



# Fostering Partnerships

Global Conference on Assistance to Victims of  
Anti-Personnel Mines and Other Explosive  
Remnants of War, and Disability Rights

Amman, Jordan 10-12 September 2019



---

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

---

In 1997 the international community responded with unprecedented multilateral cooperation and called for determined action to rid the world of anti-personnel mines. Since then, 164 States have agreed 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."*

**Article 6.3 states,**

*"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."*



---

**Fostering Partnerships** seeks to provide national disability rights and victim assistance experts, decision-makers and persons with disabilities – including mine survivors – with opportunities to further explore challenges and good practices to align efforts to meet the needs and guarantee the rights of mine survivors, with efforts carried out under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and those undertaken to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Fostering Partnerships**, chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Mired Raad Zeid Al-Hussein and hosted by the European Union from 10-12 September 2019 in Amman, Jordan, counts with technical support of the Convention's Implementation Support Unit (ISU).

**Fostering Partnerships** is carried out in the context of Decision (2017/1428), adopted by the European Union Council to support States Parties' efforts to implement the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

---



Greetings from Kampala where mine survivors and other persons with disabilities gathered for a national stakeholder meeting with the Ministries of Education, Health, and Gender, Labour and Social Development, together with non-governmental organisations, Norway and the European Union to kick off the process to develop a new national policy on disability and a national disability action plan.

The National Stakeholder Dialogue was sponsored by the European Union.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE	3
2	ANNOTATED PROGRAMME	4
3	REGIONAL DISCUSSIONS	9, 30
4	FIELD VISITS	22
5	IMPORTANT DATES	36

Programme at a Glance		
TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER	WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER	THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER
<p><b>8:00 – 9:00</b>  <b>Registration</b>  Room: RIWAQ</p> <p><b>09:00 – 10:00</b>  • Ceremonial opening of the meeting  Room: RIWAQ</p> <p><b>10:00 – 10:15</b>  • Overview of the Programme  Room: RIWAQ</p> <p><b>10:45 – 12:30</b>  • Plenary Session One   Where Have We Come From? Where Are We Going? State of Play of Victim Assistance  Room: RIWAQ</p> <p><b>12:30 – 14:00   PARALLEL WORKING LUNCH SESSIONS</b></p> <p><b>Asia: Challenges for Regional Cooperation</b>  Room: ATRIUM</p> <p><b>América Latina: Challenges for Regional Cooperation</b>  Room: ATRIUM</p> <p><b>Europe: Challenges for Regional Cooperation</b>  Room: ATRIUM</p> <p><b>Middle East and North Africa: Challenges for Regional Cooperation</b>  Room: BOURJ AL HAMAM</p> <p><b>Sub Saharan Africa: Challenges for Regional Cooperation</b>  Room: BOURJ AL HAMAM</p> <p><b>14:15 – 16:00 PARALLEL SESSIONS</b>  <u>Parallel Session One:</u> Advancing Integration of Victim Assistance into Broader National Policies and Programmes  Room: BADIYA</p> <p><u>Parallel Session Two:</u> Placing Inclusion, Gender and Diversity in the Centre of Efforts  Room: RIWAQ</p> <p><b>16:00 – 17:15</b>  Parallel Sessions Report Back  Room RIWAQ</p>	<p><b>08:30</b>  • Voices of Inclusion  Room: RIWAQ</p> <p><b>08:45 – 10:30</b>  • Plenary Session Two   Shaping Policy and Programmes through Data Collection  Room: RIWAQ</p> <p><b>11:00 – 12:30 PARALLEL SESSIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parallel Session Three   Leaving No One Behind: Improving Social and Economic Inclusion  Room: BADIYA</li> <li>Parallel Session Four   Reducing Loss of Lives and Limbs; Improving Emergency Response and Protection  Room: RIWAQ</li> </ul> <p><b>12:30 – 14:00</b>  (Lunch, no sessions)</p> <p><b>14:00 – 17:30   PARALLEL FIELD VISITS</b>  (By registration only)</p> <p>Jordanian National Paralympic Committee  Location: Sport City Area Al Riyadah St.</p> <p>Hashemite Commission for Disabled Soldiers  Location: Al Madeneh Al Tebieh</p> <p>Sir Bobby Charlton Centre for Support and Rehabilitation / Asia Therapy Centre / Asia Development Training “ADT”  Location: Wasfi Al Tal St. Al Gardenz St., Building 85; 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</p>	<p><b>08:30</b>  • Voices of Inclusion  Room: RIWAQ</p> <p><b>08:45</b>  • Report back to plenary from previous day's parallel sessions</p> <p><b>09:30 – 11:00</b>  • Plenary Session Three   Improving Rehabilitation in Mine-Affected Countries  Room: RIWAQ</p> <p><b>11:00 – 12:30 PARALLEL SESSIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parallel Session Five   Measuring Impact; Can Assistance and Rights Be Measured?  Room: BADIYA</li> <li>Parallel Session Six   Improving Psychological Support; Taking Advantage of Peer-to-Peer Support  Room: RIWAQ</li> </ul> <p><b>12:30 – 14:00   PARALLEL WORKING LUNCH SESSIONS</b></p> <p><b>Asia: Opportunities for Regional Cooperation</b>  Room: ATRIUM</p> <p><b>América Latina: Opportunities for Regional Cooperation</b>  Room: ATRIUM</p> <p><b>Europe: Opportunities for Regional Cooperation</b>  Room: ATRIUM</p> <p><b>Middle East and North Africa: Opportunities for Regional Cooperation</b>  Room: BOURJ AL HAMAM</p> <p><b>Sub Saharan Africa: Opportunities for Regional Cooperation</b>  Room: BOURJ AL HAMAM</p> <p><b>14:30 – 15:15</b>  Report back to plenary from previous parallel sessions  Room: RIWAQ</p> <p><b>15:15 – 16:45</b>  <u>Plenary Session Four:</u> Cooperation and Assistance; Fostering Partnerships!  Room: RIWAQ</p> <p><b>16:45 – 17:30</b>  The Lead Up and Beyond Oslo. What Next?  Room: RIWAQ</p>
<p><b>18:00</b>  <b>Opening reception and dinner</b>  Host: European Union  Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan</p> <p>Location: Bourj Al Hamam Terrace  InterContinental Hotel</p>	<p><b>19:00</b>  <b>The Convention's President Reception</b>  Host: H.E. Ambassador Tone Allers  Royal Norwegian Embassy</p> <p>Location: No. 21 Abdul Majeed al-Adwan St,  Abdoun</p>	

TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER

09:00 – 10:00

## 1 Official opening of the meeting: Realising the Rights of Victims of Anti-Personnel Mines and other Explosive Remnants of War

### HRH Prince Mired Raad Zeid Al-Hussein

Chairman of the Board, Jordan National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation  
Special Envoy of the Convention and Chair of *Fostering Partnerships*

His Royal Highness has been engaged in the work of the Convention for more than a decade and a half. HRH presided over the Eight Meeting of the States Parties (8MSP) by the shores of the Dead Sea in 2007, and has served as Special Envoy since 2009. Prince Mired is also deeply engaged in matters related to disability rights. He is Chairman of the Board of the Jordanian National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation; Chairman of the Hashemite Commission for Disabled Soldiers; and, President of the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



### H.E. Maria Hadjitheodosiou

Ambassador, Head of the European Union Delegation to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Maria Hadjitheodosiou is the newly appointed Ambassador. A career diplomat, H.E. has worked with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Office of the President of Cyprus, and was previously the Ambassador / Deputy Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the European Union.

### H.E. Hans Brattskar

Ambassador of Norway to UN Geneva  
President of the Convention and Oslo Review Conference

Prior to being appointed to Geneva, Hans Brattskar was Ambassador and Special Adviser for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Operations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. H.E. also served as State Secretary (Deputy Minister) and as Ambassador to Sri Lanka. In addition, he has served in Washington D.C., Kenya, Somalia and Malaysia.



### Maria Soledad Cisternas Reyes

UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility

Prior to the current appointment, Maria Soledad Cisternas Reyes was Chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). She is also the recipient of the National Prize of Human Rights (2014-2015). She has a Law degree (graduated with highest honours) and a Master's in political science from the Universidad Católica de Chile, and has been awarded the title of Supreme Court attorney.

### Tun Channareth

Cambodia Campaign to Ban Landmines

Tun Channareth is a long-term advocate for the rights of mine survivors and other persons with disabilities and one of the pioneers of the landmine movement. In 1997, Tun Channareth represented mine survivors at the Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony in Oslo and has since served as Ambassador for the International Campaign to Ban Landmines. Tun Channareth leads projects on rehabilitation and socio-economic inclusion at the Cambodian Campaign to Ban Landmines/Jesuit Refugee Services in Siem Reap, Cambodia.



# Programme

## Danlami Umaru Basharu

Chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (via video)

Since 2018 Danlami Umaru Basharu has been the Chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities supporting States Parties to the CRPD in implementing the rights-based instrument. He has been the Director of the Anglo-Nigerian Welfare Association for the Blind for over two decades, and holds an LL.M. and M.A. (Hon.) from Cambridge University.



## In Memoriam: Aya Aghabi, Founder, Accessible Jordan



This Jordanian organisation provides information on all accessible places in Amman and tourist destinations across Jordan, and works with businesses, other organisations and individuals to improve accessibility to their work and home spaces.

Aya Aghabi, the creative force behind its establishment, returned home to Jordan after studying at the University of California at Berkeley, USA, to instil change so that all persons with disabilities could enjoy what Jordan has to offer.

Aya Aghabi died unexpectedly on 19 August 2019. She had been scheduled to join this distinguished panel. We recognise and honour her tremendous legacy.

**10:05 – 10:15**

## 2 Overview of the Programme

What can we expect from three days of work, how will things unveil? Meet the conference presenters who will put and keep things in perspective and will introduce the audience to new technologies that provide space for immediate feedback known as Sli.do. Get familiar. Open your phone browser and type sli.do, enter code #8260 and provide feedback. No applications to download.

### Brig. Gen. (Ret) Mohammad Breikat

National Director, Jordan National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation (NCDR)

Mohammad Breikat has been the National Director of the NCDR since May 2005. He was a helicopter pilot with the Royal Jordanian Air Force for 29 years retiring with the rank of Brigadier General.



### Juan Carlos Ruan

Director, Implementation Support Unit (ISU), Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

As Director of the substantive secretariat of the Convention, Juan Carlos Ruan provides strategic advice, briefings, communications and other services to the States Parties. Juan Carlos Ruan is also responsible for the substantive development of formal and informal meetings of the Convention, logistics of the meetings when these are held abroad, and for leading the work of ISU staff during these conferences.

**10:45 – 12:30**

### **3 Plenary Session One**

#### **Where Have We Come From? Where Are We Going? The State of Play in Victim Assistance**

In 2019, the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention commemorates 20 years since entering into force. The Convention has been a pioneer instrument in recognising the needs of the victims of a particular weapon. The session will take stock of the last two decades of efforts in translating victim assistance provisions (in particular Article 6.3) into practice. It will also seek to identify key remaining challenges to better address the rights and needs of mine survivors and other persons with disabilities.

To do so, the panel will consider the following questions:

1. *How far have we come in delivering the Convention's promise to mine survivors?*
2. *What is the status of victim assistance and what its relevance in today's world?*
3. *How has international human rights law altered the landscape in which we carry out victim assistance commitments?*
4. *What are the main challenges that remain in carrying out victim assistance efforts?*
5. *What can be achieved in the next five years following the Oslo Review Conference?*

**Moderator:**

**Dr Ken Rutherford, Director, Centre for International Stabilization and Recovery, and Professor of Political Science at James Madison University**

Ken Rutherford is also the co-founder of the Landmine Survivors Network (LSN) which pioneered techniques in war victim assistance, providing thousands of amputees with peer mentors and artificial limbs.

Ken Rutherford is an advocate for the global prohibition on anti-personnel mines and a renowned leader in the Nobel Peace Prize-winning coalition that spearheaded the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions.



# Programme

## Panellists:



**HRH Prince Mired Raad Zeid Al-Hussein** has been engaged in the work of the Convention for more than a decade leading the work of the States Parties in 2007, and serving as Special Envoy since 2009. Prince Mired is also deeply engaged in matters related to disability rights. He is President of the Jordanian National Committee for Demining & Rehabilitation; the Hashemite Commission for Disabled Soldiers; and, the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

**Murielle Marchand** is in charge of disarmament affairs at the Permanent Representation of Belgium to the UN in Geneva. She is also a senior member of the Convention's Committee on Victim Assistance, chairing the Committee in 2018. Ms. Marchand has a background in international human rights law and international humanitarian aid.



**Martha Hurtado** is Deputy Commissioner of *Descontamina*, the Colombian Mine Action Programme. In this capacity, she has worked on enhancing *Descontamina*'s operability from a right-based approach. She is a fierce advocate of international humanitarian law including by working as Adviser for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement for nearly a decade. Martha Hurtado is a PhD candidate and has an international public law and relations background.

**Sister Denise Coghlan** has been a leading force in the landmine movement for the past 30 years first working in the Thai-Cambodian refugee camps in the 1990s where she began her mine ban advocacy work. Sister Denise leads the Cambodia Jesuit Refugee Service, and is also member of the Governance Board of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and Cluster Munition Coalition (ICBL-CMC).



**Jesús Martínez** founded *Red de Sobrevivientes y Personas con Discapacidad* (Survivors and Persons with Disabilities Network), after surviving a mine explosion at 17 years of age. His foundation supports victims of armed violence and persons with disabilities to reintegrate in society by providing skills and advocacy training, and physical and psychological support. His passion has brought him to speak before the United States Congress on the need for victim assistance in post-conflict societies.

## Programme



**Greetings from the National Stakeholder Dialogue on Victim Assistance held in Baghdad, Iraq with participation of relevant ministries, regional directorates and civil society to kick-off the process to draft a new disability and victim assistance national action plan.**



The Zimbabwe Mine Action Centre (ZIMAC) hosted key ministries involved in the provision of assistance to mine victims and the area of disability rights such as Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, Women Affairs and Youth and Sports. Fostering partnerships among these various ministries and integrating victim assistance (VA) onto wider contexts such as labour, health and social welfare can help Zimbabwe in effectively meeting its VA obligation under the Convention.

## TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 12:30 – 14:00

### Asia: Challenges for Regional Cooperation

ROOM: ATRIUM  
MODERATOR: Velayuthn SIVAGNANASOTHY  
Director, Mine Action Centre, Sri Lanka

A special invitation is extended to State delegates, organisations and individuals interested in discussing challenges and best practices and exchange ideas on challenges regional cooperation.

\* This session will be carried out entirely in English. Should you wish to attend and require interpretation to/from English, kindly contact the organisers to see if such request can be accommodated.

### Europe: Challenges for Regional Cooperation

ROOM: ATRIUM  
MODERATOR: Sasa Obradovic, Director,  
Mine Action Centre, Bosnia and Herzegovina

A special invitation is extended to State delegates, organisations and individuals interested in discussing challenges and best practices and exchange ideas on challenges regional cooperation.

\* This session will be carried out in Serbian, Croatian, and Bosnian and English.

### Sub Saharan Africa: Challenges for Regional Cooperation

ROOM: BOURJ AL HAMAM  
MODERATOR: Sheila Mweemba  
Director, Convention on Cluster Munitions ISU

A special invitation is extended to State delegates, organisations and individuals interested in discussing challenges and best practices and exchange ideas on challenges regional cooperation.

\* This session will be carried out in English and French with interpretation to/from both.

### América Latina: Challenges for Regional Cooperation

ROOM: ATRIUM  
MODERATOR: Martha Hurtado  
Director, Mine Action Centre, Colombia

A special invitation is extended to State delegates, organisations and individuals interested in discussing challenges and best practices and exchange ideas on challenges regional cooperation.

\* This session will be carried out entirely in Spanish. Should you wish to attend and require interpretation to/from Spanish, please contact the organisers to see if such request can be accommodated.

### Middle East and North Africa: Challenges for Regional Cooperation

ROOM: BOURJ AL HAMAM  
MODERATOR: Mohammad Breikat  
Director, NCDR, Jordan

A special invitation is extended to State delegates, organisations and individuals interested in discussing challenges and best practices and exchange ideas on challenges regional cooperation.

\* This session will be carried out in Arabic, with interpretation to/from English.



Greetings from Juba! This group of mine survivors and persons with disabilities met in South Sudan in July 2019 to kick-off the development of the first National Action Plan on Disability. The National Stakeholders Dialogue was sponsored by the European Union.

**14:15 – 16:00****4 Parallel Session One****Advancing Integration of Victim Assistance into Broader National Policies and Programmes**

Mine action centres play an important role in victim assistance; most of these centres however, will cease to exist following completion of mine clearance programmes. States Parties have agreed to embed victim assistance beyond these institutions and into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks related to the rights of persons with disabilities, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction. This would ensure that in the long-term, mine victims' rights are guaranteed and their needs met in a sustainable manner.

With the purpose of building awareness of the need to increase integration of victim assistance into broader sectors and domains, panellists will be asked to consider the following questions:

1. *In practice, what does "integration of victim assistance into broader policies and programmes" mean?*
2. *What approaches can be applied to ensure that the rights and needs of mine survivors and other persons with disabilities are addressed in the most sustainable manner?*
3. *There has been some concern that victim assistance implementation is losing momentum as it gets increasingly integrated into broader frameworks. Is this concern warranted? If so, what can be done to address it?*

**Moderator:**

**Sheree Bailey, disability rights and victim assistance expert, Brisbane, Australia**

Sheree Bailey is a well-respected expert who for more than 15 years worked with and for survivors and other persons with disability including five years as Victim Assistance Specialist in the substantive secretariat of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Implementation Support Unit.

As a Victim Assistance Specialist, Sheree provided strategic advice to government authorities in affected States to develop, implement and monitor plans of action to address the rights and needs of survivors and other persons with disabilities. Sheree Bailey was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia "for service to humanitarian aid through the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, and through programs assisting survivors."



## Panellists:

**Habib Khan Zazai** is a 27-year veteran of mine action that currently heads the Victim Assistance Department at the Directorate of Mine Action Coordination Centre in Afghanistan. In such capacity, he supports the State Ministry for Disability Affairs including in developing a national disability and victim assistance strategy.



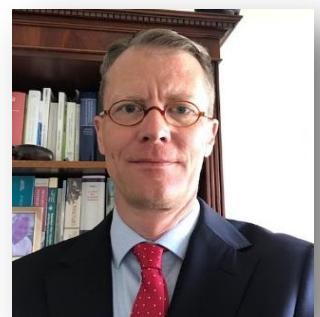
**Zoran Ješić** is Senior Expert Associate at the Ministry of Security in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He is responsible for developing rehabilitation projects for war veterans with disability through sports, and works on improving access to human rights for mine survivors. In addition to his official work, he is an active member of various associations and institutions that support integration and sports in the country, a Victim Assistance Coordinator at the Organisation of Amputees UDAS, as well as founder, player and long-time captain of the Volleyball Club for Disabled "Banja Luka".

**Dr. Worawut Smuthkalin** works at the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the UN in Geneva and is responsible for, among others, disarmament issues. He has been working for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand since 2006. He holds a Doctorate in East Asian studies from the Department of Political Science at Stanford University in California, in the United States.



**Elke Hottentot** has worked in the field of local and international development and humanitarian action for over 25 years. Her specialization lies in the area of disability, community rehabilitation, participatory development and mine action. She works with Humanity and Inclusion as an Armed Violence Policy Lead with a specialty in victim assistance. Elke Hottentot is a trained physiotherapist with a Master's degree in Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies and a certified yoga teacher.

**Dr Ekkehard Strauss** is the Senior Human Rights Adviser at the Office of the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Jordan. For nearly two decades he held different positions within the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and as Representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Mauritania. He holds a Doctorate degree in international law and human rights from the University of Potsdam, Germany.



**Oksana Leshchenko** is currently serving as the Development and Mine Action Policy Specialist at the United Nations Develop Programme (UNDP) Crisis Bureau. In this capacity, she works on policy advice and programme support linking mine action to development, achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), peace building and reconciliation, and governance. She was critical in preparation of UNDP's Strategic Framework on Development and Mine Action (2016).

**14:15 – 16:00****5 Parallel Session Two****Placing Inclusion, Gender and Diversity in the Centre of Efforts**

The States Parties have recognised that to be effective, victim assistance efforts should be carried out with a number of principles in mind, namely inclusion and consideration for gender and diversity. These principles also guide the work of disability rights actors working under the slogan, “*Nothing about Us without Us*”.

With the purpose of stressing the value of these principles and approaches in national policies and programmes, panellists are asked to consider the following questions:

1. *What hinders the full and meaningful participation of mine survivors and persons with disabilities in the development, implementation and monitoring of relevant policies and programmes?*
2. *What are the dangers in failing to apply inclusion, gender equality and diversity in our efforts?*
3. *How can we better measure our efforts in advancing inclusion, gender equality and diversity?*
4. *What concerted efforts need to be made to better ensure inclusion and achieve measurable progress?*

**Moderator:**

**Abia Akram** is the founder of the Special Talent Exchange Program, leads the Asia Pacific Women with Disabilities United, and chairs the UNICEF Global Partnership for Children with Disabilities.

Abia Akram is a world-renowned advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities, including through her work on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Ms. Akram holds a MA in Gender and International Development from University of Warwick, United Kingdom.



## Panellists:



**Mariam Abdoulaye** is the Head of the Department of Victim Assistance Services at the Chad National High Commission for Mine Action. Part of her work involves tracking and identifying casualties, raising awareness among affected communities of services available, and facilitating victims' and survivors' access to those services, including income-generating projects. Mariam Abdoulaye holds a Master's in public law and political science.

CHAD



**H.E. Hans Brattskar** is the current President of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, and Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva. Prior to this, he was Ambassador and Special Adviser for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Operations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway. H.E. also served as State Secretary (Deputy Minister) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and as Ambassador in Norway's Embassies in Washington D.C., New York, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Somalia and Malaysia.



**Margaret Arach Orech** is the Director of the Uganda Landmine Survivors Association, Commissioner to the Interfaith Action for Peace in Africa coalition and board member of Uganda's National Council for Disability. As honorary Ambassador of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), Margaret has promoted the rights of landmine survivors and persons with disabilities for more than a decade. She was awarded the European Union 2018 Human Rights Defenders Award for her efforts on behalf of persons with disabilities and mine survivors in Uganda, and campaigning on disarmament, peace and disability.

**Marion Provencher** is a Programme Officer in the Gender and Mine Action Programme at the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). Her work includes contribution and provision of technical assistance, training, outreach, and research on gender and diversity in mine action. She was involved in activities related to feminism and LGBTQ, and holds a Master's degree in Anthropology and Sociology of Development.



**16:00 – 17:15****Parallel sessions one and two report back to plenary**

Moderators present brief reports of the two parallel sessions to the plenary and respond to questions from the floor:

- Sheree Bailey
- Abia Akram

**18:00****Welcome, Opening Reception****Hosted by the European Union and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan**

Location: Bourj Al Hamam Terrace  
InterContinental Hotel



On 29-30 2019, representatives of government and civil society including mine survivors and persons with disabilities met in Mogadishu, Somalia at a first national workshop to start the process of drafting a national VA/disability action plan. The meeting was sponsored by UNMAS and Japan and had the technical backing of the Implementation Support Unit.

**08:30****1 Voices of Inclusion: Meet Nijaz Memic**

Nijaz Memic lost a leg when he stepped on an anti-personnel mine during the war in his native Bosnia and Herzegovina. He did not however, lose his drive.

After the war, Nijaz became a member of the sitting volleyball league at the Sports Association of Disabled Persons "SPID" but soon after craved some speed. He turned then his interest to skiing.

In 2009 Nijaz became the first athlete from Bosnia and Herzegovina to qualify for international Paralympian competitions. He continued his solo sports career becoming the first, and sole, Bosnia and Herzegovina athlete to compete at the 2010 Winter Paralympic Games in Vancouver.

Nijaz is also interested in providing youth with awareness on the risk of mines. In nearly two decades, Nijaz has provided over 3,000 presentations about the risk of explosive remnants of war to school children across the country, and founded the only inclusive ski school in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"Integration... or reintegration into society was a very difficult path," said Nijaz Memic. "I realised the extremely important role that sport can play. It is almost indispensable."

His work has been recognised with an Award for Special Contribution to the Development of Sports for Persons with Disabilities (2016), and a UNICEF and European Commission Award for his contribution to inclusion through sports.

**08:45 – 10:30****2 Plenary Session Two****Shaping Policy and Programmes through Data Collection**

Quality and timely data is needed to ensure that limited resources are used in the most effective and efficient manner. This includes information on the number of mine victims and persons with disability, the challenges they face and their needs. Mine action centres, health and injury surveillance systems, service providers and national censuses collect casualty data which informs policies and programmes on victim assistance in most mine-affected States. In some States, policy-makers and service providers use data from national surveys on disabilities to address victims' needs.

With the purpose of improving data collection and management in mine-affected and least-developed countries, panellists are asked to consider the following questions:

1. *What are the key lessons learnt in terms of victim assistance/disability data collection that could help improve efforts in this regard?*
2. *To what extent can data requirements be met through national health and injury surveillance, national census and other mechanisms?*
3. *What can be done to ensure a consistent approach in data collection?*
4. *What can be done to create a central/unified national data base with essential information available to relevant stakeholders?*
5. *What are the most useful tools and support available for resource scarce contexts?*

**Moderator:**

**Loren Persi, Casualties and Victim Assistance Research Coordinator,  
Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor**

Loren has been conducting research with the Monitor on victim assistance since 2004.

Previously, Loren Persi worked as research consultant with the Geneva Academy on global conflict casualty recording, with the United Nations Development Programme on regional small arms control, with Humanity and Inclusion (formerly Handicap International) on victims' rights and disarmament advocacy, and with Standing Tall Australia on the legislation and implementation of victim assistance. He holds a Master's in Political Science (Peace Studies).



## Panellists:

**Mao Bunnhath** is the Director of the Victim Assistance Department of the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA). He is responsible for coordinating victim assistance activities with all in-country stakeholders, data collection and reporting. Mao Bunnhath contributed to the development of Cambodia's National Disability Strategy Plan 2019-2023 and National Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025. He holds a Master's in Business Management and Administration and a Bachelor's in Economics.



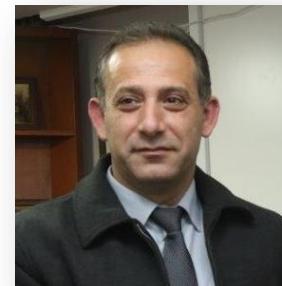
**Abia Akran** is a world-renowned advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities, including through her work on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. She also leads the Asia Pacific Women with Disabilities United, founded the Special Talent Exchange Program and chairs the UNICEF Global Partnership for Children with Disabilities.

**Dr Jean François Trani** investigates the intersection of mental health, disability, vulnerability and poverty with a focus on conducting field research that informs policy and service design for individuals living in conflict-affected fragile states and low-income countries. These include Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Somalia and Sudan, Morocco and Tunisia. Professor Trani is a member of the Prevention Research Center and the Social System Design Lab at the Brown School. He holds a Doctorate degree in Demography and Population studies.



**Sheree Bailey** is a well-known disability rights and victim assistance expert from Brisbane, Australia who for more than 15 years worked with and for survivors and other persons with disability including five years as Victim Assistance Specialist in the substantive secretariat of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Implementation Support Unit. In this role, Sheree Bailey provided strategic advice to government authorities in affected States with regards to the implementation of victim assistance.

**Rami Al-Dibs** is the Director of the Health Statistics Department at the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics. His specialty includes maternal, child, and disability statistics. In addition, Rami Al-Dibs manages and conducts health- and household-related disability surveys and as such is considered one of the top Arab region experts. He is also a published report author and representative of the prestigious Washington Group (WG).



**Hussein I. Ahmed** is Project Manager of Explosives Hazard Management at the UN Mine Action Services (UNMAS) Somalia Programme. He also chairs the Mine Action Area of Responsibility (AoR) of the Protection Cluster in Somalia. In 2018, together with the Somalia Mine Action Authority, Hussein Ahmed carried out the first VA situational assessment; to date, he continues to support an affective response in Somalia including by contributing to the development of a national plan of action. Hussein Ahmed has worked in Somali mine action for over a decade in various capacities.

**11:00 – 12:30****3 Parallel Session Three****Leaving No One Behind: Improving social and economic inclusion**

Following medical care and rehabilitation, it is essential to provide mine survivors with support to get back into society, including returning/going to school, finding employment or learning new and adapted skills. Yet, achieving social and economic inclusion of mine survivors has been one of the most prominent challenges in mine-affected countries. It is perceived that unless there is a boost to national economies, mine-affected countries will continue to struggle to succeed in this regard.

With the purpose of increasing our understanding of the complexity and need for strengthening social and economic inclusion and the need for more efforts in this regard, panellists are asked to consider the following questions:

1. *Given resource scarcity in many mine-affected countries, what can be done to increase social and economic inclusion among mine survivors and persons with disabilities?*
2. *How can we achieve an inclusive society where all persons with disabilities, including mine survivors, enjoy their full rights on an equal basis with others?*
3. *What can be done to “not leave behind” mine survivors/persons with disabilities, as aspire by the 2030 Agenda?*
4. *What can be done to reach the most vulnerable groups, such as mine survivors and persons with disabilities living in remote areas?*

**Moderator:**

**Elke Hottentot, Policy Lead Armed Violence Reduction, Handicap International Federation – Humanity and Inclusion, Geneva**

Elke Hottentot has worked in the field of local and international development and humanitarian action for over 25 years. Her specialization lies in the area of disability, community rehabilitation, participatory development and mine action.

Elke Hottentot works with Humanity and Inclusion as an Armed Violence Policy Lead with a specialty in victim assistance. She is a trained physiotherapist with a Master's degree in Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies and a certified yoga teacher.



**Panellists:**

**María Paz Larroulet Letelier** is the Deputy Director of the National Disability Service in Chile. She has extensive experience in disability, both in the public and private sectors. Between 2010 and 2014, she served as Regional Coordinator of SENADIS. In 2015, together with other partners she founded “Incluye 360”, a non-profit organisation aimed at working for the social inclusion of Persons with Disabilities. *Incluye 360* uses innovative strategies that install societal cultural change. María Paz Larroulet holds a Master's in financial management.



**Stefan Tromel** works as a Senior Disability Specialist in the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva. He is charged with coordinating the ILO Global Business and Disability Network. Previously, he led the International Disability Alliance and the European Disability Forum. Stefan Trömel was actively involved in the negotiation process of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and has participated in the work of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention for several years.

**Agnes Nampeera** is Uganda's victim assistance expert focal point. Agnes works as a Senior Rehabilitation Officer and Coordinator of National Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) at the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Development of Uganda. Agnes Nampeera holds a Master's degree in public administration and management.



**Wanda Muñoz** is a victim assistance expert with 15 years of experience, specializing in socioeconomic inclusion. She has worked at project and policy level in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Most recently, she contributed to the development of the Latin American Network of Survivors Associations. Wanda Muñoz is also a member of the Human Security Network in Latin America-SEHLAC. She holds a dual Master's degree in International Affairs/Economic and Political Development.

**Sandra Lorena Darce** is a prominent Nicaraguan disability rights advocate. In addition to being Founder and Director of the Federation of Women with Disabilities of Nicaragua, Sandra Darce is a teacher, business administrator and law studies graduate. For more than two decades, Sandra Darce has worked with persons with disabilities in areas of inclusive education, social work, capacity building and legal frameworks training. She is also the General Secretary of the Latin American Network of Organisations of Persons with Disabilities.



**11:00 – 12:30****4 Parallel Session Four****Reducing Loss of Lives and Limbs; Improving Emergency Response & Protection**

Injuries and deaths caused by anti-personnel mines and explosive remnants of war have increased in recent years. Given the severity of injuries and trauma caused, an effective and efficient first response is vital if we are to increase survival rates. An effective emergency response can save lives and limbs and ensure the safety of survivors and persons with disabilities in at-risk situations and during humanitarian emergencies. Persons with disabilities including mine survivors remain among the most vulnerable during natural and man-made disasters.

With this in mind, panellists are asked to consider the following questions:

1. *What improvements are required in current emergency response activities including other phases of pre-hospital care?*
2. *How can we apply Article 11 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities “Situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies” in mine affected countries?*
3. *What good practices are available to ensure the safety of persons with disabilities including mine survivors before, during and after disasters?*

**Moderator:**

**Dr Muhannad Alazzeh, Secretary General, Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of Jordan**

Dr. Alazzeh holds a Ph.D. in comparative criminal law and bioethics and a high diploma in good governance, public policy and anti-corruption. He is also a former senator in the Jordanian Senate.

Dr. Muhannad Alazzeh has ample experience in international human rights having worked with various UN and regional agencies.



**Panellists:**

**Velayuthan Sivagnanasothy** currently serves as Secretary in the Ministry of National Policies, Economic Affairs, Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Northern Province Development and Youth Affairs of Sri Lanka. He is also the National Director of the Mine Action Programme which also covers the implementation of victim assistance provisions in Sri Lanka. In addition, he is Secretary to the Presidential Task Force on Northern and Eastern Provinces Development. Prior to this, Velayuthan Sivagnanasothy served as Secretary in various ministries.



**Habib Khan Zazai** is a 27-year veteran of mine action that currently heads the Victim Assistance Department at the Directorate of Mine Action Coordination Centre in Afghanistan. In such capacity, he supports the State Ministry for Disability Affairs including in developing a national disability and victim assistance strategy.

**Christelle Loupforest** has over 20 years of professional experience with the UN system in political affairs, human rights, humanitarian coordination, and mine action. She has led teams at the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). At the UN Mine Action Services (UNMAS) Christelle Loupforest is the Officer in Charge of the Geneva Office and Global Coordinator of the Mine Action Area of Responsibility. She holds a Master's in Political Sciences.



**Ingrid Leroy** is the Technical Unit Coordinator of Humanity and Inclusion in Jordan. She is a trained Occupational Therapist with extensive clinical practice in the UK and holds a Master's degree in Global Health. Ingrid Leroy has been working with Humanity and Inclusion on the Syria crisis since 2014, providing technical support to rehabilitation and inclusion programs including emergency activities for injured and traumatized persons, and assistance to mine survivors and vulnerable populations.

**Alex Munyambabazi** is a soldier by profession, a peer counsellor and an advocate for disability rights through the Amputee Self Help Network Uganda which he founded. Alex Munyambabazi's passion is to bring healing to people who have been through a traumatic experience through sharing. As a landmine survivor, he supports other persons living with disabilities most especially those with limb loss with psycho-social therapy, introduction to adaptive sports like amputee football and para swimming, and prosthetic limb fitting. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Medical Laboratory Science and is currently earning a Master's in Clinical Immunology and Medical Microbiology.



## An Afternoon of Learning and Exploring: Field Visits

**WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER  
14:00 – 17:30**

### Jordanian National Paralympic Committee

**LOCATION:** Sport City Area Al Riyadah Street. Amman  
**CONTACT:** Adnan Telfah, a.telfah@ncdr.org.jo

The Jordanian Federation for Disabled Sports was established in 1981 on the International Year of Disabled Persons, and in line with the philosophy and constitution of Jordan towards building and progress. The Federation has been chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Raad bin Zaid.

The Federation aims to provide access to sports for persons with disabilities, training programs and advanced courses and the opportunity to participate in inclusive sports, competitions and international Paralympic tournaments.

An inclusive sports demonstration will take place during the visit.

\* Pre-registration required.

### Hashemite Commission for Disabled Soldiers

**LOCATION:** Location: Al Madeneh Al Tebieh  
**CONTACT:** Adnan Telfah, a.telfah@ncdr.org.jo

The idea of establishing an organization in Jordan to provide social support and services to disabled soldiers was first proposed in 1996.

At that time it had become clearly evident that disabled soldiers in the Kingdom were not receiving the care and attention that they deserved and that there was a general lack of awareness and understanding of the magnitude of the problem. After much deliberation, His Majesty the Late King Hussein bin Talal, God Rest His Soul, ordered the establishment of the 'Hashemite Society for Disabled Soldiers' and provided the organization with initial funding to get started

\* Pre-registration required.

### Sir Bobby Charlton Centre for Support and Rehabilitation / Asia Therapy Centre / Asia Development Training "ADT" Centre

**LOCATION:** Wasfi Al Tal Gardenz St – Alnaser Complex Building No. 85 – 2nd Fl.

The work at the Sir Bobby Charlton Centre is conducted by Asia Development Training, while activities are supported by the Sir Bobby Charlton Foundation (formally Find A Better Way). The Centre is the hub linking to other vital activities such as prosthetics provision. This is funded through the Polus Center and U.S. State Department's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs.

The work of Asia Development Training is guided by a principle objective: "We strive to create opportunities for persons with disabilities to live meaningful and productive lives within their communities." ADT provides Rehabilitation Services, Medical Treatment & Prosthetics, Special Treatment and Training Courses. The Sir Bobby Charlton Foundation focuses on providing funding to local organisations to work with victims of conflict.

\* Pre-registration required.

**WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER  
19:00**

### The Convention's President Reception hosted by Ambassador H.E. Tone Allers, Royal Norwegian Embassy

**Location:** Norway's Ambassador Residence, Location: No. 21 Abdul Majeed al-Adwan Street, Abdoun

Norway, as President of the Convention and the Oslo Review Conference on a Mine-Free World, welcomes delegates to Amman. Transportation to and from the venue is provided; kindly refer to the invitation for more details.

THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

**08:30 – 08:45**

## 5 Voices of Inclusion

**08:50 – 09:30**

## 6 Report back to plenary on parallel sessions three and four

Moderators present brief reports of the two parallel sessions from the previous day and respond questions from the floor.

- Elke Hottentot
- Dr Muhannad Alazzeh



The Cambodia Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA) held a national workshop on victim assistance in Siem Reap, with support of UNDP Cambodia and the ISU's technical backing. The purpose was to review CMAA's 2018-2020 victim assistance implementation plan and find ways to improve national coordination among victim assistance and disability rights actors. To strengthen coordination, workshop participants recommended that the Ministry of Health be included in the victim assistance technical group that operates under CMAA's leadership.

**09:30 – 11:00**

## 7 Plenary Session Three

### Improving Rehabilitation in Mine-Affected Countries

Persons who survive mine accidents often acquire severe impairments, including amputations, requiring physical and functional rehabilitation support throughout their lives. Rehabilitation has been at the centre of victim assistance efforts to meet these persons' needs. Health care, including rehabilitation, in most mine-affected countries however, is often disrupted by conflicts and hampered by scarce resources. States face serious challenges in the provision of sustainable rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities including mine survivors.

This session seeks to explore and recommend creative, strategic and realistic solutions to overcome challenges in physical and functional rehabilitation. Experts are asked to consider the following questions:

1. *What are the main challenges hindering the delivery of rehabilitation services in mine affected countries and how might these be overcome?*
2. *How can the rehabilitation needs of persons with disabilities including mine survivors best be met through broader development frameworks, such as the SDGs?*
3. *What are the pros and cons in advanced assistive technologies versus old assistive technologies in the context of mine affected countries?*
4. *Are there any untapped opportunities that can be leveraged for the delivery of physical and functional rehabilitation?*
5. *How can we improve partnerships to enhance comprehensive rehabilitation efforts for persons with disabilities including mine survivors in mine affected countries?*

**Moderator:**

**Dr Maryam Mallick, Technical Adviser, Disabilities, Rehabilitation, and Injury Prevention, World Health Organization (WHO)**

Dr Mallick is a public health professional and a medical rehabilitation specialist with a post-graduation from the Royal College of Physicians London. She has been instrumental in efforts to improve access to Assistive Technology (AT) at the global, regional and national level and in the adoption of a regional and a global resolution on Assistive Technology by the World Health Assembly in May 2018.

Dr Maryam Mallick is also a pioneer in establishing the Polio Rehabilitation Initiative in Pakistan, Yemen and Afghanistan for polio affected children and introducing Community Based Rehabilitation programme after the 2005 earthquake. She has also been credited for formulating the first Pakistan Disability Bill and development of the National Disabilities and Rehabilitation Strategic Action Plan 2019-2024.



# Programme

## Panellists:

**Myriam Ernestina Céspedes Castillo**, is an Adviser at the Ministry for the Participation of Persons with Disabilities of Colombia and Adviser to the Presidential Council for the Participation of Persons with Disabilities. She is also coordinator of the Group for Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities. Myriam Céspedes has experience in institutional coordination for the design and implementation of social public policies within the framework of the National Disability System and the National Disability Council of Colombia.



**Marc Zlot** is the Physical Rehabilitation Program Coordinator of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva. He oversees physical rehabilitation activities of the organisation worldwide. The ICRC is one of the key providers of rehabilitation support to mine survivors and other persons with disabilities in mine-affected countries. ICRC is also an Observer of the Convention and its Coordinating and Victim Assistance Committees.



**Dr Firas Tamween Abdulla Onaizah** works at the Directorate of Medical Operations and Specialized Services in the Department of Rehabilitation at the Ministry of Health of Iraq. Dr Onaizah is also specialised in rehabilitation.



**Kirsten (Kiki) L. Lentz** has worked in the Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA), Victim and Survivor Assistance (VA), and the disability domain for more than 20 years in myriad complex socio-political, conflict, and economic situations. Holding a degree and practitioner license in Physiotherapy and a Master's Degree of Public Health, with a concentration in International Health, Community Health and Development, Human Rights and Complex Medical Situations, has allowed Ms. Lentz to combine a unique skill set to address the needs of persons with disabilities and victims and survivors of conflict under the umbrella social inclusion, disability inclusive development, and education, health, and rehabilitation systems.

**Kamel Sa'adi** is the Founder of the Life Line for Consultancy and Rehabilitation (LLCR), a Jordanian non-profit and has worked on mine awareness and victim assistance projects for nearly two decades. In 1979, after losing his left leg to a landmine blast, Kamel devoted himself to helping others in similar situations, and became part of global movement to ban landmines. Through LLCR Kamel Sa'adi provides physical rehabilitation support to Syrian and Jordanian mine and other explosive remnants of war victims. He holds a degree in Prosthetics / Orthotics from Pittsburgh, in the United States.



THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

**11:30 – 13:00**

## **8 Parallel Session Five**

### **Measuring Impact; Can Assistance and Rights be Measured?**

Victim assistance as a cross-cutting issue is often associated with various domains such as disability, health, development, poverty reduction, human rights, education, labour, and protection among others. While data is much needed to direct decision-making for national policy, measuring impact and existing gaps and challenges in implementation across domains can be a complex and time-consuming process for donors and service providers. Data can show how far we have come, what has gone wrong and how resource allocation has been effective in meeting the needs and rights of mine survivors and by extension, all persons with disabilities. The absence of a baseline however, makes measuring impact nearly impossible.

With the purpose of exploring how to improve measurability in victim assistance including in broader frameworks of disability, this session will seek to answer the following questions through expert presentations and small-groups work.

1. *What does it take to put in place functional mechanisms in developing countries, to continuously track progress, identify and fix challenges in victim assistance?*
2. *What tools are available to help States in measuring impact?*
3. *How can we measure progress to achieve the victim assistance objectives and make demonstrable progress in the next five years?*

#### **Co-Moderators:**

##### **Jaime Chissano (Mozambique), Chair of the Convention's Committee on Victim Assistance**

Jaime Chissano is Minister Plenipotentiary at the Permanent Mission and Embassy of the Republic of Mozambique in Geneva and Chair of the Convention's Committee on Victim Assistance.

He has previously served as the Head of Africa Union Department at the Africa and Middle East Directorate in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of Mozambique. His previous postings include Luanda, Angola; Stockholm, Sweden; and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Mr. Chissano holds Master's degrees from Addis Ababa and Geneva Universities.



##### **Murielle Marchand (Belgium), Senior Member of the Convention's Committee on Victim Assistance**



Murielle Marchand is in charge of disarmament issues at the Permanent Representation of Belgium to the UN in Geneva. Prior to that she was posted in New York and Stockholm and worked in refugee camps in Lebanon. Murielle Marchand has been a member of the Committee on Victim Assistance since 2016, chairing the Committee in 2018. She has a background in international human rights law and international humanitarian aid.

# Programme

## Expert Presenters

**Irena Mitro** is Head of Policies and Strategies for Social Protection and Integrated Services of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Albania. During her professional life, she has concentrated in areas concerning social integration of Persons with Disability in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, including on legislation and policy formulation on Inclusion and Accessibility and the 2016-2020 National Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities. Irena Mitro has also participated in ministerial groups for social integrated services, and monitored access to services.



**Loren Persi** is the casualties and victim assistance research coordinator of the Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor. He has been conducting research with the Monitor on victim assistance since 2004. Loren Persi has previously worked as a research consultant with the Geneva Academy on global conflict casualty recording, with UNDP on regional small arms control, with Humanity and Inclusion on victims' rights and disarmament advocacy and with Standing Tall Australia on the legislation and implementation of victim assistance. He holds a master's in Political Science (Peace Studies).

**11:30 – 13:00**

## 9 Parallel Session Six

### Improving Psychological Support, Taking Advantages of Peer-to-Peer Support

Amputees often endure long and painful recovery processes following a traumatic injury, such as that caused by a mine or explosive remnant of war. Survivors often experience a loss of self-confidence, anxiety and fear. Therefore, psychological (professional support by psychiatrists and psychologists) and psychosocial support (peer-to-peer counselling and other forms of social support) is key in successful social and economic reintegration. Yet, psychological and psychosocial supports are not always available to survivors.

With the purpose of increasing understanding concerning psychological and psychosocial supports and their long-term impact, panellists will consider the following guiding questions:

1. *Why is this such a critical aspect of victim assistance and why then the lack of attention?*
2. *What are the remaining challenges and gaps in psychological/psychosocial support that should be addressed?*
3. *Who should take the lead in filling the gaps in this regard, and why?*
4. *In the absence of adequate resources, what can States do to meet minimum standards in psychological/psychosocial support?*
5. *What tools and resources are available for policy makers and practitioners of psychological/psychosocial support?*
6. *Why should psychological/psychosocial support be placed at the centre of victim assistance efforts?*

**Moderator:**

**Firoz Alizada, Implementation Support Officer, Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit, Geneva**

Firoz Alizada is an Implementation Support Officer with the Convention's substantive secretariat, the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) in Geneva. His work includes supporting States Parties to the Convention in implementing victim assistance provisions.

He has worked in areas of victim assistance/disability rights and humanitarian disarmament for over 15 years including with the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), UN Mine Action Services (UNMAS), Humanity and Inclusion, International Committee of the Red Cross and local survivors' networks in Afghanistan. He holds an Executive Master's in development policy and practice from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies of Geneva.



# Programme

## Panellists:



**Sahar Mustafa** is a Victim Assistance Expert currently working at the Mine Action Centre, Sudan, which is responsible for the provision of victim assistance in Sudan.

Her clinical experience includes working as practitioner (nurse); job she held prior to joining the Mine Action Centre. Sahar Mustafa holds a Master's degree in Sciences in Obstetrical and Gynaecological Nursing.

**Sarah Harrison** is a Technical Adviser in Mental health and Psychosocial Support in Emergencies at the International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent Societies Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support (IFRC PS Centre). She is also Co-Chair of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings (IASC MHPSS). Prior to taking up these roles, she worked with International Medical Corps, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), ACT Alliance, International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and Action Aid International. She has over a decade experience in mental health and psychosocial support programming experience in humanitarian contexts having worked in the Caribbean (Haiti), Africa, Asia and the Middle East.



**Wanda Muñoz** is a victim assistance expert with 15 years of experience, specializing in socioeconomic inclusion. She has worked at project and policy level in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Most recently, she contributed to the development of the Latin American Network of Survivors Associations. Ms. Muñoz is also a member of the Human Security Network in Latin America-SEHLAC. She holds a Dual Degree Master of International Affairs/Economic and Political Development.

**Jesus Martinez** is the co-founder of the *Red de Sobrevivientes y Personas con Discapacidad* (Survivors and Persons with Disabilities Network). His foundation supports victims of armed violence and persons with disabilities to reintegrate in society by providing skills and advocacy training, and physical and psychological support. Jesus Martinez was Director of the Landmine Survivors Network (Survivors Corps) in El Salvador, and is a peer-to-peer support expert.



**Dr Ken Rutherford** is the Director of the Centre for International Stabilization and Recovery and Professor of Political Science at James Madison University. He is also the co-founder of the Landmine Survivors Network (LSN), which pioneered techniques in war victim assistance, providing thousands of amputees with peer mentors and artificial limbs. Ken Rutherford is also an advocate for the global prohibition on anti-personnel mines and a renowned leader in the Nobel Peace Prize-winning coalition that spearheaded the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions.

# Programme

THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER  
12:30 – 14:00

## Asia: Opportunities for cooperation

ROOM: ATRIUM  
MODERATOR: Velayuthn SIVAGNANASOTHY  
Director, Mine Action Centre, Sri Lanka

A special invitation is extended to State delegates, organisations and individuals interested in discussing challenges and best practices and exchange ideas on challenges regional cooperation.

\* This session will be carried out entirely in English. Should you wish to attend and require interpretation to/from English, kindly contact the organisers to see if such request can be accommodated.

## Europe: Opportunities for cooperation

ROOM: ATRIUM  
MODERATOR: Sasa Obradovic, Director,  
Mine Action Centre, Bosnia and Herzegovina

A special invitation is extended to State delegates, organisations and individuals interested in discussing challenges and best practices and exchange ideas on challenges regional cooperation.

\* This session will be carried out in Serbian, Croatian, Bosnian and English.

## Sub Saharan Africa: Opportunities for cooperation

ROOM: BOURJ AL HAMAM  
MODERATOR: Sheila Mweemba  
Director, Convention on Cluster Munitions ISU

A special invitation is extended to State delegates, organisations and individuals interested in discussing challenges and best practices and exchange ideas on challenges regional cooperation..

\* This session will be carried out in English and French with interpretation.

## América Latina: Opportunities for cooperation

ROOM: ATRIUM  
MODERATOR: Martha Hurtado  
Director, Mine Action Centre, Colombia

A special invitation is extended to State delegates, organisations and individuals interested in discussing challenges and best practices and exchange ideas on challenges regional cooperation..

\* This session will be carried out entirely in Spanish. Should you wish to attend and require interpretation to/from Spanish, please contact the organisers to see if such request can be accommodated.

## Middle East and North Africa: Opportunities for cooperation

ROOM: BOURJ AL HAMAM  
MODERATOR: Mohammad Breikat  
Director, NCDR, Jordan

A special invitation is extended to State delegates, organisations and individuals interested in discussing challenges and best practices and exchange ideas on challenges regional cooperation.

\* This session will be carried out entirely in Arabic. Should you wish to attend and require interpretation to/from Arabic, please contact the organisers to see if such request can be accommodated.

## 14:30 – 15:15

### 10 Report on parallel sessions five and six

Moderators present brief reports of the two parallel sessions to the plenary and respond to questions from the floor:

- Jaime Chissano and Murielle Marchand
- Firoz Alizada

## 15:15 – 16:45

### 11 Plenary Session Four

#### Cooperation and Assistance; Fostering Partnerships

Victim assistance receives support through international humanitarian mine action cooperation and assistance as well as through other international and national sectors, such as human rights, disability, health, poverty reduction, development, human rights and so on. Yet, States Parties to the Convention with significant numbers of landmine survivors continuously report that shortages of resources hinder efforts to meet the rights and needs of mine victims.

With the aim of seeking solutions to the issue of resources in victim assistance, panellists in this session are asked to consider the following questions:

1. *Are we following the right approach to secure resources for victim assistance?*
2. *What can mine- and ERW-affected States do to include victim assistance in other funding streams such as health, development and poverty reduction?*
3. *What tangible actions would you suggest States Parties take to generate support for the implementation of the victim assistance aspects of the Oslo Action Plan?*
4. *Who should fund victim assistance, and why?*

#### Moderator:

**Juan Carlos Ruan**  
Director, Implementation Support Unit (ISU)  
Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

As Director of the substantive secretariat of the Convention, Juan Carlos Ruan provides strategic advice, briefings, communications and other services to the States Parties.

Juan Carlos Ruan is also responsible for the substantive development of formal and informal meetings of the Convention, logistics of the meetings when these are held abroad, and for leading the work of ISU staff during these conferences.



# Programme

## Panellists:

**Ingrid Schøyen** is Senior Adviser at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway. Her portfolio covers humanitarian disarmament, protection issues and global mine action, including implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. She is responsible for financial support for mine action in 20 countries. Ingrid Schøyen holds an MPhil degree in Political Science and International Relations.



**Lily Pinguz Vergara** is the Director of the Peruvian National Rehabilitation Institute "Dra. Adriana Rebaza Flores" (INR) in Lima, a cooperation project from the Governments of Peru and Japan, which has been providing services for nearly five decades. The Institute is a highly specialized centre under the Ministry of Health, addressing technical aspects of rehabilitation and providing services for persons with disabilities. Lily Pinguz is a Surgeon from the National University of San Marcos specialised in Rehabilitation, and has a Master's degree in Health Services Administration from the Federico Villarreal National University.

**Diogoye Sene** is the Head of the Victim Assistance Department at the Senegal Mine Action Centre (CNMAS), and national Victim Assistance Focal Point. Diogoye Sene oversees victim assistance planning, coordination and activities evaluation in Senegal. He has a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and two Master's degrees in Project Management and Public Policies and Development.



**Frank Meeussen** is responsible for conventional arms control at the Disarmament, Non-proliferation and Arms Export Control Division of the European External Action Service (EEAS). He is Alternate Chair of the Council Working Party on Arms Export Control (COARM). Between 2008 and 2016 Frank Meeussen worked for the Arms Control Directorate of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Before that period, he worked on international security, conflict prevention, arms control and human rights in the cabinet of a Vice-Prime Minister in the Belgian Federal Government (1999-2003), as well as for civil society, including Pax Christi and Amnesty International. He studied in Antwerp and Strasbourg and holds a Master's degree in International Relations.

**María Soledad Cisternas Reyes** is the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility. Prior to her current appointment, Maria Soledad Cisternas Reyes was Chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Maria Soledad Cisternas is also the recipient of the National Prize of Human Rights (2014-2015). She is the director of several legal and interdisciplinary projects & author of various publications. The Special Envoy is a native of Chile.



## Programme



**Oksana Leshchenko** is currently serving as the Development and Mine Action Policy Specialist at the UN Development Programme's Crisis Bureau. In this capacity, she works on policy advice and programme support in linking Mine Action to development, achievement of the SDGs, peace building and reconciliation, and governance. She was critical in preparation of UNDP's Strategic Framework on Development and Mine Action (2016). Oksana is a development practitioner who has worked for over 18 years in UNDP's Crisis Bureau, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, and the Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS (both in the Country Offices and at HQ).

**Catherine Gillet** is Director of the Humanity and Inclusion Regional Programme of Senegal, Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde. She has over three decades of experience working for various international and non-governmental organisations, including over two decades with HI as Programme Director in various countries. Catherine Gillet coordinates preparation and implementation of development or emergency projects within the programme, including projects related to the reduction of armed violence (victim assistance and mine clearance). She is currently based in Dakar where she coordinates implementation of eight projects in Senegal (including mine clearance in Casamance), Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde.



THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

16:45 – 17:30

## 12 What Partnerships in the Lead Up to & Beyond Oslo?

### HRH Prince Mired Raad Zeid Al-Hussein

Chairman of the Board, Jordan National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation  
Special Envoy of the Convention and Chair of *Fostering Partnerships*

His Royal Highness has been engaged in the work of the Convention for more than a decade and a half. He presided over the 8MSP by the shores of the Dead Sea in 2007, and has served as Special Envoy since 2009. Prince Mired is also deeply engaged in matters related to disability rights. He is the Chairman of the Board of the Jordanian National Committee for Demining & Rehabilitation; the Chairman of the Hashemite Commission for Disabled Soldiers; and the President of the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



### Ingrid Schøyen

Senior Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway  
Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention's Presidency

Ingrid Schøyen's portfolio covers humanitarian disarmament, protection issues and global mine action, including implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. She is responsible for financial support for mine action in 20 countries. She holds an MPhil degree in Political Science and International Relations.

### Jaime Chissano

Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mozambique to the UN  
Chair of the Convention's Committee on Victim Assistance

Jaime Chissano is Minister Plenipotentiary at the Permanent Mission and Embassy of the Republic of Mozambique in Geneva and Chair of the Convention's Committee on Victim Assistance. He has previously served as the Head of Africa Union Department at the Africa and Middle East Directorate in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of Mozambique. His previous postings include Luanda, Angola; Stockholm, Sweden; and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He holds Master's degrees from Addis Ababa and Geneva Universities.



# Programme

## 13 Young Survivors' Voices of Inclusion: 3.0 and the Power of Influence

**Selma Guso** was born to capture attention. Her degree in communication and her stint as a journalist proves it well. She remembers being a young carefree child like many others. One day, at age 10, she and her cousin strolled through the forest in a fun excursion not knowing that an explosive remnant of the war that had torn her Bosnia and Herzegovina was lying dormant. Her life was never the same.

As a young urban teenager she faced looks and incomprehension. Yet no one could stop her at the swimming pool. She became member of the first swimming club for persons with disabilities, SPID in her native country. At competition, Selma won the 50m and 100m breaststroke at various meets including the Croatia Swimming Championship. Selma is now using her skills to bring a new perspective to the lives of young survivors, appearing often in newscasts, speaking in mine action fora and even more dear to her heart, to kids on the risk of mines that still litter Bosnia and Herzegovina.



**Holmes Fabian Ordoñez Guapando** grew up in a war-torn region of Colombia where he and his seven siblings worked as small farmers after his father died unexpectedly when he was just a small child. His mother was a true beacon in his life, making the impossible possible and providing Fabian with access to education. A month after graduating, Fabian who had returned home ready to practice what he had learned far away from his homestead, stepped on a landmine, which turned his life upside down.

While his family and faith helped him overcome what he had endured, meeting others who had experienced a similar fate provided much needed support. Soon, Holmes realised that through a dedicated network of peers, he could reach and support countless others who had experienced loss and grief. It was only a matter of time before his leadership skills kicked in; he founded a regional network of mine survivors who are now looking to be part of a national victims' board. In this process he has learned to interact with various layers of government and even met the President of Colombia (and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate). Fabian has also learnt an important lesson: that of the power of press and social media networks, where you can find him often.





18 September 2019	Twenty-first anniversary of the adoption of the Convention Second preparatory meeting for the Fourth Review Conference in Oslo, Geneva
25-29 November	Oslo Review Conference on a Mine-Free World
3 December	International Day of Persons with Disabilities
3-4 December	Twenty-second anniversary of the signing of the Convention



*February	Fifth International Pledging Conference for Implementation of the Convention
1 March	Twenty-first anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention
30 April	Deadline for States Parties to submit Article 7 transparency reports covering calendar year 2019
*May or June	2019 intersessional meetings, Geneva
18 September	Twenty-third anniversary of the adoption of the Convention
*November-December	Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties
3 December	International Day of Persons with Disabilities
3-4 December	Twenty-third anniversary of the signing of the Convention

\* Subject to approval.



*Greetings from the Bosnia-Herzegovina National Stakeholder Dialogue, held in October in Sarajevo,  
hosted by BHMAC and sponsored by the European Union.*

**THIS PUBLICATION WAS PREPARED BY  
THE ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT UNIT  
THANKS TO SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION**

---

---

The Implementation Support Unit (ISU) is the substantive secretariat to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. The ISU is mandated to support the Convention's States Parties to the Convention, in particular by doing the following:

- Providing support to all States Parties through support to the Convention's implementation machinery and office holders,
- Providing support to individual States Parties, including by providing advice and technical support on implementation and universalization,
- Communicating and providing information about the Convention,
- Keeping records of formal and informal meetings under the Convention; and,
- Liaising and coordinating with relevant international organisations that participate in the work of the Convention.

The ISU is directly accountable to the States Parties while being hosted by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining. The ISU is funded on a voluntary basis by States Parties to the Convention.

# Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

Ending the Suffering and Casualties Caused by Anti-Personnel Mines



[www.apminebanconvention.org](http://www.apminebanconvention.org)  
isu@apminebanconvention.org



Find us on:



[Facebook.com/AntiPersonnelMineBanConvention](https://www.facebook.com/AntiPersonnelMineBanConvention)



[Flickr.com/photos/APMineBanConvention](https://flickr.com/photos/APMineBanConvention)



@MineBanTreaty



@MineBanTreaty

## Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit

Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2C

P.O. Box 1300 1211

Geneva 1 Switzerland

T+41(0)227309311

F+41(0)227309362

E [isu@apminebanconvention.org](mailto:isu@apminebanconvention.org)

[www.apminebanconvention.org](http://www.apminebanconvention.org)