

**Agenda Item 4: Matters related to the mandate of the Committee on Article 5
Implementation – UK Comments from the committee:**

Thank you chair,

The United Kingdom is honoured to work as the Gender Focal Point on the Article 5 Committee. We hope many of you in the room today will also sign up to the Joint Statement on Women Peace and Security.

As established in the Oslo Action Plan, the mainstreaming of gender and diversity remains critical to the effective delivery and success of the Treaty, and we are responsible for ensuring states approach gender dimensions effectively when they are considering an extension request. While states retain clearance obligations, the inclusion of a gendered approach ensures that plans support and touch on all areas of society and leave no one behind.

We have welcomed the collaboration of the Gender & Diversity Working Group which brought together Gender Focal Points across the APMBC and CCM in March, sharing best practice and ways of working.

The Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan 2025 – 2029 emphasises the need to integrate gender and diversity into survey, clearance, and mine risk education and reduction. To achieve this, it was agreed that national work plans, prioritisation criteria, extension requests, and mine risk education programmes must consider gender, age, disability and diverse needs throughout.

In 2025, the Committee observed that we are making progress in this regard, for example:

- 20 States Parties reported programmes including on priorities, methodologies used, challenges faced, and results achieved, included information disaggregated by gender, age, disability, and other relevant factors;
- 18 States Parties reported national work plans and strategies integrating gender, age, disability considerations, and the diverse needs and experiences of people (Action 5).

It is only through the work of communities, such as those on the ground in mine-affected states and also ours here today, that tangible change can happen. For that reason, we thank the States Parties that continue to champion these values through their Mine Action plans and we implore everyone here today to keep gender and diversity norms at the forefront of the work we do.

Thank you to everyone involved in pushing forward this crucial agenda. With that, I will pass back to the chair.