

Intersessional meetings

Gender Focal Point

17 June 2025

**2. Matters related to the mandate of the Committee on Victim
Assistance
(Gender Focal Point)**

Thank you Pambarry for leading the Committee and for providing me with the opportunity to draw on some of our observations in relation to gender equality in victim assistance.

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

The Committee on Victim Assistance underscores that effective and sustainable victim assistance requires deliberate attention to gender and diverse needs and experiences of victims. The Siem Reap–Angkor Action Plan (SRAAP), particularly Actions 30 and 31, reinforces the need for inclusive, rights-based approaches that reflect the different needs, rights, experiences, challenges and barriers faced by women, men, girls, and boys, including persons with disabilities and those in rural and remote areas.

The Committee welcomes the increasing number of States Parties that reported efforts to disaggregate data by age and gender, and those that adopted inclusive planning and coordination frameworks.

19 States Parties provided information on casualties disaggregated data by gender and age, and 18 States Parties reported their engagements with survivors or their representative organisations in developing national plans or policies.

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Victim assistance programmes that fail to consider gender and the diverse experiences of members of mine affected communities, risk creating inequities among mine and other EO victims and being ineffective and inefficient.

The Committee commends efforts by at least 14 States Parties that reported on efforts towards lifting physical, social, and cultural barriers. The Committee encourages greater efforts in this regard and invites the States Parties to consider intersectionality in victim assistance, as often conflict, poverty, and disability intersect and lead to more challenges and exclusions.

As we enter the first implementation year of the SRAAP allow me to draw your attention to SRAAP's commitments on gender and diversity, outlined by Actions 1, 5, 31, 32 and 37, which are related to our victim assistance efforts. These actions and their associated indicators provide us with tangible responsibilities that can make significant differences when fully implemented.

Accordingly, we kindly encourage all the States Parties that implement victim assistance and the international community to:

- Collect and use gender-, age-, and disability-disaggregated data to inform inclusive policies.
- Ensure participation of survivors, especially girls and women and marginalised groups such as those in remote areas, in all stages of planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting.
- Align victim assistance with the Women Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, CRPD and the SDGs.
- Invest more resources and foster partnerships that prioritise and strengthen inclusive assistance.

We look forward to continue engaging with your delegations.

Thank you.