

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 5 BY SUDAN

COMMITTEE ON ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION (Thailand (Chair), United Kingdom, Algeria, Norway)

Intersessional Meetings 17 – 20 June 2025

I. Progress in implementation (Action 8, 20, 22)

1. Sudan reported that in 2024, it addressed 10 mined areas containing a variety of explosive ordnance types, releasing 6 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs), and 4 suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) measuring 3,403,120 square metres.
2. Sudan reported that during the reporting period access to affected States was improved, leading to many roads/routes having been verified or cleared and facilitating the delivery of humanitarian assistance and communities' movements. Sudan further reported that during the reporting period, clearance operations in Khartoum were initiated by nationally-led teams, supported by two implementing partners (Danish Church Aid and JASMAR (national organisation)) which resulted in clearance of several hazardous areas in Khartoum state specifically in the city of Omdurman.
3. Sudan reported that in total 7,793 items of unexploded ordnance in Khartoum.
4. The Committee observed that the information provided by Sudan on progress in implementation allowed for some comparability with that provided in its 2022 extension request. The Committee observed that progress in implementation was less than that projected in Sudan's 2022 extension request. The Committee encouraged Sudan to report information on progress in accordance with land release methodology employed in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and disaggregated by type of contamination. The Committee welcomed Sudan employing the Guide to Reporting in the drafting of its annual Article 7 report.

II. Remaining challenge (Action 17, 20, 22)

5. The Committee observed that Sudan provided some clarity¹ concerning its remaining challenge. Sudan reported a remaining challenge of 108 mined areas measuring 13,332,253 square metres, including 66 confirmed hazardous areas (CHA) measuring 3,369,164 square metres and 42 suspected hazardous areas (SHA) measuring 9,963,089 square metres, including 19 mined areas measuring 1,124,649 square metres in Blue Nile, 86 mined areas measuring 12,185,613 square metres in South Kordofan, and 3 mined areas measuring 21,991 square metres in West Kordofan.
6. Sudan reported that at the end of 2021 an Article 5 challenge of 13,275,840 square metres, and that during 2022 one a mined area measuring 77,912 square metres was identified as part of on-going survey and clearance activities, including; 34,914 square metres of task, (CHA IMSMA-DA-2689). Sudan further reported that 5 CHA measuring 21,029 square meters and 1 SHA measuring 470 square meters.

¹ Some clarity" has been used when a State Party has provided: a summary table listing some information related to the number of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in each region / province / district within the State.

7. The Committee welcomed Sudan providing updated information and clarity concerning the remaining challenges in a manner consistent with IMAS and disaggregated by SHAs and CHAs in line with Action 22.
8. Action 17 of the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan (SRAAP) requests States Parties that have not yet done so, to identify SHAs and CHAs to the extent possible and establish as soon as possible, accurate baselines of contamination using data and evidence-based information collected in an inclusive manner including in areas affected by improvised anti-personnel mines in line with IMAS. The Committee observed that Sudan was still in the process of identifying the precise perimeter of mined areas and would welcome updated information from Sudan on these efforts.
9. Sudan reported on its efforts to identify accurate baselines of contamination in an inclusive manner including that gender and diversity issues are considered in the forming of working teams and that Sudan gives consideration to the following groups: Ethnic group/Tribe/Clan, Religion, Language, Disabilities, Level of education, Status in the conflict (e.g. supportive of government), Social status, Wealth and economic activity, Refugees and IDPs status/Legal status.

III. National plans for clearance and survey (Action 1-3, 18-21)

10. The Committee recalled that Sudan's 2022 extension request contained information on its efforts to a review and develop an evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national strategy for the period (2022-2027). The Committee would welcome updated information on Sudan's efforts in this regard.
11. Sudan reported having an evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national work plan in place for the period of 2022-2027, including updates based on new evidence. Sudan reported that planned activities could not be fully implemented during the period of 2019-2023 and recommended changes in the proposed plan for the period up to 2027. Sudan projected that it would cancel, through non-technical survey (NTS), 32 SHA measuring 3,407,928 square metres in 2024-2025, 10 SHA measuring 3,565,709 square metres in 2025-2026, and 10 SHA measuring 1,301,054 square metres in 2026-2027, and to release through technical survey (TS) and clearance, 13 CHA measuring 4,165,245 square metres in 2024-2025, 47 CHA measuring 4,358,088 square metres in 2025-2026, and 19 CHA measuring 1,590,177 square metres in 2026-2027.
12. Sudan reported on its efforts to ensure that survey and clearance are prioritised based on clear nationally-driven humanitarian and sustainable development criteria with consideration for gender, age, disability, the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities including mine survivors, and the environment. Sudan reported that priority setting is included in its new National Mine Action Standards (NMAS) to systematically manage its prioritization and planning of all mine action activities, specifically National Standard 03.01 (planning and prioritization) that identifies as priorities, among others; high impacted communities, communities with recent accidents, accidents data analysis, communities with IDPs settlements, returnees' settlements and communities with recorded anti-personnel mines, and explosive remnants of war contamination, and communities located close to contaminated areas.
13. Sudan reported on its efforts to demonstrate high levels of national ownership, partnership and coordination, by integrating Convention implementation activities into national development plans, strategies and budgets, as appropriate, including that the National Mine Action Centre (NMAC) serves as the authority to coordinate, supervise and follow up Sudan's mine action activities. Sudan also reported that priority setting for land release activities at the national level includes considering requests for the removal of contamination from the humanitarian and development sectors, with the approval of government authorities and agreement of the affected

communities. The Committee would welcome updated information from Sudan on its efforts in this regard.

14. Sudan reported on its efforts to establish sustainable national capacities able to coordinate, regulate, and manage the national mine action programme, including Sudan's national mine action strategy and work plan including provisions for a sustainable national capacity to address previously unknown mined areas following completion. Sudan also reported that building reliable and sustainable local capacity remains a key focus of the NMAC, and that NMAC staff participated in international training courses and workshops as part of this objective.

IV. Efficient implementation, innovative approaches, methods, and technological means (Action 4, 9, 25)

15. Sudan reported on its efforts to keep NMAS up to date in accordance with IMAS to ensure efficient, effective, and safe operations, including recent updates to NMAS on land release include requirements for the following, among others; information gathering throughout the land release process including NTS, TS and clearance, community involvement, including women, men, children from all ethnicities within the communities and prioritisation based on the impact of EO on affected people.

16. Sudan reported on its efforts to establish and maintain a national, centrally managed information management system containing accurate and up-to-date data on the status of implementation, including that the Sudan Mine Action Programme's information management system is in phase of adopting IMSMA Core and ArcGIS to improve its information management system, and that this new IMSMA system will facilitate an online data collection and will improve survey, and clearance, data. Sudan also reported that in addition to in-country training, 10 staff from NMAC and mine action organizations participated in IMSMA forms workshop. The Committee observed that the information management programme suffered extensive and critical data loss pertaining to the year 2023 due to the eruption of the April 15 War and the deliberate sabotage of the main office, and that efforts are underway to recover lost data.

17. Sudan reported on efforts to improve the effectiveness of survey and clearance, including national laws, strategies and standards, as well as having in place a quality management system, and the adoption of IMSMA Core to facilitate online data collection to improve survey, and clearance. The Committee would welcome updated information from Sudan on its efforts in this regard.

v. Actions in accordance with plans in extension requests and decisions on them (Action 23)

18. In considering Sudan's request, the Twentieth Meeting of the States Parties (20MSP) had requested Sudan to submit updated information on an annual basis on several matters. The Committee welcomed the information provided in follow-up to the decision of the 20MSP.

19. The Committee would welcome updated information from Sudan on the following decisions of the Twentieth Meeting of the States Parties:

- Progress in the development and approval of a costed and time-bound national strategy through inclusive consultations with women, girls boys and men and further updates on the timeline and process for the approval of its national strategy in this regard;
- Resource mobilization efforts, external financing received and resource made available by the Government of Sudan to support implementation efforts;

- Updates regarding the structure of Sudan's mine action program, including existing and new organisational and institutional capacities to respond to residual contamination following completion; and
- Changes in the security situation and the potential positive or negative impact on survey and clearance activities.

VI. Mine risk education and reduction (Action 18,23, 26-29)

20. The Committee recalled that Sudan's 2022 extension request submitted to the 20MSP, including an evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national work plan for mine risk education. The Committee would welcome updated information on Sudan's efforts to update its national work plan for mine risk education.
21. Sudan reported on its efforts to implement mine risk education programmes, including information on how priorities were established, including, amongst others; communities with known accidents or victims in the last two years, communities with recent accidents or based on accidents data analysis, and communities with Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) settlements. Sudan also reported on the methodologies used, including, amongst others; direct presentation, peer to peer, storytelling, and focus discussion group. Sudan further reported on challenges faced, including precarious security situation, and the accessibility and remoteness of affected areas. Sudan reported on its efforts to implement mine risk education programmes, including updated information on results achieved and included information disaggregated by gender, age, disability, and other diverse needs and experiences of affected communities.
22. The Committee recalled that Sudan in its 2022 extension request indicated its efforts on the, including that a risk education assessment would be implemented with consultation with relevant stakeholders including the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Sudan Red Crescent Society, mine action organizations, UNICEF and affected communities. The Committee would welcome updated information on Sudan's efforts to implement the assessment.
23. Sudan reported on its efforts to integrate mine risk education and risk reduction programmes within wider plans for humanitarian response and protection, including integration of risk education with non-technical survey and clearance teams, and that efforts were made to integrate risk education in civil social organizations including the Sudanese Red Crescent Society and other humanitarian and Protection activities. The Committee would welcome updated information on Sudan's efforts to integrate risk education into humanitarian response and protection plans.
24. Sudan reported on its efforts to provide context-specific mine risk education and reduction programmes that are tailored to the threat encountered by the population and prioritise people most at risk by ensuring that these programmes are developed on an analysis of available casualty and contamination data, climate and environmental risk, an understanding of the affected population's behaviour, risk pattern and coping mechanisms, and, wherever possible, anticipated population movements, including that risk education / survey teams conduct community mapping, identify at-risk groups train community volunteers for creating sustainable capacity within those communities. Sudan reported that risk education teams conduct pre-risk education assessments, community mapping interviews with women, men and children and diverse groups of people within the affected communities to understand the type and extend of explosive hazards, the needs and threat, and identify the at-risk people and deliver risk education more effectively.
25. Sudan further reports that a needs and capacities assessment for risk education is taken to identify, analyse, and prioritize the local mine and explosive remnants of war risks, to assess the capacities

and vulnerabilities of the contaminated areas, and to evaluate the options for conducting risk education. The needs assessment provides necessary information to inform decisions on objectives, scope, and form of the resulting project. It also provides a baseline reference for future monitoring and evaluation. Sudan further reported that reasonable measures were taken to ensure effective and targeted risk education to affected populations (local communities, internally displaced persons and/or refugees) to reduce the incidence of mine-related injuries or deaths, according to the danger resulted from the assessment.

26. Sudan reported on its efforts to establish national capacities to deliver mine risk education, including efforts of implementing partners in coordination and cooperation with the NMAC to implement 12 risk education workshops for 129 Sudan Red Crescent workers, and community volunteers in Northern, River Nile, Kassala, Alqadaref, Red Sea states. Sudan also reported that risk education training was also provided to community volunteers, teachers, elders and social workers in order to create sustainable capacity within affected communities to continue risk education programme delivery and promote safe behaviour. Sudan further reported that 129 Red Crescent workers trained community volunteers from at-risk communities in community-based risk education messages, and that trained volunteers are equipped with required skills, tool kits and knowledge to disseminate the risk education messages among their communities in all affected states.

VII. Best Practices in implementation (Action 5, 6, 18)

27. Sudan reported on its efforts to ensure that gender, age, disability considerations, and the diverse needs and experiences of women, girls, boys and men in mine-affected communities including mine survivors, are considered and inform all areas of Convention implementation, including that gender and diversity issues are considered in the forming of the working teams, with the aim not to marginalise any group, and that Sudan gives consideration to the following factors: ethnic group/tribe/clan, religion, language, disabilities, level of education, status in the conflict (e.g. supportive of government), social status, wealth and economic activity, refugees and IDPs status/legal status.
28. Sudan reported on its efforts to develop evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national work plans for survey, clearance, and mine risk education as soon as possible and in an inclusive manner.
29. The Committee recalled that Sudan in its 2022 extension request indicated its efforts to ensure that climate and environmental considerations inform all relevant areas of Convention implementation, including the approval of National Standard 7.04, (Environment Management Policy and Environment Impact Assessment), that was developed based on International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), and that standing operating Procedures (SOPs) are developed for specific circumstance and are followed by mine action organisations to preserve and protect the environment. The Committee would welcome updated information from Sudan on its efforts in this regard.

VIII. International Cooperation and Assistance (Action 40-42, 45)

30. Sudan reported on its efforts to do their utmost to commit the resources needed to meet their Convention obligations as soon as possible and explore all possible funding sources including conventional and alternative/innovative sources and mechanisms of funding such as front-loading models, including contributions from the Government of Sudan to the NMAC of US \$1,425,000, covering staff salaries and operational costs. Sudan also reported that despite the challenges facing

Sudan's mine action programme is the political commitment of the Government towards mine action in general and comprehensive peace and the support.

31. Sudan reported on its efforts to disseminate information on challenges and requirements for assistance including through annual Article 7 reports.
32. Sudan reported on its efforts to strengthen national level coordination including between NMAC, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and partners, as well as cooperation with Government ministries on Health, Social Welfare and Education.
33. Sudan reported on its efforts to explore opportunities for international, regional, and bilateral cooperation including building partnerships between international and national non-government organisations and the Sudanese Red Crescent Society, working in survey, clearance and mine risk education.

IX. Challenges in implementation (Action 29, 41)

34. Sudan reported on its efforts to report on challenges and requirements for assistance, including the outbreak of the April 15, 2023 war significantly increased contamination levels in the capital, Khartoum, and other states affected by recent conflict, in addition to areas that were impacted prior to the war. Sudan also reported on the following challenges, among others; shallowness of financing directed to the mine action program compared to the magnitude of mines' problem given the significant needs of the sector and a large financing gap despite local and external financing, precarious security situation in some states, disadvantageous climatic conditions substantially limit the delivery of services, and accessibility and the geographical remoteness of some mine/ERW affected areas.

The Siem Reap Angkor Action Plan country reporting tracker							
Article 5 Implementation							
Sudan							
CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS							
Actions	Indicators	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Additional information requested from the Committee
#1	Percentage of affected States Parties that report integrating Convention implementation activities into: national development plans and budgets, strategies and budgets including on poverty reduction, humanitarian response, on health and mental health, gender equality inclusion of persons with disabilities, peacebuilding, Human Rights, climate change adaptation plans, environmental protection and improvement, and/or disaster risk reduction.						The Committee would welcome further information on Sudan's efforts to report integrating Convention implementation activities into: national development plans and budgets.
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having strengthened partnerships and coordinated Convention implementation activities with relevant humanitarian, peacebuilding, climate, environmental, development, health, disability, and human rights sectors.						
#2	Percentage of affected States Parties reporting having sustainable national capacities in place able to coordinate, regulate, and manage the national mine action programme including survey, clearance, mine risk education, and victim assistance and undertake post completion activities, including management of residual risk.						
#3	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having reviewed and updated their national strategies and work plan based on new evidence.						
#4	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having up-to-date National Mine Action Standards in place in accordance with International Mine Action Standards.						
#5	Percentage of affected States Parties that report national work plans and strategies integrating gender, age, disability considerations, and the diverse needs and experiences of people in mine-affected communities including mine survivors.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report national work plans and strategies developed through inclusive consultation with stakeholders including survivors and representatives of mine-affected communities,						
#6	Percentage of affected States Parties that report integrating climate and environmental considerations into Convention implementation activities, including in their national strategies and work plans.						The Committee would welcome further information on Sudan's efforts to integrate climate and environmental considerations into Convention implementation activities, including in their national strategies and work plans.
#8	Percentage of States Parties that submit Article 7 reports by 30 April of each year.						
	Percentage of States Parties that prepare their Article 7 reports using the Guide to Reporting.						
#9	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having a national, centrally-managed information management system in place containing up-to-date information on implementation at the national level.						

SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OF MINED AREAS							
Actions	Indicators	2025	2026	2030	2028	2029	Additional information requested from the Committee
#17	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having established an accurate and evidence-based contamination baseline, including in areas affected by improvised anti-personnel mines in line with IMAS.						The Committee would welcome further information on Sudan's efforts to report having established an accurate and evidence-based contamination baseline, including in areas affected by improvised anti-personnel mines in line with IMAS.
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having established a baseline through inclusive consultations.						
#18	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having in place evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national work plans for survey and clearance.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report in their Article 7 reports updates to their national work plans, including adjusted milestones based on new evidence, including budgets for implementation, and requirements for assistance						
#19	Number of affected States Parties that report on the inclusion of humanitarian and sustainable development criteria in survey, clearance, planning, and prioritisation.						
	Number of affected States Parties that report on the consideration of inclusion of gender, age, disability, the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities including mine survivors, climate, and environment in survey and clearance planning and prioritisation.						
#20	Number of affected States Parties that apply the provisions of the Convention to anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature including in survey and clearance operations under Article 5.						
	Number of affected States Parties that apply the provisions of the Convention to anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature to reporting obligations under Article 7.						
#21	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having a national capacity in place to implement the Convention and address any previously unknown mined areas or newly mined areas discovered following completion.						
	Number of States Parties that following completion, report the discovery of previously unknown mined areas or newly mined areas.						
#22	Percentage of affected States Parties that report on their remaining challenge in a manner disaggregated by 'suspected hazardous areas' and 'confirmed hazardous areas' and their relative size.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report on progress made to address mined areas in accordance with the land release methodology employed (i.e. cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey, or cleared through clearance).						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report in a disaggregated manner by type of contamination.						
#23	Percentage of extension requests submitted that include detailed, evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and multi-year plans for survey and clearance.						
	Percentage of extension requests submitted that ensure consideration for gender, age, disability, the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities including mine survivors, as well as climate, and the environment.						
#24	Number of affected States Parties that declare completion of their Article 5 obligations.						

	Percentage of these States Parties that submit voluntary Declarations of Completion.						
#25	Percentage of affected States Parties that report on efforts to improve effectiveness and efficiency of survey and clearance.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report on research, analysis, and the adoption of innovative approaches, methods, and technological means to improve effectiveness and efficiency of survey and clearance.						The Committee would welcome further information on Sudan's efforts to report on research, analysis, and the adoption of innovative approaches, methods, and technological means to improve effectiveness and efficiency of survey and clearance.

MINE RISK EDUCATION AND REDUCTION							
Actions	Indicators	2025	2026	2031	2028	2029	Additional information requested from the Committee
#18	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having in place evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national work plans for mine risk education;						The Committee would welcome further information on Sudan's efforts to report having in place evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national work plans for mine risk education.
#23	Percentage of extension requests submitted that include detailed, evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and multi-year plans for risk education activities.						The Committee would welcome further information on Sudan's efforts to include detailed, evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and multi-year plans for risk education activities.
#26	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having integrated mine risk education and reduction programmes within wider plans for humanitarian response and protection, development, health, mental health, climate, the environment, education, and/or disaster risk reduction or other relevant plans; as well as within survey, clearance and victim assistance activities.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report on efforts to reduce the affected population's risk-taking behaviour and to increase knowledge and awareness.						
#31	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having established an evidence-based priority-setting mechanism for mine risk education and reduction programmes tailored to the threat encountered by the population and which prioritises people most at risk.						
#28	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having sustainable national capacities in place to deliver mine risk education and reduction programmes in case previously unknown mined areas or newly mined areas are discovered and/or in emergency settings.						
#29	Percentage of affected States Parties that report carrying out mine risk education and reduction programmes including information on how priorities are established, methodologies used (e.g. interpersonal, mass, or digital media), challenges faced, and results achieved and included information disaggregated by gender, age, disability, and other relevant factors.						

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE							
Actions	Indicators	2025	2026	2031	2028	2029	Additional information requested from the Committee

#40	Percentage of affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to the implementation of survey and clearance;					
	Percentage of States Parties that report on exploring all possible sources of funding, including conventional and alternative/innovative sources and mechanisms of funding or that report having innovative financial projects in place.					
#41	Percentage of affected States Parties that report on progress, challenges in implementation, and requirements for assistance.					
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having a resource mobilisation plan in place.					
	Percentage of affected States Parties that have taken advantage of the Individualised Approach.					
#42	Percentage of affected States Parties that report efforts to strengthen national coordination with national and international stakeholders and States Parties in a position to provide assistance.					
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having established a National Mine Action Platform.					The Committee would welcome further information from Sudan on its efforts to establish a national mine action platform.
#45	Number of States Parties that report sharing national experiences, best practices, and lessons learnt through international, regional, and bilateral cooperation.					
	Number of States Parties that report sharing scientific, methodological, and technological expertise to strengthen the Convention's implementation.					

