

Programme

for the Meetings

of the Standing Committees

25 - 29 May | 2009

Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction



INTERSESSIONAL WORK PROGRAMME 2008 | 2009

Calendar of the week of meetings of the Standing Committees | 25 - 29 May 2009

	MONDAY 25 MAY	TUESDAY 26 MAY	WEDNESDAY 27 MAY	THURSDAY 28 MAY	FRIDAY 29 MAY
10:00 13:00	> General Status and Operation of the Convention	> Stockpile Destruction > Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration	> Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies	> Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies	> Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration > General Status and Operation of the Convention
13:00 15:00	> Briefing on Jordan's ERW Management Training Programme	> Meeting of the Linking Mine Action and Development Contact Group	> Meeting of the Resource Utilisation Contact Group > Meeting of the Article 7 Contact Group	> Meeting of the Universalization Contact Group	> Meeting of the Mine Action Support Group (by invitation)
15:00 18:00	> Stockpile Destruction	> Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration	> Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies	> Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies	> First Preparatory Meeting in advance of the Second Review Conference
18:00 +			> Reception hosted by the Director of the GICHD		

Notes

- > In keeping with past practice, the programme for the week will be structured to include discussion items on numerous specific topics of interest to the States Parties. Participants, therefore, are encouraged to participate actively in discussions on these specific topics and to refrain from making statements of a general nature.
- > The principle of flexibility will be applied with respect to time allocations (e.g., if one Standing Committee meeting uses less than its allocated time the subsequent Standing Committee could immediately commence).
- > States Parties that are asked to provide updates on implementation are encouraged to take into account the questionnaires prepared by the Co-Chairs.

The information given in this document is correct as of April 14, 2009.

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OPENING OF THE WEEK OF STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

10:00 | Opening of the week of meetings

The week of meetings will be opened by the President of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties (9MSP), His Excellency Ambassador Jürg Streuli of Switzerland, and by the Director of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, Ambassador Stephan Husy.

Note: (a) Participants are encouraged to participate actively in discussions on specific topics and to refrain from making statements of a general nature. (b) The principle of flexibility will be applied with respect to time allocations (e.g., if one Standing Committee meeting uses less than its allocated time the subsequent Standing Committee meeting could immediately commence). (c) States Parties providing updates on implementation are encouraged to provide only new information.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION

10:15 | Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs

The Co-Chairs (Chile and Japan) have prepared a programme that covers four areas of work: (i) an overall assessment of the status of the pursuit of the Convention's core aims; (ii) discussions on matters of cross-cutting interest to all Standing Committees; (iii) ongoing consideration of the implementation of various articles of the Convention which have traditionally been discussed by this Standing Committee; and, (iv) updates on the work of various implementation mechanisms.

Overview of the general status of implementation: Update on the pursuit of the aims of the Nairobi Action Plan and the priorities contained in the Geneva Progress Report

The President of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties (9MSP) will review progress made to date in the pursuit of the 70 action points contained in the *Nairobi Action Plan 2005-2009* and the various priorities recorded in the *Geneva Progress Report*.

Overview of the general status of universalisation

The *Nairobi Action Plan* notes that during the period 2005 to 2009, universal adherence to the Convention "will remain an important object of cooperation among States Parties."¹ The *Geneva Progress Report* reemphasised this matter, stating that "all States Parties should direct specific efforts towards encouraging quick progress by those States not parties which have indicated that they could ratify or accede to the Convention in the near-term", that "all States Parties and those that share their aims should continue to increase universalisation efforts that place a priority on those States not parties that produce, use, transfer and maintain large stockpiles of anti-personnel mines, including those developing new kinds of anti-personnel mines."

¹ *Nairobi Action Plan*, paragraph 2.

The Coordinator of the Universalisation Contact Group (Canada) will provide an overview of steps taken since the 9MSP to promote universalisation. As well, the Co-Chairs hope that other relevant actors will take advantage of the opportunity to participate in the discussion on universalisation.

- Contact Group Coordinator's update.
- Opportunity for States not parties which have taken steps towards ratification of, or accession to, the Convention to provide updates or make announcements regarding the date when they intend to join the Convention.
- Opportunity for States Parties and organisations that have contributed to universalisation efforts to provide updates on their activities.

Article 7 | Transparency and the exchange of information

The *Nairobi Action Plan* urges the States Parties that have not yet done so to fulfil their obligation to provide initial transparency reports under Article 7 without further delay and calls upon all States Parties to fulfil their obligations to annually update Article 7 transparency reports and maximise reporting as a tool to assist in implementation.² With respect to this matter, the *Geneva Progress Report* emphasised that “those States Parties which are late in submitting initial transparency reports and those that did not provide updated information in 2008 covering the previous calendar year should submit their reports as a matter of urgency, making use if necessary of the available international assistance to this end.”

The Coordinator of the Article 7 Contact Group (Belgium) will provide an overview of efforts related to transparency reporting and others are invited to provide updates and share views.

- Contact Group Coordinator's update.
- Opportunity for States Parties and others to provide updates on the application of actions in the Nairobi Action Plan that concern transparency and the exchange of information as well as on work undertaken in the context of relevant priorities recorded in the Geneva Progress Report.

Article 3 | Updates on plans for and use of mines retained for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques

The *Nairobi Action Plan* notes that “transparency and the open exchange of information have been essential pillars on which the Convention's practices, procedures and tradition of partnership have been built,” and, that “the States Parties recognize that transparency and effective information exchange will be equally crucial to fulfilling their obligations during the period 2005-2009.”³ To this end, the States Parties agreed to a number of actions, including that “all States Parties will (...) in situations where States Parties have retained mines in accordance with the exceptions in Article 3, provide information on the plans requiring the retention of

² Nairobi Action Plan, Actions #51 and #52.

³ Nairobi Action Plan, paragraph 7.

mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques and report on the actual use of retained mines and the results of such use.”⁴

To assist States Parties in applying Action #54 of the *Nairobi Action Plan*, the States Parties at the 6MSP agreed to amend the Article 7 reporting format, thus creating a means for States Parties to share information in addition to what is minimally required on mines retained in accordance with Article 3.

To further support the application of Action #54, the Co-Chairs have distributed a series of questions to relevant States Parties to assist them in acting in accordance with Action #54 (Document 1).

- > Opportunity for those States Parties which have reported mines retained for the purposes permitted in Article 3 to share information on their plans requiring the retention of mines in accordance with Article 3, the actual use of these mines and the results of this use. (See Document 1)
- > Opportunity for those States Parties that have reported that they have not retained mines for the purposes permitted in Article 3 to share their experiences.
- > Opportunity for comments, questions and discussion.

Article 9 | The development and adoption of legislative, administrative and other measures

The *Nairobi Action Plan* notes that “primary responsibility for ensuring compliance with the Convention rests with each State Party. Article 9 of the Convention accordingly requires each party to take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress prohibited activities by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction and control.”⁵ To this end, it was agreed, inter alia, that the States Parties which have not yet done so will “develop and adopt legislative, administrative and other measures in accordance with Article 9 as soon as possible to fulfil their obligations under this Article thereby contributing to full compliance with the Convention and report annually on progress as required by Article 7.”⁶ In the *Geneva Progress Report*, it was noted that “67 States Parties have not yet reported having adopted legislation in the context of Article 9 obligations or that they consider existing laws to be sufficient.”

Also with respect to Article 9, the First Review Conference recorded that “in addition to reporting legal measures, some States Parties have reported other measures mentioned in Article 9 to prevent and suppress prohibited activities.” The First Review Conference further noted that it will be an ongoing challenge for most States Parties to ensure that such measures to prevent and suppress prohibited activities - in addition to legal measures - are taken and reported upon.”⁷

⁴ [Nairobi Action Plan](#), Action #54.

⁵ [Nairobi Action Plan](#), paragraph 8.

⁶ [Nairobi Action Plan](#), Action #59.

⁷ [Review of the Operation and Status of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Antipersonnel Mines and on Their Destruction: 1999-2004](#), paragraph 123. Part II of the Final Report of the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. Adopted 3 December 2004. UN document # APLC/CONF/2004/5.

The practical implementation of the various other provisions of the Convention
(time permitting)

The *Nairobi Action Plan* indicates that the States Parties will “exchange views and share their experiences in a cooperative and informal manner on the practical implementation of the various provisions of the Convention, including Articles 1, 2 and 3, to continue to promote effective and consistent application of these provisions.”⁸

- > Opportunity for updates and an exchange of views on the practical implementation of other provisions of the Convention.
 - > The practical implementation of Article 1.
 - > The practical implementation of Article 2.
 - > The practical implementation of Article 3.
 - > The practical implementation of measures preventing and suppressing prohibited activities and facilitating compliance.
 - > The practical implementation of other provisions of the Convention not otherwise covered by this or other Standing Committees.

13:00 | Meeting adjourns until Friday 29 May at (approximately) 11:00

STANDING COMMITTEE ON STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION

15:00 | Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs

In the 8MSP’s *Dead Sea Progress Report 2006-2007*, it was noted that while the number of States Parties that must fulfil Article 4 obligations was small, serious challenges remained. In the 9MSP’s *Geneva Progress Report 2007-2008*, it was recorded that these challenges are even more profound than initially anticipated and expressed at the 8MSP. In particular, it was noted that the failure by three States Parties, which together have almost eight million stockpiled anti-personnel mines, to comply with the obligations contained in Article 4 by their deadlines represents a matter of serious concern. It is the Co-Chairs’ (Italy and Zambia) hope that the meeting of the Standing Committee can be used to provide clarity on progress to overcome these and other challenges.

An overview of the status of stockpile destruction

- > Co-Chairs’ presentation on progress in implementing Article 4.
- > Views of the ICBL on the state of implementation.

⁸ Nairobi Action Plan, Action #55.

Updates from relevant States Parties on the status of implementation

The *Nairobi Action Plan* states that the States Parties that have not yet completed their anti-personnel mine stockpile destruction programmes will: establish the type, quantity and, if possible, lot numbers of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed, and report this information as required by Article 7; establish appropriate national and local capacities to meet their Article 4 obligations; strive to complete their destruction programmes if possible in advance of their four-year deadlines; and, make their problems, plans, progress and priorities for assistance known in a timely manner.⁹

It is the Co-Chairs' hope that relevant States Parties will use the opportunity presented by the Standing Committee meeting to provide updates in accordance with these recommendations and, as is suggested in the *Nairobi Action Plan*, to share information on their "problems, plans, progress and priorities for assistance."

- > Opportunity for updates by States Parties which, by the end of the 9MSP, had not yet complied with their Article 4 obligations by their respective deadlines.¹⁰ (See Document 2)
- > Opportunity for updates by those States Parties which have deadlines that have not yet occurred.¹¹ (See Document 2)
- > Opportunity for updates by States Parties that have recently completed destruction programmes.
- > Opportunity for comments and questions.

Addressing concerns about compliance with Article 4

At the 9MSP, with a view to giving due attention to cases of non-compliance with Article 4 and to preventing future instances of non-compliance, the States Parties warmly welcomed a proposal on ensuring the full implementation of Article 4 and agreed to encourage States Parties, as appropriate, to implement the recommendations contained therein. These recommendations included the following:

- > Non-compliant States Parties should act in a committed and transparent way, immediately communicating, preferably in a form of a note verbale addressed to all States Party, the reasons, which should be extraordinary, for failing to comply and providing a date and plan to ensure compliance as soon as possible, including an expected completion date. They should commit national resources to fulfill their obligations and, if relevant, actively pursue assistance.
- > States Parties in the process of implementing Article 4 should communicate to other States Parties, through annual transparency reports, at every meeting of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction and at every meeting of the States Parties, plans to implement Article 4, successively reporting increasing progress that is being made towards the fulfillment of Article 4 obligations.

The Co-Chairs are committed to follow-up on these important matters.

- > Discussion on addressing concerns about compliance with Article 4.

⁹ *Nairobi Action Plan*, Actions #9, #10, #11 and #12.

¹⁰ Belarus, Greece and Turkey

¹¹ Ethiopia, Kuwait and Ukraine

Updates from relevant States Parties on the status of transparency reporting

The *Geneva Progress Report 2007-2008* noted that three States Parties that are assumed to not possess stockpiled anti-personnel mines, remain overdue in submitting an initial transparency report.¹² As well, the *Geneva Progress Report* recorded that one State Party for which information emerged prior to the 8MSP indicating that it indeed held stocks and that these have been destroyed, is overdue in providing an initial transparency report to clarify the types and quantities of mines destroyed after entry into force.¹³ The Co-Chairs hope, therefore, that relevant States Parties will provide updates on the status of the preparation of their initial transparency reports, particularly with respect to reporting on the existence or absence of stockpiled anti-personnel mines under their control or jurisdiction.

- > Opportunity for updates by States Parties that have not yet confirmed their stockpile status in an Article 7 transparency report.

The destruction of previously unknown stockpiles

The *Nairobi Action Plan* states, in Action #15, that “all States Parties will, when previously unknown stockpiles are discovered after stockpile destruction deadlines have passed, report such discoveries in accordance with their obligations under Article 7, take advantage of other informal means to share such information and destroy these mines as a matter of urgency.” With a view to facilitating reporting of stockpiled anti-personnel mines discovered and destroyed after Article 4 deadlines have passed, the 8MSP adopted amendments to the Article 7 reporting format.

At the 9MSP, the *Geneva Progress Report* recorded that one State Party had submitted an initial transparency report to confirm no stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed by it or under its jurisdiction or control but that the matter will be further investigated and if stockpiled anti-personnel mines are identified, they will be reported and appropriate plans will be developed for their destruction.¹⁴ It is the Co-Chairs’ hope that relevant States Parties will provide updates on previously unknown stockpiles of anti-personnel mines.

- > Opportunity for updates by States Parties on previously unknown stockpiles of anti-personnel mines.

¹² Equatorial Guinea, Gambia and Haiti.

¹³ Cape Verde.

¹⁴ Iraq.

Cooperation and assistance in the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines

The *Nairobi Action Plan* states that States Parties in a position to do so will: “act upon their obligations under Article 6 (5) to promptly assist States Parties with clearly demonstrated needs for external support for stockpile destruction, responding to priorities for assistance as articulated by those States Parties in need,” and, “support the investigation and further development of technical solutions to overcome the particular challenges associated with destroying PFM mines.”¹⁵ The *Geneva Progress Report* further emphasized this point, by recording as a priority that States Parties in a position to do so should, in accordance with their Convention obligations and as emphasized in Action #13 of the *Nairobi Action Plan*, promptly assist States Parties with clearly demonstrated needs for external support for stockpile destruction, responding promptly to appeals for assistance by States Parties in danger of not meeting deadlines under Article 4.

To assess the status of the application of this portion of the *Nairobi Action Plan*, it is the Co-Chairs’ hope that those States Parties and others in a position to provide assistance for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines will provide updates.

- > Opportunity for updates by States Parties and others in a position to provide assistance for stockpile destruction.

Other matters of a thematic nature related to stockpile destruction

The States Parties have previously highlighted challenges in a number of thematic areas concerning the fulfillment of Article 4 obligations. The Co-Chairs intend to provide an opportunity for an exchange of views on thematic matters of interest to delegations.

- > Opportunity for an exchange of views on thematic matters concerning the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines.

Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs

18:00 | Meeting ends

¹⁵ Nairobi Action Plan, Actions #13 and #14.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION

10:00 | Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs

The Co-Chairs' (Belgium and Thailand) primary aim is to support further progress in the fulfilment of the commitment that all States Parties made in the *Nairobi Action Plan 2005-2009* to enhance our efforts in regard to the care, rehabilitation and reintegration of landmine survivors. This is particularly important for the 26 States Parties that have indicated that they hold the responsibility to provide for the well-being of significant numbers – hundreds or thousands, if not tens-of-thousands – of landmine survivors.

Overview of the status of implementation

- > Presentation by the Co-Chairs.

Updates from relevant States Parties on the status of implementation

As the ultimate responsibility of meeting the needs of landmine survivors within a particular State rests with that State, no external actor can define for it what can or should be achieved by when and how in meeting the needs of these survivors. Since the First Review Conference, many of the 26 relevant States Parties made significant advances toward defining these matters. The *Geneva Progress Report* noted that “progress in victim assistance should be specific, measurable and time-bound, with specific measures logically needing to be determined by individual States Parties based on their very diverse circumstances” and called on relevant States Parties to “provide an unambiguous assessment of how progress with respect to victim assistance as concerns their States could be measured by the time of the Second Review Conference in 2009.”

- > Opportunity for updates by those States Parties¹⁶ that have indicated that they hold the responsibility to provide for the well-being of significant numbers of landmine survivors. (See Document 3)
- > Opportunity for comments and questions in response to the presentations made by those States Parties that have indicated that they hold the responsibility to provide for the well-being of significant numbers of landmine survivors.
- > Opportunity for updates by other States Parties and from States not parties with responsibility for significant numbers of landmine survivors.

13:00 | Break for lunch

15:00 | Updates from relevant States Parties on the status of implementation (continued)

¹⁶ Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda and Yemen.

Cooperation and assistance in providing for the care, rehabilitation and reintegration of landmine survivors

The *Geneva Progress Report* noted that “States Parties in a position to provide assistance should support the building of national capacities in the areas that are priorities for the recipient State.”

It is the Co-Chairs’ desire that more States Parties provide examples of how, through bilateral cooperation relationships, they are fulfilling their obligations under Article 6.3 of the Convention to “provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims.” In addition, the Co-Chairs wish to provide an opportunity for updates from organisations involved in efforts that specifically target populations of persons with disabilities which include concentrations of landmine survivors.

- > Opportunity for updates by States Parties and others in a position to provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of landmine victims.
- > Opportunity for updates by organizations involved in the provision of assistance.

Update on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The *Geneva Progress Report* indicated that “there were further developments related to the normative framework that protects and ensures respect for the rights of persons with disabilities including landmine survivors.” Since the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) opened for signature on 30 March 2007, 16 of the 26 States Parties to the AP Mine Ban Convention reporting responsibility for significant number of mine survivors have signed the CRPD; including seven ratifications. The CRPD entered into force on 3 May 2008. This instrument may provide guidance to States Parties in meeting their responsibilities to landmine survivors.

- > Update on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Matters of a thematic nature related to victim assistance

- > Opportunity for an exchange of views on thematic matters concerning victim assistance.

18:00 | Meeting adjourns until Friday 29 May at 10:00

STANDING COMMITTEE ON MINE CLEARANCE, MINE RISK EDUCATION AND MINE ACTION TECHNOLOGIES

10:00 | Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs

The Co-Chairs (Argentina and Australia) have developed a programme for the Standing Committee which foresees work in the following eight areas: (i) updates on implementation efforts by those 15 States Parties that were granted Article 5 extension requests at the 9MSP; (ii) updates by States Parties that have indicated they may soon complete implementation of Article 5, (iii) updates on the preparation of extension requests and the status of implementation by those States Parties that indicated, at the 9MSP, that they would submit requests in 2009; (iv) updates by other States Parties that are in the process of implementing Article 5; (v) an assessment of the application of the recommendations considered at the 9MSP on practical methods to more rapidly release, with a high level of confidence, areas suspected of containing anti-personnel mines; (vi) a review of the status of mine risk education efforts; (vii) cooperation and assistance as it concerns Article 5 implementation, and (viii) updates on other matters that relate to the implementation of Article 5.

An overview of the status of implementation of Article 5

> Co-Chairs' presentation on progress in implementing Article 5.

Updates by States Parties that were granted extensions of deadlines for implementing Article 5

At the 9MSP, taking into account the analyses presented by the President of the 8MSP of requests submitted by 15 States Parties under Article 5 of the Convention and the requests themselves, the States Parties agreed to grant each request. In their requests, States Parties provided various indications of progress expected during the extension periods and in granting these requests, the States Parties recorded common understandings and concerns about the requests. The purpose of this agenda item is to provide these 15 States Parties¹⁷ with the opportunity to share updates on their progress in implementing Article 5 in relation to these progress indicators, common understandings and concerns.

> Updates by States Parties that were granted extensions of deadlines for implementing Article 5. (See Document 4)

> Opportunity for comments and questions on the updates provided.

¹⁷ Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, Croatia, Denmark, Ecuador, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Thailand, the United Kingdom, Venezuela, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

Updates by States Parties that may be able to report completion by the Second Review Conference

On the basis of what is contained in the *Geneva Progress Report* as well as in the updates provided to the 9MSP by various States Parties, it is possible that several States Parties¹⁸ may be in a position to report completion of implementation of Article 5 obligations by the Second Review Conference or soon afterwards.

- > Opportunity for States Parties that may be in a position to report completion of implementation of Article 5 obligations by the Second Review Conference or soon afterwards. (See Document 4)
- > Opportunity for comments and questions on the updates provided.

13:00 | Break for lunch

15:00 | A review of the status of mine risk education efforts

The Convention requires States Parties reporting mined areas to ensure “the effective exclusion” of civilians until these mined areas have been rendered no longer dangerous. The Convention furthermore requires States Parties reporting mined areas to report on “the measures taken to provide an immediate and effective warning to the population” in relation to all mined areas.

The *Nairobi Action Plan* calls on the States Parties that have reported mined areas under their jurisdiction or control to “ensure that mine risk education (MRE) programmes are made available in all communities at risk to prevent mine incidents and save lives, promote mutual understanding and reconciliation, and improve mine action planning, integrating such programmes into education systems and broader relief and development activities, taking into consideration age, gender, social, economic, political and geographical factors, and ensuring consistency with relevant International Mine Action Standards, as well as national mine action standards.”¹⁹

The *Geneva Progress Report* recorded that field experience has shown that “when MRE and clearance are implemented as an integrated package, MRE has the effect of being an impact multiplier.” It was further noted that “the challenge remains to consistently implement mine action field programmes as seamless packages, rather than implementing MRE and clearance as separate activities.”

- > Discussion on the status of mine risk education efforts.

¹⁸ Albania, Burundi, Greece, Rwanda, Serbia, Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia, (in addition to Nicaragua, which was granted an extension in 2008 with a view that it would complete in 2009.)

¹⁹ [Nairobi Action Plan](#), Action #22.

Updates by States Parties that indicated at the 9MSP that they will submit requests in 2009

The *Geneva Progress Report* recorded that three States Parties²⁰ indicated at the 9MSP that they will submit requests for extensions for consideration at the Second Review Conference. By the time the Standing Committee meets, these States Parties will have submitted requests for extensions. Moreover, the process of analysing requests, agreed to at the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties, will have commenced.

- > Presentation by the 9MSP President on the status of requests received and the analysis of them.
- > Opportunity for States Parties that have submitted requests to share highlights of their requests with the Standing Committee. (See Document 4)
- > Opportunity for comments and questions on the updates provided.

Updates from other relevant States Parties on the status of implementation of Article 5

In addition to the 15 States Parties that were granted extension requests at the 9MSP, the 3 States Parties that indicated they would submit requests in 2009, and the 8 States Parties that may be able to complete Article 5 implementation by or soon after the Second Review Conference, the *Geneva Progress Report* recorded that 16 additional States Parties²¹ were, as of the close of the 9MSP, still in the process of implementing Article 5. As in the past, each of these States Parties will be provided with an opportunity to provide information on the status of implementation, especially with respect to the development of national plans consistent with Convention obligations, progress achieved, work remaining and circumstances that may impede the fulfilment of Article 5 obligations in the 10-year period.

The *Geneva Progress Report* noted that the quality of the information reported by the States Parties in 2008 varied considerably. While all States Parties provided detailed reports of past progress, few indicated very clearly the extent of the remaining challenge and their plans to achieve the full implementation of Article 5 within their respective deadlines. To assist States Parties in providing clarity on progress made and challenges that remain, the Co-Chairs have distributed a questionnaire as a means to assist these States Parties in providing such clarity.

- > Opportunity for updates by those States Parties which have indicated that they are in the process of fulfilling obligations under Article 5 of the Convention. (See Document 4)

Note: Given that many States Parties have already provided comprehensive background presentations on the situations in their countries, the Co-Chairs kindly request that *only new information* be provided to the Standing Committee.

- > Opportunity for comments and questions on the updates provided.

18:00 | Meeting adjourns until Thursday 28 May at 10:00

²⁰ Argentina, Cambodia and Tajikistan.

²¹ Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bhutan, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Iraq, Mauritania, Sudan, and Turkey.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON MINE CLEARANCE, MINE RISK EDUCATION AND MINE ACTION TECHNOLOGIES

10:00 | Making use of the full range of methods to more rapidly release areas suspected of containing anti-personnel mines

At the 9MSP, in recognising the value of States Parties making use of the full range of emerging practical methods to more rapidly release, with a high level of confidence, areas suspected of containing anti-personnel mines, the Meeting warmly welcomed a proposal on the full, effective and expedient implementation of Article 5 and agreed to encourage States Parties, as appropriate, to implement the recommendations contained therein. The Co-Chairs wish to continue to place a high priority on this matter by providing an opportunity for updates on the application of these recommendations.

- > Discussion on the application of recommendations made at the 9MSP concerning practical methods to more rapidly release, with a high level of confidence, areas suspected of containing anti-personnel mines.

Updates from relevant States Parties on the status of implementation of Article 5 (continued)

- > Opportunity for updates by those States Parties which have indicated that they are in the process of fulfilling obligations under Article 5 of the Convention (See Document 4)
- > Opportunity for comments and questions on the updates provided.

13:00 | Break for lunch

15:00 | Updates from relevant States Parties on the status of implementation (continued)

- > Opportunity for updates by those States Parties which have indicated that they are in the process of fulfilling obligations under Article 5 of the Convention (See Document 4)
- > Opportunity for comments and questions on the updates provided.

Cooperation and assistance in clearing mined areas

Action #23 of the *Nairobi Action Plan* indicates that “States Parties in a position to do so will act upon their obligations under Article 6 (3) and 6 (4) to promptly assist States Parties with clearly demonstrated needs for external support for mine clearance and mine risk education, responding to the priorities for assistance as articulated by the mine-affected States Parties themselves and ensuring the continuity and sustainability of resource commitments.” In addition, the First Review Conference noted the challenge of ensuring a renewed commitment “through means such as dedicated funds to assist in the implementation of the Convention and by mainstreaming support to mine action through broader humanitarian, development, peace-building and peace support programmes.”

The final report of the 9MSP recorded that many of the States Parties that had submitted requests for extensions had highlighted the importance of obtaining resources in order to implement the plans contained in their requests. The 9MSP encouraged requesting States Parties, as relevant, to develop as soon as possible resource mobilisation strategies that take into account the need to reach out to a wide range of national and international funding sources. The 9MSP furthermore encouraged all States Parties in a position to do so to honour their commitments to fulfilling their obligations under Article 6.4 of the Convention to provide assistance for mine clearance and related activities.

- > Opportunity for updates by States Parties and others in a position to assist those in the process of fulfilling Article 5 obligations.
- > Opportunity for updates by States Parties implementing Article 5 on their resource mobilisation strategies.

Brief updates on other matters of a thematic nature related to fulfilling Article 5 obligations

This Standing Committee traditionally has provided an opportunity for updates on other thematic matters related to fulfilling Article 5 obligations.

- > Other matters of a thematic nature related to fulfilling Article 5 obligations.

Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs

18:00 | Meeting ends

STANDING COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION

10:00 | Meeting reconvenes

Update on the activities of victim assistance experts

The *Geneva Progress Report* recorded that “in keeping with Actions #38 and #39 of the *Nairobi Action Plan*, which call on States Parties and relevant organisations to continue to ensure effective integration of mine victims in the work of the Convention and an effective contribution in all relevant deliberations by health, rehabilitation and social services professionals, at least 14 States Parties included relevant victim assistance specialists in their delegations to the June 2008 meetings of the Standing Committees. It is the Co-Chairs’ intention to make the best possible use of the time dedicated by such professionals to the work of the Convention. To this end, the Co-Chairs have prepared a week-long series of activities for these representatives.

- Update by victim assistance experts on briefings and meetings held during the week of Standing Committee meetings.

Towards the Second Review Conference and beyond

- Opportunity for an exchange of views on goals to be achieved by the Second Review Conference and priorities for the period 2010-2014.

Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs

11:00 | Meeting ends

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION

11:00 | The practical implementation of the various other provisions of the Convention (continued if necessary)

The *Nairobi Action Plan* indicates that the States Parties will “exchange views and share their experiences in a cooperative and informal manner on the practical implementation of the various provisions of the Convention, including Articles 1, 2 and 3, to continue to promote effective and consistent application of these provisions.”²²

> Opportunity for updates to be provided by Contact Group Coordinators.

Case studies in cooperation and assistance

The *Nairobi Action Plan* states that “while individual States Parties are responsible for implementing the Convention’s obligations in areas within their jurisdiction or control, its cooperation and assistance provisions afford the essential framework within which those responsibilities can be fulfilled and shared goals can be advanced.” In order to contribute to an assessment of aspects of cooperation and assistance in the context of the Convention in the lead up to the Second Review Conference, the Co-Chairs would like to highlight two particular case studies:

- > **The role of the United Nations system:** The Convention states that each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for mine clearance and related activities with assistance to be provided, inter alia, through the United Nations system or by contributing to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance. What assistance has flowed to and through the United Nations system since the First Review Conference? How has this benefited States Parties seeking assistance? What lessons have been learned to enhance cooperation and assistance involving the United Nations system following the Second Review Conference?
- > **Advances made in linking mine action and development:** How have efforts since the First Review Conference to link mine action and development benefited States Parties that are in the process of implementing the Convention? What more can be done following the Second Review Conference?

²² Nairobi Action Plan, Action #55.

Matters pertaining to the general operations of the Convention

In keeping with past practice, the Standing Committee will provide an opportunity for updates on various matters concerning the general operations of the Convention, including updates on the activities of the Coordinating Committee (9MSP President), the Implementation Support Unit (Director of the GICHD and the Director of the Implementation Support Unit), and, the Sponsorship Programme (United Kingdom).

With respect to the Implementation Support Unit and the Sponsorship Programme, the Co-Chairs wish to recall that in the *Nairobi Action Plan*, it was agreed that States Parties will “continue to provide on a voluntary basis, in accordance with their agreement with the GICHD, the necessary financial resources for the operation of the Implementation Support Unit”, and, “on a voluntary basis contribute to the Sponsorship Programme.”²³

- > Opportunity for comments on the work of various implementation mechanisms and to make announcements of support to the Implementation Support Unit Trust Fund and the Sponsorship Programme.

Updates by Contact Group Coordinators (time permitting)

The *Nairobi Action Plan* indicates that “all States Parties will (...) continue to utilize informal mechanisms such as the Contact Groups, which have emerged to meet specific needs.”²⁴ During the week of meetings of the Standing Committees, the Contact Groups undoubtedly will be extremely active and may be in a position to provide updates on their work.

- > Opportunity for updates to be provided by Contact Group Coordinators.

Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs



Launch of the road to Cartagena | Geneva | March 2, 2009

²³ [Nairobi Action Plan](#), Actions #67 and #70.

²⁴ [Nairobi Action Plan](#), Action #69.

CLOSING OF THE WEEK OF STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

12:50 | Remarks by the Director of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining

13:00 | Week of Standing Committee meetings ends

**FIRST PREPARATORY MEETING
IN ADVANCE OF THE SECOND REVIEW CONFERENCE**

15:00 | Meeting begins

Note: An agenda for the First Preparatory Meeting will be distributed separately.

18:00 | Meeting ends

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION | MAY 25, 2009

Background

The *Nairobi Action Plan* notes that “transparency and the open exchange of information have been essential pillars on which the Convention’s practices, procedures and tradition of partnership have been built,” and, that “the States Parties recognize that transparency and effective information exchange will be equally crucial to fulfilling their obligations during the period 2005-2009.” To this end, the States Parties agreed to a number of actions, including Action #54, which states that “all States Parties will (...) in situations where States Parties have retained mines in accordance with the exceptions in Article 3, provide information on the plans requiring the retention of mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques and report on the actual use of retained mines and the results of such use.” In addition, the transfer of anti-personnel mines for the same above mentioned reasons and for the purpose of destruction are also permitted under Article 3.

Questions

States Parties retaining mines for permitted purposes may wish to make use of Form D of the Article 7 reporting format (see page 21) to volunteer additional information in the context of Action #54. In addition, States Parties may wish to make presentations to the Standing Committee on mines retained and/or transferred in accordance with Article 3, responding to questions such as the following:

1. What are the reasons for changes / no changes in quantity and type of mines retained by your State since the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties?
2. What are the purposes for which retained mines have been used and what have been the results of this use, including for example:
 - a. the mine detection, clearance or destruction techniques that have been / are being developed?
 - b. the mine detection, clearance or destruction training that has been carried out?
 - c. the number of personnel trained and to what standard?
3. What are your State’s plans for the further development of mine detection, clearance or destruction techniques and further training which would result in the use of mines retained under Article 3?
4. How many mines has your State transferred in the past? What are the reasons for the transfer to/from your State? What are your State’s plans for the future transfer of mines under Article 3?

DOCUMENT 1 | QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STATES PARTIES RETAINING AND TRANSFERRING ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3

Article 7 Report Format | Form D: AP mines retained and transferred

Article 7.1

“Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

- d) The types, quantities and, if possible, lot numbers of all anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques, or transferred for the purpose of destruction, as well as the institutions authorized by a State Party to retain or transfer anti-personnel mines, in accordance with Article 3”

State (Party) _____ Reporting for time period from _____ to _____

1a. Compulsory Retained for development of and training in (Article 3, para.1)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
TOTAL				

1b. Voluntary information (Action #54 of Nairobi Action Plan)

Objectives	Activity / Project	Supplementary information
		<i>(Description of programs or activities, their objectives and progress, types of mines, time period if and when appropriate...)</i>
		“Information on the plans requiring the retention of mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques and report on the actual use of retained mines and the results of such use”

Note: Each State Party should provide information on plans and future activities if and when appropriate and reserves the right to modify it at any time

2. Compulsory Transferred for development of and training in (Article 3, para.1)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information e.g. transferred from, transferred to
TOTAL				

3. Compulsory Transferred for the purpose of destruction (Article 3, para.2)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information e.g. transferred from, transferred to
TOTAL				

DOCUMENT 2 | QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STATES PARTIES THAT HAVE RECENTLY FULFILLED OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF FULFILLING OBLIGATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 4 OF THE CONVENTION

STANDING COMMITTEE ON STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION | MAY 25, 2009

Background

The *Nairobi Action Plan*, adopted at the Convention's First Review Conference in 2004, states that the States Parties yet to complete their anti-personnel stockpile destruction programmes will:

Action #9 Establish the type, quantity and, if possible, lot numbers of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed, and report this information as required by Article 7.

Action #10 Establish appropriate national and local capacities to meet their Article 4 obligations.

Action #11 Strive to complete their destruction programmes if possible in advance of their four-year deadlines.

Action #12 Make their problems, plans progress and priorities for assistance known in a timely manner to States Parties and relevant organisations and disclose their own contributions to their programmes in situations where financial, technical or other assistance is required to meet stockpile destruction obligations.

At the 9MSP, with a view to giving due attention to cases of non-compliance with Article 4 and to preventing future instances of non-compliance, the States Parties warmly welcomed the proposal submitted by Lithuania and Serbia on ensuring the full implementation of Article 4 and agreed to encourage States Parties, as appropriate, to implement the recommendations contained therein. These recommendations included the following:

- > Non-compliant States Parties should act in a committed and transparent way, immediately communicating, preferably in a form of a *note verbale* addressed to all States Parties, the reasons, which should be extraordinary, for failing to comply and providing a date and plan to ensure compliance as soon as possible, including an expected completion date. They should commit national resources to fulfill their obligations and, if relevant, actively pursue assistance.
- > States Parties in the process of implementing Article 4 should communicate to other States Parties, through annual transparency reports, at every meeting of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction and at every Meeting of the States Parties, plans to implement Article 4, successively reporting increasing progress made towards the fulfillment of Article 4 obligations.

DOCUMENT 2 | QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STATES PARTIES THAT HAVE RECENTLY FULFILLED OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF FULFILLING OBLIGATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 4 OF THE CONVENTION

To help assess the application of the above recommendations as well as the relevant aspects of the *Nairobi Action Plan*, the Co-Chairs invite States Parties that are in the process of fulfilling Article 4 obligations or that have recently fulfilled Article 4 obligations to make presentations on 25 May on the basis of the following questions:

A Questions for States Parties that are in the process of fulfilling their obligations under Article 4 and that have **missed their deadlines** for destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines

1. What are the circumstances that have prevented your State from complying with its obligations on time?
2. What steps has your State taken to proceed in destroying all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed? How many mines have been destroyed and how many remain to be destroyed?
3. What is your State's plan, including time-lines and a prospective end date, for complying as soon as possible?

B Questions for States Parties that are **in the process** of fulfilling their obligations under Article 4

1. What steps has your State taken to establish the type, quantity, and, if possible, lot numbers of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed?
2. What appropriate national and local capacities have been established to meet your Article 4 stockpile destruction obligations?
3. What is the status of your State's stockpile destruction programme? (How many mines have been destroyed and remain to be destroyed? What is your time table for the destruction of these mines?)
4. What, if any, difficulties do you face in the destruction of your stockpiled anti-personnel mines? If relevant, what are your priorities for external financial, technical or other assistance?

C Questions for States Parties that have **recently fulfilled** their obligations under Article 4

1. What steps did your State take to establish the type, quantity, and, if possible, lot numbers of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed?
2. What methods were used to destroy the stockpiled mines, where were the mines destroyed and what safety and environmental standards were observed in the destruction process?
3. How many mines of which types were destroyed and during which time period?

DOCUMENT 3 | QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STATES PARTIES THAT HAVE REPORTED THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF LANDMINE SURVIVORS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION | MAY 26, 2009

Background

The *Geneva Progress Report 2007-2008* recorded that “since the 8MSP, greater emphasis continued to be placed on fulfilling responsibilities to landmine victims by the States Parties that have indicated that they hold ultimate responsibility for significant numbers – hundreds or thousands – of landmine survivors.” The *Geneva Progress Report* furthermore noted that “the efforts of these 26 States Parties, with the support of others, continued to be guided by the clear framework regarding victim assistance in the context of the Convention. This framework was agreed to at the First Review Conference and includes the following core principles:

- (i) “the call to assist landmine victims should not lead to victim assistance efforts being undertaken in such a manner as to exclude any person injured or disabled in another manner;”
- (ii) victim assistance “does not require the development of new fields or disciplines but rather calls for ensuring that existing health care and social service systems, rehabilitation programmes and legislative and policy frameworks are adequate to meet the needs of all citizens – including landmine victims;”
- (iii) “assistance to landmine victims should be viewed as a part of a country’s overall public health and social services systems and human rights frameworks;” and,
- (iv) “providing adequate assistance to landmine survivors must be seen in a broader context of development and underdevelopment.”

The meeting of the Standing Committee is the last opportunity prior to the Second Review Conference for the States Parties as a whole to have an exchange on the status of efforts to apply the victim assistance conclusions that were adopted at the First Review Conference. To this end, the Co-Chairs invite the 26 States Parties that have reported the responsibility for significant numbers of landmine survivors to actively participate in the work of the Standing Committee by making brief presentations (i.e., approximately 8 minutes) that address the questions below. In addition, these States Parties are encouraged to make available for distribution copies of working drafts of comprehensive national updates on the status of victim assistance within their countries.

DOCUMENT 3 | QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STATES PARTIES THAT HAVE REPORTED THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF LANDMINE SURVIVORS

Questions

1. What is the most significant progress your State has made since 2004 in applying the conclusions on victim assistance adopted at the First Review Conference?
2. What are the most significant remaining challenges?
3. How does your State intend to address its challenges during the period 2010 to 2014? What are your State's priorities?



**STANDING COMMITTEE ON MINE CLEARANCE, MINE RISK EDUCATION AND
MINE ACTION TECHNOLOGIES | MAY 27 - 28, 2009**

Background

The *Nairobi Action Plan* refers to the Intersessional Work Programme as a tool to “monitor and actively promote the achievement of mine clearance goals and the identification of assistance needs.” Also with respect to this matter, the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties (9MSP) “encouraged all States Parties whose requests had been considered by the Ninth Meeting to provide updates relative to their accounting of remaining mined areas and / or annual benchmarks for progress at meetings of the Standing Committees, at the Second Review Conference and at Meetings of the States Parties.”

To maximize the opportunity presented by the Standing Committee to “monitor and actively promote the achievement of mine clearance goals and the identification of assistance needs” and to enable relevant States Parties to provide updates pursuant to the decisions of the 9MSP, the Co-Chairs invite the States Parties that are in the process of fulfilling Article 5 mine clearance obligations to prepare 6-8 minute updates to be provided at the 27-28 May meeting of the Standing Committee.

I. Questions for consideration by States Parties that requested and received extensions at the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties

(Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, Croatia, Denmark, Ecuador, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Thailand, United Kingdom, Venezuela, Yemen and Zimbabwe)

1. What progress has been made since the 9MSP? To what extent has the total amount of mined area and the number of mined areas been reduced?
2. Is your State on track to achieving its objectives for 2009 as described in its extension request? What progress has been made to achieving the other objectives contained in the request?
3. What actions have been taken related to decisions of the 9MSP with respect to your State’s request?

DOCUMENT 4 | QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STATES PARTIES THAT ARE IN THE PROCESS OF FULFILLING ARTICLE 5 OBLIGATIONS

II. Questions for consideration by States Parties that have indicated they will be or may be able to complete implementation of Article 5 by the time of the Second Review Conference

(Albania, Burundi, Greece, Rwanda, Serbia, Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia)

1. What progress has been made since the 9MSP? To what extent has the total amount of mined area and the number of mined areas been reduced?
2. What remains to be done in order for your State to complete implementation of Article 5? How much mined area and how many mined areas remain?
3. Is your State on track to completing implementation by the time of the Second Review Conference? What is your targeted date for completion?

III. Questions for consideration by States Parties that have indicated they will request an extension for consideration at the Second Review Conference

(Argentina, Cambodia and Tajikistan)

1. What remains to be done in order for your State to complete implementation of Article 5? How much mined area and how many mined areas remain?
2. What are the circumstances that impede the ability of your State to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control within the requested extension period?
3. What is the amount of time requested and what is the rationale for this request?
4. What is your State's plan to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control?
5. What new methodologies, if any, are being explored or have been employed in your State's effort to fulfill its Article 5 obligations during the requested extension period?
6. What major structural, technical or practical changes, if any, has your State planned for the period of the extension to ensure that your State will meet its Article 5 obligations in the requested time frame?
7. What financial and technical means has your State dedicated to ensuring the fulfillment of your State's Article 5 obligations and what financial and technical means will your State dedicate for this purpose?
8. What, if any, are your priorities for external assistance to support your State's fulfillment of its Article 5 obligations up to and during the extension period requested by your State?

DOCUMENT 4 | QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STATES PARTIES THAT ARE IN THE PROCESS OF FULFILLING ARTICLE 5 OBLIGATIONS

IV. Questions for consideration by other States Parties that are in the process of implementing Article 5

(Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bhutan, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Iraq, Mauritania, Sudan, and Turkey)

1. What remains to be done in order for your State to complete implementation of Article 5? How much mined area and how many mined areas remain?
2. If your State still does not know how much mined area and how many mined areas remain to be addressed, what steps are being taken to acquire the necessary information?
3. What are the circumstances that may impede the ability of your State to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control by your State's deadline?
4. What is your State's plan to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control?
5. What new methodologies, if any, are being explored or have been employed in your State's effort to fulfil its Article 5 obligations?
6. What financial and technical means has your State dedicated to ensuring the fulfilment of your State's Article 5 obligations and what financial and technical means will your State dedicate for this purpose?
7. What, if any, are your priorities for external assistance to support your State's fulfilment of its Article 5 obligations up to and during the extension period requested by your State?

LIST OF THE STATES PARTIES

A

Afghanistan
Albania
Algeria
Andorra
Angola
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Australia
Austria

B

Bahamas
Bangladesh
Barbados
Belarus
Belgium
Belize
Benin
Bhutan
Bolivia
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Botswana
Brazil
Brunei Darussalam
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi

C

Cambodia
Cameroon
Canada
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Chile
Colombia
Comoros
Congo
Cook Islands
Costa Rica
Côte d' Ivoire
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic

D

Dem. Republic of the Congo
Denmark
Djibouti
Dominica
Dominican Republic

E

Ecuador
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Estonia
Ethiopia

F

Fiji
France

G

Gabon
Gambia
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Grenada
Guatemala
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Guyana

H

Haiti
Holy See
Honduras
Hungary

I

Iceland
Indonesia
Iraq
Ireland
Italy

J

Jamaica
Japan
Jordan

K

Kenya
Kiribati
Kuwait

L

Latvia
Lesotho
Liberia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg

M

Macedonia, the FYR of
Madagascar
Malawi
Malaysia
Maldives
Mali
Malta
Mauritania
Mauritius
Mexico
Moldova, Republic of
Monaco
Montenegro
Mozambique

N

Namibia
Nauru
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Niger
Nigeria
Niue
Norway

P

Palau
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Portugal

Q

Qatar

R

Romania
Rwanda

S

Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Samoa
San Marino
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
Serbia
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Slovakia
Slovenia
Solomon Islands
South Africa
Spain
Sudan
Suriname
Swaziland
Sweden
Switzerland

T

Tajikistan
Tanzania, United Republic of
Thailand
Timor Leste
Togo
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Turkmenistan

U

Uganda
Ukraine
United Kingdom
Uruguay

V

Vanuatu
Venezuela

Y

Yemen

Z

Zambia
Zimbabwe

DEADLINES FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF STOCKPILED ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

State Party	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Belarus	1 March 2008					
Ethiopia		1 June 2009				
Greece	1 March 2008					
Kuwait					1 January 2012	
Turkey	1 March 2008					
Ukraine			1 June 2010			

STATES PARTIES WITH SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF LANDMINE SURVIVORS

A

Afghanistan
Albania
Angola

B

Bosnia and Herzegovina
Burundi

C

Cambodia
Chad
Colombia
Croatia

D

Dem. Rep. of the Congo

E

El Salvador
Ethiopia
Eritrea

G

Guinea-Bissau

I

Iraq

J

Jordan

M

Mozambique

N

Nicaragua

P

Peru

S

Senegal
Serbia
Sudan

T

Tajikistan
Thailand

U

Uganda

Y

Yemen

DEADLINES FOR THE CLEARANCE OF MINED AREAS

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Afghanistan				1 March 2013							
Albania		1 August 2010									
Algeria			1 April 2012								
Angola			1 January 2013								
Argentina		1 March 2010									
Bhutan						1 February 2016					
BiH	1 March 2009									1 March 2019	
Burundi				1 April 2014							
Cambodia		1 January 2010									
Chad	1 Nov. 2009		1 January 2011								
Chile			1 March 2012								
Colombia		1 March 2011									
Congo, Rep. of			1 November 2011								
Croatia	1 March 2009									1 March 2019	
Cyprus				1 July 2013							
DRC				1 November 2012							
Denmark	1 March 2009	1 January 2011									
Ecuador	1 October 2009							1 October 2017			
Eritrea		1 February 2012									
Ethiopia						1 June 2015					
Greece				1 March 2014							
Guinea-Bissau			1 November 2011								
Iraq								1 February 2018			
Jordan	1 May 2009			1 May 2012							
Mauritania	1 February 2011										
Mozambique	1 March 2009				1 May 2014						
Nicaragua	1 May 2009	1 May 2010									
Peru	1 March 2009							1 March 2017			
Rwanda		1 December 2010									
Senegal	1 March 2009					1 March 2016					
Serbia				1 March 2014							
Sudan				1 April 2014							
Tajikistan	1 April 2010										
Thailand	1 May 2009									1 November 2018	
Tunisia		1 January 2010									
Turkey				1 March 2014							
Uganda		1 August 2009									
United Kingdom	1 March 2009									1 March 2019	
Venezuela		1 October 2009			1 October 2014						
Yemen		1 March 2009				1 March 2015					
Zambia		1 April 2011									
Zimbabwe	1 March 2009	1 January 2011									

Each State Party must destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas as soon as possible but not later than 10 years after entry into force of the Convention for a State Party. These 10 year deadlines are represented by dark blue bars in the table above. If a State Party believes it will be unable to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas within 10 years, it may request an extension. In 2008, 15 States Parties requested and were granted extensions. These extended deadlines are represented by the light blue bars in the table above.

CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

Preamble

The States Parties,

Determined to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, that kill or maim hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians and especially children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons, and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement,

Believing it necessary to do their utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to face the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world, and to assure their destruction,

Wishing to do their utmost in providing assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration of mine victims,

Recognizing that a total ban of anti-personnel mines would also be an important confidence-building measure,

Welcoming the adoption of the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996, annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, and calling for the early ratification of this Protocol by all States which have not yet done so,

Welcoming also United Nations General Assembly Resolution 51/45 S of 10 December 1996 urging all States to pursue vigorously an effective, legally-binding international agreement to ban the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel landmines,

Welcoming furthermore the measures taken over the past years, both unilaterally and multilaterally, aiming at prohibiting, restricting or suspending the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines,

Stressing the role of public conscience in furthering the principles of humanity as evidenced by the call for a total ban of anti-personnel mines and recognizing the efforts to that end undertaken by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and numerous other non-governmental organizations around the world,

Recalling the Ottawa Declaration of 5 October 1996 and the Brussels Declaration of 27 June 1997 urging the international community to negotiate an international and legally binding agreement prohibiting the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines,

Emphasizing the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to this Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization in all relevant fora including, inter alia, the United Nations, the Conference on Disarmament, regional organizations, and groupings, and review conferences of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,

Basing themselves on the principle of international humanitarian law that the right of the parties to an armed conflict to choose methods or means of warfare is not unlimited, on the principle that prohibits the employment in armed conflicts of weapons, projectiles and materials and methods of warfare of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering and on the principle that a distinction must be made between civilians and combatants,

Have agreed as follows:

Banning AP mines...



clearing mined areas,

CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

Article 1 | General obligations

1. Each State Party undertakes never under any circumstances:
 - a. To use anti-personnel mines;
 - b. To develop, produce, otherwise acquire, stockpile, retain or transfer to anyone, directly or indirectly, anti-personnel mines;
 - c. To assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention.
2. Each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in accordance with the provisions of this Convention.

destroying stockpiles,



Article 2 | Definitions

1. "Anti-personnel mine" means a mine designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person and that will incapacitate, injure or kill one or more persons. Mines designed to be detonated by the presence, proximity or contact of a vehicle as opposed to a person, that are equipped with anti-handling devices, are not considered anti-personnel mines as a result of being so equipped.
2. "Mine" means a munition designed to be placed under, on or near the ground or other surface area and to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person or a vehicle.
3. "Anti-handling device" means a device intended to protect a mine and which is part of, linked to, attached to or placed under the mine and which activates when an attempt is made to tamper with or otherwise intentionally disturb the mine.
4. "Transfer" involves, in addition to the physical movement of anti-personnel mines into or from national territory, the transfer of title to and control over the mines, but does not involve the transfer of territory containing emplaced anti-personnel mines.
5. "Mined area" means an area which is dangerous due to the presence or suspected presence of mines.



assisting mine victims.

Article 3 | Exceptions

1. Notwithstanding the general obligations under Article 1, the retention or transfer of a number of anti-personnel mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques is permitted. The amount of such mines shall not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for the above-mentioned purposes.
2. The transfer of anti-personnel mines for the purpose of destruction is permitted.

Article 4 | Destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines

Except as provided for in Article 3, each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines it owns or possesses, or that are under its jurisdiction or control, as soon as possible but not later than four years after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party.

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Article 5 | Destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas

1. Each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control, as soon as possible but not later than ten years after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party.
2. Each State Party shall make every effort to identify all areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced and shall ensure as soon as possible that all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control are perimeter-marked, monitored and protected by fencing or other means, to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians, until all anti-personnel mines contained therein have been destroyed. The marking shall at least be to the standards set out in the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996, annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.
3. If a State Party believes that it will be unable to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines referred to in paragraph 1 within that time period, it may submit a request to a Meeting of the States Parties or a Review Conference for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of such anti-personnel mines, for a period of up to ten years.
4. Each request shall contain:
 - a) The duration of the proposed extension;
 - b) A detailed explanation of the reasons for the proposed extension, including:
 - i. The preparation and status of work conducted under national demining programs;
 - ii. The financial and technical means available to the State Party for the destruction of all the anti-personnel mines; and
 - iii. Circumstances which impede the ability of the State Party to destroy all the anti-personnel mines in mined areas;
 - c) The humanitarian, social, economic, and environmental implications of the extension; and
 - d) Any other information relevant to the request for the proposed extension.
5. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Review Conference shall, taking into consideration the factors contained in paragraph 4, assess the request and decide by a majority of votes of States Parties present and voting whether to grant the request for an extension period.
6. Such an extension may be renewed upon the submission of a new request in accordance with paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of this Article. In requesting a further extension period a State Party shall submit relevant additional information on what has been undertaken in the previous extension period pursuant to this Article.

Article 6 | International cooperation and assistance

1. In fulfilling its obligations under this Convention each State Party has the right to seek and receive assistance, where feasible, from other States Parties to the extent possible.
2. Each State Party undertakes to facilitate and shall have the right to participate in the fullest possible exchange of equipment, material and scientific and technological information concerning the implementation of this Convention. The States Parties shall not impose undue restrictions on the provision of mine clearance equipment and related technological information for humanitarian purposes.
3. Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims and for mine awareness programs. Such assistance may be provided, inter alia, through the United Nations system, international, regional or national organizations or institutions, the International Committee of the Red Cross, national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and their International Federation, non-governmental organizations, or on a bilateral basis.
4. Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for mine clearance and related activities. Such assistance may be provided, inter alia, through the United Nations system, international or regional organizations or institutions, non-governmental organizations or institutions, or on a bilateral basis, or by contributing to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance, or other regional funds that deal with demining.

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5. Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines.
6. Each State Party undertakes to provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations system, especially information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance.
7. States Parties may request the United Nations, regional organizations, other States Parties or other competent intergovernmental or non-governmental fora to assist its authorities in the elaboration of a national demining program to determine, inter alia:
 - a) The extent and scope of the anti-personnel mine problem;
 - b) The financial, technological and human resources that are required for the implementation of the program;
 - c) The estimated number of years necessary to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under the jurisdiction or control of the concerned State Party;
 - d) Mine awareness activities to reduce the incidence of mine-related injuries or deaths;
 - e) Assistance to mine victims;
 - f) The relationship between the Government of the concerned State Party and the relevant governmental, inter-governmental or non-governmental entities that will work in the implementation of the program.
8. Each State Party giving and receiving assistance under the provisions of this Article shall cooperate with a view to ensuring the full and prompt implementation of agreed assistance programs.

Article 7 | Transparency measures

1. Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations as soon as practicable, and in any event not later than 180 days after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party on:
 - a) The national implementation measures referred to in Article 9;
 - b) The total of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed by it, or under its jurisdiction or control, to include a breakdown of the type, quantity and, if possible, lot numbers of each type of anti-personnel mine stockpiled;
 - c) To the extent possible, the location of all mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines under its jurisdiction or control, to include as much detail as possible regarding the type and quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine in each mined area and when they were emplaced;
 - d) The types, quantities and, if possible, lot numbers of all anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques, or transferred for the purpose of destruction, as well as the institutions authorized by a State Party to retain or transfer anti-personnel mines, in accordance with Article 3;
 - e) The status of programs for the conversion or de-commissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities;
 - f) The status of programs for the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, including details of the methods which will be used in destruction, the location of all destruction sites and the applicable safety and environmental standards to be observed;
 - g) The types and quantities of all anti-personnel mines destroyed after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party, to include a breakdown of the quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine destroyed, in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, respectively, along with, if possible, the lot numbers of each type of anti-personnel mine in the case of destruction in accordance with Article 4;
 - h) The technical characteristics of each type of anti-personnel mine produced, to the extent known, and those currently owned or possessed by a State Party, giving, where reasonably possible, such categories of information as may facilitate identification and clearance of anti-personnel mines; at a minimum, this information shall include the dimensions, fusing, explosive content, metallic content, colour photographs and other information which may facilitate mine clearance; and
 - i) The measures taken to provide an immediate and effective warning to the population in relation to all areas identified under paragraph 2 of Article 5.

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2. The information provided in accordance with this Article shall be updated by the States Parties annually, covering the last calendar year, and reported to the Secretary-General of the United Nations not later than 30 April of each year.
3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit all such reports received to the States Parties.

Article 8 | Facilitation and clarification of compliance

1. The States Parties agree to consult and cooperate with each other regarding the implementation of the provisions of this Convention, and to work together in a spirit of cooperation to facilitate compliance by States Parties with their obligations under this Convention.
2. If one or more States Parties wish to clarify and seek to resolve questions relating to compliance with the provisions of this Convention by another State Party, it may submit, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, a Request for Clarification of that matter to that State Party. Such a request shall be accompanied by all appropriate information. Each State Party shall refrain from unfounded Requests for Clarification, care being taken to avoid abuse. A State Party that receives a Request for Clarification shall provide, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, within 28 days to the requesting State Party all information which would assist in clarifying this matter.
3. If the requesting State Party does not receive a response through the Secretary-General of the United Nations within that time period, or deems the response to the Request for Clarification to be unsatisfactory, it may submit the matter through the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the next Meeting of the States Parties. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit the submission, accompanied by all appropriate information pertaining to the Request for Clarification, to all States Parties. All such information shall be presented to the requested State Party which shall have the right to respond.
4. Pending the convening of any meeting of the States Parties, any of the States Parties concerned may request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to exercise his or her good offices to facilitate the clarification requested.
5. The requesting State Party may propose through the Secretary-General of the United Nations the convening of a Special Meeting of the States Parties to consider the matter. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall thereupon communicate this proposal and all information submitted by the States Parties concerned, to all States Parties with a request that they indicate whether they favour a Special Meeting of the States Parties, for the purpose of considering the matter. In the event that within 14 days from the date of such communication, at least one-third of the States Parties favours such a Special Meeting, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall convene this Special Meeting of the States Parties within a further 14 days. A quorum for this Meeting shall consist of a majority of States Parties.
6. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties, as the case may be, shall first determine whether to consider the matter further, taking into account all information submitted by the States Parties concerned. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall make every effort to reach a decision by consensus. If despite all efforts to that end no agreement has been reached, it shall take this decision by a majority of States Parties present and voting.
7. All States Parties shall cooperate fully with the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties in the fulfillment of its review of the matter, including any fact-finding missions that are authorized in accordance with paragraph 8.
8. If further clarification is required, the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall authorize a fact-finding mission and decide on its mandate by a majority of States Parties present and voting. At any time the requested State Party may invite a fact-finding mission to its territory. Such a mission shall take place without a decision by a Meeting of the States Parties or a Special Meeting of the States Parties to authorize such a mission. The mission, consisting of up to 9 experts, designated and approved in accordance with paragraphs 9 and 10, may collect additional information on the spot or in other places directly related to the alleged compliance issue under the jurisdiction or control of the requested State Party.

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9. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall prepare and update a list of the names, nationalities and other relevant data of qualified experts provided by States Parties and communicate it to all States Parties. Any expert included on this list shall be regarded as designated for all fact-finding missions unless a State Party declares its non-acceptance in writing. In the event of non-acceptance, the expert shall not participate in fact-finding missions on the territory or any other place under the jurisdiction or control of the objecting State Party, if the non-acceptance was declared prior to the appointment of the expert to such missions.
10. Upon receiving a request from the Meeting of the States Parties or a Special Meeting of the States Parties, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall, after consultations with the requested State Party, appoint the members of the mission, including its leader. Nationals of States Parties requesting the fact-finding mission or directly affected by it shall not be appointed to the mission. The members of the fact-finding mission shall enjoy privileges and immunities under Article VI of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, adopted on 13 February 1946.
11. Upon at least 72 hours notice, the members of the fact-finding mission shall arrive in the territory of the requested State Party at the earliest opportunity. The requested State Party shall take the necessary administrative measures to receive, transport and accommodate the mission, and shall be responsible for ensuring the security of the mission to the maximum extent possible while they are on territory under its control.
12. Without prejudice to the sovereignty of the requested State Party, the fact-finding mission may bring into the territory of the requested State Party the necessary equipment which shall be used exclusively for gathering information on the alleged compliance issue. Prior to its arrival, the mission will advise the requested State Party of the equipment that it intends to utilize in the course of its fact-finding mission.
13. The requested State Party shall make all efforts to ensure that the fact-finding mission is given the opportunity to speak with all relevant persons who may be able to provide information related to the alleged compliance issue.
14. The requested State Party shall grant access for the fact-finding mission to all areas and installations under its control where facts relevant to the compliance issue could be expected to be collected. This shall be subject to any arrangements that the requested State Party considers necessary for:
 - a) The protection of sensitive equipment, information and areas;
 - b) The protection of any constitutional obligations the requested State Party may have with regard to proprietary rights, searches and seizures, or other constitutional rights; or
 - c) The physical protection and safety of the members of the fact-finding mission.In the event that the requested State Party makes such arrangements, it shall make every reasonable effort to demonstrate through alternative means its compliance with this Convention.
15. The fact-finding mission may remain in the territory of the State Party concerned for no more than 14 days, and at any particular site no more than 7 days, unless otherwise agreed.
16. All information provided in confidence and not related to the subject matter of the fact-finding mission shall be treated on a confidential basis.
17. The fact-finding mission shall report, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties the results of its findings.
18. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall consider all relevant information, including the report submitted by the fact-finding mission, and may request the requested State Party to take measures to address the compliance issue within a specified period of time. The requested State Party shall report on all measures taken in response to this request.
19. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties may suggest to the States Parties concerned ways and means to further clarify or resolve the matter under consideration, including the initiation of appropriate procedures in conformity with international law. In circumstances where the issue at hand is determined to be due to circumstances beyond the control of the requested State Party, the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties may recommend appropriate measures, including the use of cooperative measures referred to in Article 6.

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20. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall make every effort to reach its decisions referred to in paragraphs 18 and 19 by consensus, otherwise by a two-thirds majority of States Parties present and voting.

Article 9 | National implementation measures

Each State Party shall take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control.

Article 10 | Settlement of disputes

1. The States Parties shall consult and cooperate with each other to settle any dispute that may arise with regard to the application or the interpretation of this Convention. Each State Party may bring any such dispute before the Meeting of the States Parties.
2. The Meeting of the States Parties may contribute to the settlement of the dispute by whatever means it deems appropriate, including offering its good offices, calling upon the States parties to a dispute to start the settlement procedure of their choice and recommending a time-limit for any agreed procedure.
3. This Article is without prejudice to the provisions of this Convention on facilitation and clarification of compliance.

Article 11 | Meetings of the States Parties

1. The States Parties shall meet regularly in order to consider any matter with regard to the application or implementation of this Convention, including:
 - a) The operation and status of this Convention;
 - b) Matters arising from the reports submitted under the provisions of this Convention;
 - c) International cooperation and assistance in accordance with Article 6;
 - d) The development of technologies to clear anti-personnel mines;
 - e) Submissions of States Parties under Article 8; and
 - f) Decisions relating to submissions of States Parties as provided for in Article 5.
2. The first Meeting of the States Parties shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations within one year after the entry into force of this Convention. The subsequent meetings shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations annually until the first Review Conference.
3. Under the conditions set out in Article 8, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall convene a Special Meeting of the States Parties.
4. States not parties to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations may be invited to attend these meetings as observers in accordance with the agreed Rules of Procedure.

Article 12 | Review Conferences

1. A Review Conference shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations five years after the entry into force of this Convention. Further Review Conferences shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations if so requested by one or more States Parties, provided that the interval between Review Conferences shall in no case be less than five years. All States Parties to this Convention shall be invited to each Review Conference.
2. The purpose of the Review Conference shall be:
 - a) To review the operation and status of this Convention;
 - b) To consider the need for and the interval between further Meetings of the States Parties referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 11;
 - c) To take decisions on submissions of States Parties as provided for in Article 5; and
 - d) To adopt, if necessary, in its final report conclusions related to the implementation of this Convention.

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3. States not parties to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations may be invited to attend each Review Conference as observers in accordance with the agreed Rules of Procedure.

Article 13 | Amendments

1. At any time after the entry into force of this Convention any State Party may propose amendments to this Convention. Any proposal for an amendment shall be communicated to the Depositary, who shall circulate it to all States Parties and shall seek their views on whether an Amendment Conference should be convened to consider the proposal. If a majority of the States Parties notify the Depositary no later than 30 days after its circulation that they support further consideration of the proposal, the Depositary shall convene an Amendment Conference to which all States Parties shall be invited.
2. States not parties to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations may be invited to attend each Amendment Conference as observers in accordance with the agreed Rules of Procedure.
3. The Amendment Conference shall be held immediately following a Meeting of the States Parties or a Review Conference unless a majority of the States Parties request that it be held earlier.
4. Any amendment to this Convention shall be adopted by a majority of two-thirds of the States Parties present and voting at the Amendment Conference. The Depositary shall communicate any amendment so adopted to the States Parties.
5. An amendment to this Convention shall enter into force for all States Parties to this Convention which have accepted it, upon the deposit with the Depositary of instruments of acceptance by a majority of States Parties. Thereafter it shall enter into force for any remaining State Party on the date of deposit of its instrument of acceptance.

Article 14 | Costs

1. The costs of the Meetings of the States Parties, the Special Meetings of the States Parties, the Review Conferences and the Amendment Conferences shall be borne by the States Parties and States not parties to this Convention participating therein, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately.
2. The costs incurred by the Secretary-General of the United Nations under Articles 7 and 8 and the costs of any fact-finding mission shall be borne by the States Parties in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately.

Article 15 | Signature

This Convention, done at Oslo, Norway, on 18 September 1997, shall be open for signature at Ottawa, Canada, by all States from 3 December 1997 until 4 December 1997, and at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 December 1997 until its entry into force.

Article 16 | Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession

1. This Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval of the Signatories.
2. It shall be open for accession by any State which has not signed the Convention.
3. The instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the Depositary.

CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

Article 17 | Entry into force

1. This Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the sixth month after the month in which the 40th instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession has been deposited.
2. For any State which deposits its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession after the date of the deposit of the 40th instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, this Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the sixth month after the date on which that State has deposited its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

Article 18 | Provisional application

Any State may at the time of its ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, declare that it will apply provisionally paragraph 1 of Article 1 of this Convention pending its entry into force.

Article 19 | Reservations

The Articles of this Convention shall not be subject to reservations.

Article 20 | Duration and withdrawal

1. This Convention shall be of unlimited duration.
2. Each State Party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty, have the right to withdraw from this Convention. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to all other States Parties, to the Depositary and to the United Nations Security Council. Such instrument of withdrawal shall include a full explanation of the reasons motivating this withdrawal.
3. Such withdrawal shall only take effect six months after the receipt of the instrument of withdrawal by the Depositary. If, however, on the expiry of that six-month period, the withdrawing State Party is engaged in an armed conflict, the withdrawal shall not take effect before the end of the armed conflict.
4. The withdrawal of a State Party from this Convention shall not in any way affect the duty of States to continue fulfilling the obligations assumed under any relevant rules of international law.

Article 21 | Depositary

The Secretary-General of the United Nations is hereby designated as the Depositary of this Convention.

Article 22 | Authentic texts

The original of this Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.



Launch of the road to Cartagena | Geneva | March 2, 2009



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Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining**

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