



16-20 NOVEMBER 2020  
GENEVA

## Priorities of the President of the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties

### Universalization

We intend to work very closely with the Convention's Special Envoys, States Parties and international organizations to ensure that we increase the number of States Parties over the course of this year.

We will encourage States not party to continue participating in the work of the Convention, to revisit their national policies on anti-personnel mines and to decide once and for all to join us in taking a stand against the use of this weapon.

We will also work to ensure that the norms of the Convention are upheld by continuing to stigmatize the use of anti-personnel mines, improvised or conventionally manufactured, by any actor.

### Stockpile destruction and retained anti-personnel mines

We will work together with States Parties that are in the process of destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines to support their efforts in meeting their commitments under the Convention as soon as possible.

Concerning those States Parties retaining anti-personnel mines, we will work with these States Parties and encourage efforts to determine whether the mines retained are indeed, as stipulated in the Convention, the minimum number necessary for permitted purposes. We will also encourage efforts by States Parties to explore the use of safe alternatives such as the use of training mines.

### Mine clearance

We intend to work together with the Committee on Article 5 implementation to find ways to encourage States Parties to achieve their current survey and clearance efforts and make maximum use of the lessons and achievements of the last 20 years.

We are hopeful that over the course of our Presidency we will see States Parties with limited contamination declare completion of their Article 5 commitments and those with heavily contamination make significant steps towards this end.

In addition, we will work with the Committee on Article 5 Implementation to ensure that affected communities are provided with the right information and support they require to ensure that they remain out of harm's way.

### **Victim assistance**

We will work with the Committee on Victim Assistance in continuing our efforts to ensure the integration of victim assistance into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks related to the rights of person with disabilities, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction. We must ensure that these different frameworks are indeed addressing the needs and the rights of mine victims. We need to focus on strengthening our national frameworks in this regard and work in a multi-sectoral manner to provide an effective response.

Our Convention has an important place in improving the plight of mine victims, but we cannot do this alone and we must reach out to other actors and other sectors. We have all committed to make life better for mine victims and we must see that we fulfil this promise. Sudan looks forward to working with the Committee on Victim Assistance in this regard.

### **Compliance**

Our expectation is that States that face allegation of use, continue working in a spirit of transparency and cooperation to address these matters as soon as possible. This cooperative and transparent approach is a trademark of the Convention and one which has served the Convention well since its inception.

We will also work within the Committee on Cooperative Compliance to ensure that "measures to ensure compliance" such as the enacting of national legislation and reporting under Article 7 are addressed.

### **Cooperation and assistance**

We will work with the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance to continue strengthening partnerships between States Parties in a position to provide assistance and those seeking assistance. This is a critical issue for implementation of the Convention and one which requires commitments from both parties in order to be successful. The work of the Committee on establishing the individualized approach and highlighting the importance of National Mine Action Platforms has proven important components of this effort and we look forward to working with the Committee.

### **Finances**

We will also work to ensure that we continue our efforts to secure the necessary financial resources to carry out our Meetings of the States Parties as we have planned and to urge those States with outstanding contributions to ensure that payments are made as soon as possible. In this regard, we will implement the measure we have adopted to ensure our work continues unconstrained.

Finally, we will ensure that the Implementation Support Unit has sufficient resources to carry out their work in line with its 5-year work plan.