

Third 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

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Review of the operation and status of the Convention

Maputo Action Plan

Submitted by the President-Designate of the Third Review Conference

INTRODUCTION

- 1. The States Parties reaffirm their unqualified commitment to ending the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines for all people for all time, and aspire to end the era of anti-personnel mines. These States Parties strive to: maintain strict observance of the Convention's norms; complete implementation of their respective time-bound obligations under the Convention as soon as possible [and no later than by 2025]; ensure no new mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control; and see that survivors participate in their societies on an equal basis to others.
- 2. The Maputo Action Plan aims for significant and sustainable progress towards the achievement of this ambition during the period 2014 to 2019, building on the achievements made under the Nairobi and Cartagena Action Plans, while acknowledging local, national and regional circumstances in its practical implementation. The States Parties will implement the Maputo Action Plan in a cooperative, inclusive, age-appropriate and gender sensitive manner and, in doing so, endeavour for a high degree of coherence, coordination and cost effectiveness. In addition, they will continue to recognise the special partnerships in the universalization and implementation of the Convention with the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining.

[...]

III. MINE CLEARANCE

5. Considerable progress has been achieved in mine clearance, with almost 30 States Parties having completed implementation of their obligations. However, almost an equal number of States Parties are still in the process of meeting mine clearance deadlines, most of which are extended deadlines. The methods and means of identifying, clearing or releasing areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in

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the most efficient manner have improved greatly. In order to achieve completion by all States Parties as soon as possible and no later than by their respective clearance deadlines, the States Parties will take the following actions:

- (a) Each State Party with ongoing mine clearance obligations will undertake all reasonable efforts to quantify and qualify its remaining implementation challenge as soon as possible, and report this information through its Article 7 transparency report by 30 April 2015 and annually thereafter. This information should identify the precise perimeters and locations, to the extent possible, of all areas under its jurisdiction or control that contain anti-personnel mines and therefore require clearance, and that are suspected to contain antipersonnel mines and therefore require further survey. This information is to be incorporated into national demining plans and relevant broader development and reconstruction plans.
- (b) Each State Party with ongoing mine clearance obligations will ensure as soon as possible that the most relevant land-release standards, policies and methodologies, in line with the United Nations' International Mine Action Standards, are in place and applied for the full and expedient implementation of this aspect of the Convention. These land release methodologies will be evidence-based, accountable and acceptable to local communities, including through the participation of affected communities, including women, girls, boys and men, in the process.¹
- (c) Each State Party that has reported mined areas under its jurisdiction or control will provide mine risk reduction and education programmes, as part of broader risk assessment and reduction activities targeting the most at-risk populations. These programmes shall be age-appropriate and gender-sensitive, coherent with applicable national and international standards, tailored to the needs of mine-affected communities and integrated into ongoing mine action activities, namely data gathering, clearance and victim assistance as appropriate.
- (d) All States Parties will apply the recommendations endorsed by the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties as contained in the paper "Reflections on the Article 5 Extension Process" on ensuring that high-quality requests for extended mine clearance deadlines continue to be submitted, that high-quality analyses of these requests continue to be prepared, and that cooperative engagement of Article 5 implementing States Parties continues after requests have been granted.

[...]

V. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

While each State Party is responsible for implementing the Convention in areas under its jurisdiction or control, the Convention's shared goals can be advanced through enhanced cooperation. With a view to significantly improving cooperation between those seeking assistance and those in a position to provide assistance, the States Parties will take the following actions:

19. Each State Party seeking assistance will do its utmost to demonstrate high-level national ownership in fulfilling Convention obligations, including by: maintaining interest at a high level in fulfilling Convention obligations; empowering and providing relevant State entities with the human, financial and material capacity to carry out their obligations under the Convention; articulating the measures its State entities will undertake to implement relevant aspects of Convention in the most

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¹ Recommendations on applying all available methods for the full and expedient implementation of Article 5 were endorsed by the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties.

² APLC/MSP.12/2012/4.

inclusive, efficient and expedient manner possible and plans to overcome any challenges that need to be addressed; and making a regular significant national financial commitment to the State's programmes to implement the Convention.

- 20. All States Parties in a position to do so will effectively use all possible avenues to support States Parties seeking to receive assistance in mine clearance; mine risk education; stockpile destruction; adopting appropriate national implementation measures; as well as meeting victims' needs and guaranteeing their rights. As concerns victim assistance, this includes providing targeted assistance and supporting broader efforts to enhance frameworks related to the rights of persons with disabilities, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction.
- 21. States Parties in a position to provide assistance and those seeking to receive assistance, where relevant and to the extent possible, will enter into partnerships for completion, with partners specifying their responsibilities to each other, articulating age- and gender-sensitive time-bound objectives and targets, making financial or other commitments, if possible on a multi-year basis, and engaging regularly in a dialogue on progress and challenges in meeting goals.
- 22. States Parties in a position to provide assistance will support plans and programmes that are informed by relevant and accurate information on contamination and the socio-economic impact of anti-personnel mines including information which is collected from affected women, girls, boys and men, and is analysed from a gender perspective and that promote and encourage gender mainstreaming.
- 23. All States Parties will develop and promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including through South-South cooperation and by sharing national experiences and good practices, resources, technology and expertise to implement the Convention.
- 24. All States Parties will contribute, as they deem useful, to the information exchange tool 'Platform for Partnerships' and will provide new or updated information on their needs for assistance or on assistance which they are in a position to offer, when feasible, with a view to further enhancing partnerships and to supporting the full implementation of the Convention.

VI. TRANSPARENCY AND THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The States Parties recognise that transparency and the open exchange of information, through both formal mechanisms under the Convention and other informal means, are essential to achieving the Convention's aims. The States Parties also recognise that dialogue informed by accurate and high quality information can support cooperation and assistance and accelerate the Convention's implementation. To this end, the States Parties will take the following actions:

- 25. All States Parties will provide high quality and updated information annually, as required by the Convention, and provide additional information in a voluntary manner. Where applicable, those States Parties without implementation obligations will make use of the simplified tools for fulfilling their Article 7 obligations.
- 26. The States Parties will draw on information provided as required and on a voluntary basis to engage in cooperative dialogue with a view to enhancing cooperation and assistance efforts, as well as the overall implementation of the Convention. This will contribute to making the exchange of information an effective management tool in support of the implementation of all the Convention's obligations.
- 27. Each State Party that has retained anti-personnel mines for reasons permitted by the Convention will regularly review the number of retained anti-personnel mines to ensure that they constitute the

minimum number absolutely necessary for permitted purposes, destroy all those exceeding that number, where appropriate explore available alternatives to using live anti-personnel mines for training and research activities. States Parties will annually report, on a voluntary basis, on the plans for and actual use of retained anti-personnel mines explaining any increase or decrease in the number of retained anti-personnel mines.