

Statement by

the Republic of Slovenia

at the

2025 APMBC Intersessional Meetings, Item 5. Cooperation and Assistance

Geneva, 19 June 2025

Mr/Madam Chair,

Thank you for giving me the floor. While I align with the EU statement, I would like to make a few additional remarks on behalf of my country.

International cooperation and assistance have always been vital to the successful implementation of the Convention. Since the early days of the Convention, Slovenia has taken Article 6 seriously by providing sustained support to affected countries in the form of care and rehabilitation programmes, the social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine awareness campaigns, and assistance for mine clearance and related activities.

The Slovenian government will continue to support the Convention and mine-affected countries through political, financial and in-kind support. This support includes demining, as well as medical and psychosocial rehabilitation for victims and facilitating their reintegration into society. A gender- and age-sensitive approach to planning and implementing mine action programmes is of significant importance.

Through its comprehensive approach to mine action, Slovenia has established and nurtured excellent cooperation with countries such as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Armenia, Moldova and Ukraine, where assistance is targeted at the most vulnerable group: children.

Although Slovenia was spared the dangers of antipersonnel mines, we have witnessed the devastating consequences of these weapons in our immediate neighbourhood. After three decades of cooperation, solidarity, and knowledge-sharing, the region is finally recovering from the tragic impact. In particular, we were encouraged by the level of regional cooperation and progress achieved in August last year, when Ljubljana hosted a regional conference on victim assistance.

Considering the rising number of victims and needs elsewhere, Slovenia intends to remain engaged, increasing its financial contributions to mine action from €1.9 million last year to €2.2 million this year and €2.7 million in 2026.

Before concluding, I would like to reaffirm Slovenia's unwavering commitment to the ultimate goal of achieving a mine-free world. This aspiration could be within the international community's reach if it were universally endorsed.

Thank you.