

# Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention: Facts and Figures

Information as of 15 January 2019



## What is the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention?

- This is a short way of referring to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, also known as the Ottawa Convention.
- The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention is the international community's comprehensive response to the humanitarian problems caused by anti-personnel mines, weapons that are indiscriminate and that last for decades after conflicts have ended.
- The Convention was adopted in Oslo on 18 September 1997 and opened for signature in Ottawa on 3 and 4 December 1997 at a ceremony that featured the participation of dozens of world leaders. In 2017, the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signature of the Convention was celebrated.
- For their determination in calling for the Convention, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and its coordinator Jody Williams were awarded the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize.
- The Convention entered into force on 1 March 1999.
- At their Third Review Conference in 2014, States Parties adopted at a high political level the *Maputo + 15 Declaration* in which they committed to intensify efforts to promote universal adherence and observance of the Convention's norms, destroy stockpiled anti-personnel mines, address mined areas and assist mine victims and expressed their aspiration to meet their goals to the fullest extent possible by 2025. At the same conference, States Parties further adopted the Maputo Action Plan 2014 – 2019 to guide their efforts.
- In 2019, the Convention is presided over by Norway. Norway intends to bring renewed *political attention* to the Mine Ban Convention. The Maputo goal of a mine free world by 2025 remains the objective. Next year's Review Conference provides an opportunity to refocus efforts and to make a plan for the *achievement* of the objectives of the Convention. Norway's efforts will culminate during the Fourth Review Conference which will take place in Oslo on 25-29 November 2019.

## What is the purpose of the Convention?

The purpose of the Convention is "to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines" through the pursuit of four core aims:

- Universal acceptance of a ban on anti-personnel mines
- Destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines
- Clearance of mined areas
- Assistance to mine victims

## How many countries have joined?

164 States have ratified or acceded to the Convention. They include:

- Most of the States that at one time used, stockpiled, produced or transferred anti-personnel mines
- The vast majority of States that are or have been affected by anti-personnel mines
- Every State in the Americas, except Cuba and the United States
- Every State in sub-Saharan Africa
- Every Member State of the European Union

Year	Number of ratifications / accessions	Year	Number of ratifications / accessions
1997	3	2006	4
1998	55	2007	4
1999	32	2008-2010	-
2000	19	2011	2
2001	13	2012	3
2002	8	2013	-
2003	11	2014	1
2004	3	2015-2016	-
2005	4	2017	2

There are 33 States not party to the Convention, including one signatory State\*.

Armenia	Korea, DPR of	Nepal
Azerbaijan	Korea, Republic of	Pakistan
Bahrain	Kyrgyzstan	Russian Federation
China	Lao PDR	Saudi Arabia
Cuba	Lebanon	Singapore
Egypt	Libya	Syrian Arab Republic
Georgia	Marshall Islands*	Tonga
India	Micronesia, Federated States of	United Arab Emirates
Iran	Mongolia	United States of America
Israel	Morocco	Uzbekistan
Kazakhstan	Myanmar	Vietnam

At the 73<sup>rd</sup> session of the UN General Assembly, 16 States not party voted in favour of the resolution on the implementation of the Convention (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, China, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Libya, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Singapore, Tonga and the United Arab Emirates), 15 States not party abstained (Cuba, DPRK, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, USA and Vietnam) and 2 were not present (Lebanon and Uzbekistan).

## How much progress has been achieved since 1999 and what is the remaining challenge?

### Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines

States Parties have four years after entry-into-force to destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines under their jurisdiction or control.

- Of the 91 States Parties that reported stockpiled anti-personnel mines, 88 have completed their stockpile destruction programmes, with over 51.8 million stockpiled anti-personnel mines destroyed.
- In addition, 13 States Parties have reported the destruction of approximately 205,000 previously unknown stockpiled anti-personnel mines after deadlines had passed.
- The work continues for Greece, Sri Lanka and Ukraine which together still hold approximately 4.9 million stockpiled anti-personnel mines.

State Party	Anti-personnel mines remaining to be destroyed	Art.4 projected completion date
Greece	439,585	By the end of September 2019
Sri Lanka	56,712	By 1 August 2020
Ukraine	4,473,461	2021
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,969,758</b>	

## Retaining anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes

There are 75 States Parties which reported retaining 164,833 anti-personnel mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques as permitted by Article 3 of the Convention. A total of 16,903 anti-personnel mines previously retained under Article 3 were destroyed during the course of 2017.

A number of States Parties have not reported on the use or plans for the use of retained anti-personnel mines in accordance with the purposes permitted by Article 3 and/or have retained the same number of anti-personnel mines for a number of years.

## Destroying anti-personnel mines in mined areas

States Parties shall make every effort to identify all areas under their jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced. States Parties have ten years to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas and return these areas to a state for normal human activity. If the States Parties are unable to do so in ten years, they may ask for an extension of their deadlines.

Of the 63<sup>1</sup> States Parties that have reported mined areas, **31 have reported that they have completed implementation of their mine clearance obligations** in compliance with the Convention, with tens of millions of square metres of previously dangerous land due to the presence or suspected presence of anti-personnel mines released.

**1999:** Bulgaria

**2002:** Costa Rica

**2004:** Djibouti and Honduras

**2005:** Guatemala and Suriname

**2006:** The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

**2007:** Swaziland

**2008:** France and Malawi

**2009:** Albania, Greece, Rwanda, Tunisia and Zambia

**2010:** Nicaragua

**2011:** Nigeria

**2012:** Congo, Republic of, Denmark, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Jordan and Uganda

**2013:** Bhutan, Germany, Hungary and Venezuela

**2014:** Burundi

**2015:** Mozambique

**2017:** Algeria

**2018:** Mauritania

**32 States Parties are still in the process of fulfilling their mine clearance obligations**, the majority of which have faced circumstances that have led them to request extensions.

State Party	Article 5 deadline
<b>Afghanistan</b>	1 March 2023
<b>Angola</b>	31 December 2025
<b>Argentina</b>	1 January 2020
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	1 March 2021
<b>Cambodia</b>	1 January 2020
<b>Chad</b>	1 January 2020
<b>Chile</b>	1 March 2020
<b>Colombia</b>	1 March 2021
<b>Croatia</b>	31 December 2025
<b>Cyprus</b>	1 July 2022
<b>DRC</b>	1 January 2021
<b>Ecuador</b>	31 December 2022
<b>Eritrea</b>	1 February 2020
<b>Ethiopia</b>	1 June 2020
<b>Iraq</b>	1 February 2028
<b>Niger</b>	31 December 2020

State Party	Article 5 deadline
<b>Oman</b>	1 February 2025
<b>Peru</b>	31 December 2024
<b>Senegal</b>	1 March 2021
<b>Serbia</b>	1 March 2023
<b>Somalia</b>	1 October 2026
<b>South Sudan</b>	9 July 2021
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	1 June 2028
<b>State of Palestine</b>	1 June 2028
<b>Sudan</b>	1 April 2023
<b>Tajikistan</b>	1 April 2020
<b>Thailand</b>	31 October 2023
<b>Turkey</b>	1 March 2022
<b>Ukraine</b>	1 June 2021
<b>United Kingdom</b>	1 March 2024
<b>Yemen</b>	1 March 2020
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	31 December 2025

<sup>1</sup> Mozambique, since declaring completion in 2015, indicated that it has four suspected areas that remain underwater and that no intervention in these areas can be carried out at present.

## Assisting the victims

The Convention was the first multilateral arms control / disarmament convention to include provisions to assist the victims of the weapons in question. In doing so, the Convention established a new norm.

- **30 States Parties**<sup>2</sup> have indicated that they have significant numbers – hundreds or thousands – of landmine survivors for which they must provide care.
- States Parties have agreed that victim assistance should be integrated into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks, including those related to the rights of persons with disabilities.
- The Convention has served as a catalyst for drawing attention to the plight of landmine survivors – and hence the challenges of all persons with disabilities – in some of the world’s poorest countries.

## 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.

In the context of Article 9 obligations, 66 States Parties have reported that they have adopted legislation and 37 States Parties have reported that they consider existing laws to be sufficient. 61 States Parties have not yet reported having either adopted legislation or that they consider existing laws to be sufficient. Of these 61 States Parties, some have reported that they have drafted specific legislation but that it has not yet been adopted or that legislation is being considered but they have not provided updated information for a number of years.

## Implementation support

### The Implementation Support Unit

The implementation of the Convention is supported by a secretariat based in Geneva and called the Implementation Support Unit (ISU). The ISU is mandated to provide support to the Convention machinery as a whole and to provide advice and technical support to individual States Parties implementing the Convention. The ISU conducts its work in coordination with all relevant organisations which participate in the work of the Convention.

The ISU is funded on a voluntary basis by the States Parties to the Convention. In 2018, the ISU Voluntary Trust Fund has so far received contributions from 23 States Parties: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and the United Kingdom.

### The Committees of the Convention


Since the Third Review Conference, four Committees work in support of the implementation of the Convention and provide assistance to States Parties in fulfilling their commitments.

**I. The Committee on Article 5 Implementation** works to intensify efforts particularly those outlined in the Maputo Action Plan, to ensure that Article 5 of the Convention (clearing mined areas) is fully implemented as soon as possible.

Committee Chair:  Netherlands | 2018-2019

Members:  Colombia | 2018-2019

 Austria | 2019-2020

 Canada | 2019-2020


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<sup>2</sup> 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 , Somalia , South Sudan , Sri Lanka , Sudan , Tajikistan , Thailand , Uganda , Yemen , Zimbabwe


**II. The Committee on Cooperative Compliance** assists the States Parties in acting upon their commitment under Article 8.1 of the Convention to work together in a spirit of cooperation to facilitate compliance in a supportive and amicable manner.

Committee Chair:  Norway | 2019

Members:  Poland | 2018-2019

 Zambia | 2018-2019


 Iraq | 2019-2020


 Switzerland | 2019-2020

**III. The Committee on Victim Assistance** supports the States Parties in their national efforts to strengthen and advance victim assistance, particularly in States Parties with mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control.

Committee Chair  Mozambique | 2018-2019

Members  Belgium | 2018-2019

 Chile | 2019-2020


 Italy | 2019-2020

**IV. The Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance** supports the States Parties in the full implementation of Article 6 of the Convention, in line with their reaffirmation that ending the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines is a shared commitment.

Committee Chair  Sweden | 2018-2019

Members  Thailand | 2018-2019

 Turkey | 2019-2020

 United Kingdom | 2019-2020

### **The Coordinating Committee**

The Coordinating Committee coordinates the work flowing from and related to formal and informal meetings of the States Parties and also fulfils responsibilities related to the accountability of the Implementation Support Unit. The Coordinating Committee is composed of the Convention's President, the President-designate and the members of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation, the Committee on Cooperative Compliance, the Committee on Victim Assistance, and the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance.

The Coordinating Committee invites the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) as observers.