

The project also emphasizes disability inclusion and survivor advocacy by raising awareness within communities and working closely with local authorities, such as SEMA, and relevant health and protection actors. Public outreach activities promote understanding of victim rights and available services, while capacity-building efforts aim to strengthen local service delivery systems and community-based protection structures.

To date, JUMAN has successfully identified and supported dozens of EO survivors, improved access to essential services in high-risk areas, and fostered inclusive community engagement on victim assistance. Despite challenges such as limited medical infrastructure, stigma, and insecurity, the project has contributed significantly to the resilience and reintegration of affected individuals.

Through this work, JUMAN continues to play a critical role in advancing the humanitarian imperative of mine action by ensuring that **no victim is left behind**.

## **Disability Inclusion**

SEMA ensures all programs are inclusive, fostering equal opportunities and access for persons with disabilities through: Disability-sensitive program design and implementation. Partnerships with specialized organizations to deliver tailored support services. Advocacy efforts to eliminate stigma and promote empowerment.

## **Call to Action**

We invite donors, partners, and stakeholders to join us in expanding our life-saving initiatives across Somalia. Together, we can empower vulnerable communities, enhance resilience, and ensure sustainable development for future generations.

Thank you for your attention !