

Mine Risk Education Intervention

Mine Risk Education

Thank you very much. It is an honour for Algeria to take up this position as focal point for mine risk education and reduction. As you may know , Algeria is an affected country and while we declared completion of our Article 5 obligations we are now focusing on the necessary support to provide to our partners in their sustainable efforts to deliver mine risk education and reduction to communities.

The importance of mine risk education and reduction efforts cannot be overstated and it should be context – specific with appropriate consideration of the type of contamination and the diverse needs of the people in mine affected communities.

We were grateful to hear from many of you in your reports about your efforts in this regard. As the chair indicated our hope this year is to work with all of you to gather as much information as possible to the implementation by States on the actions of the Siem-Reap Angkor Action Plan and on challenges faced.

As you will appreciate from our general observations, we welcomed that most States Parties reported on progress in implementation of MRE. We appreciate your reporting efforts.

We also thank those States Parties that reported on other action of the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan including on their efforts to :

- integrate mine risk education and reduction programmes within wider national plans (Action 26).
- reduce the affected population's risk-taking behaviour and to increase knowledge and awareness (Action 26).
- establish an evidence-based priority-setting mechanism (Action 27).

- To put in place sustainable national capacities to deliver mine risk education and reduction programmes (Action 28).

As the Chair alluded to earlier, and as Focal Point for mine risk education, I will be following up with your delegations in the lead up to the Twenty-Second Meeting of the States Parties to gather more information on your implementation efforts.

We also want to ensure that the establishment of an agenda item on mine risk education will enhance our discussions and exchange of best practices on mine risk education. Sharing the methodologies you employ, the challenges you face and the progress you have made can be profoundly helpful to further our efforts. In this regard, I thank you in advance for your active participation.

Thank you once again to all of you and we will certainly stay in touch with your delegations.

Back to you chair.