

## Achieving the aims of the Oslo Action Plan: Progress Report 2020-2021

Submitted by the President of the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties, the Committee on Article 5 Implementation, the Committee on Victim Assistance, the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance and the Committee on Cooperative Compliance

### Introduction

1. From 25 to 29 November 2019, the international community gathered in Oslo, Norway to reaffirm the commitment of States, international organisations and civil society to ending the suffering caused by anti-personnel mines and to achieving a world free of mines. At this historic event – the Fourth Review Conference *on a Mine-Free World* – the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, while inspired by their collective achievements, expressed their will to strengthen their efforts to overcome remaining challenges.
2. With the aim of supporting enhanced implementation and promotion of the Convention in the five-year period following the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties adopted the Oslo Action Plan (OAP) 2019-2024. The OAP details the actions States Parties will take during the period of 2019–2024 to support implementation of the Convention, building on the achievements of the Nairobi, Cartagena and Maputo Action Plans.
3. To ensure the effectiveness of the OAP, the States Parties appreciate the need to regularly monitor progress of the implementation of the actions contained within it. In particular, the States Parties highlighted that in order to monitor progress in implementing the OAP, the information submitted in the States Parties' annual Article 7 reports will serve as the main source of data to assess progress and that members of the Coordinating Committee and the President will be responsible for measuring progress within their mandate, with the support of the Implementation Support Unit. A baseline value for all indicators will be established based on the data reported in the first year of implementation, in Article 7 reports due by 30 April 2020, and progress in subsequent years will be compared to this baseline. This baseline was established by the President and the Committees and presented to the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties (18MSP) in 2020.
4. The purpose of the Progress Report 2020-2021 is to support the application of the OAP by measuring progress made during the period of 20 November 2020 to 19 November 2021 and, in doing so, to highlight priority areas of work for the States Parties in the period between the 2021 Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties (19MSP) and the 2022 Twentieth Meeting of the States Parties (20MSP). It is the second in a series of annual progress reports that will be prepared every year until the 2024 Fifth Review Conference. The information in this report builds upon the reports presented by the Committees at the 22-24 June 2021 Intersessional Meeting and is aimed at tracking the implementation of the Actions of the OAP and their respective indicators. States Parties are invited to provide additional or updated information concerning their implementation efforts ahead of the closing of the 19MSP.

#### I. **Universalization:** Mandate of President of the 19MSP: the Netherlands

5. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties committed to promote universal observance of the Convention's norms and objectives, condemn violations of the norms and to take appropriate steps to end the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines by any actor, including by armed non-State actors.

6. As of the 18MSP, the Convention had entered into force for 164 States. There were 33 States - **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, Georgia, India, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Syrian Arab Republic, Tonga, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam** - which were not yet party to the Convention including one signatory State - **the Republic of the Marshall Islands** – which had not yet ratified the Convention.
7. Since the 18MSP, there has been no new ratifications/accessions to the Convention. In 2020 and 2021, the ongoing global pandemic has created an obstacle for substantial universalization efforts both due to the lack of opportunity to travel and meet in person and the focus of States on their response to the pandemic.
8. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties committed to using all available avenues to promote ratification of/accession to the Convention by States not party including by encouraging their participation in the work of the Convention in accordance with **Action #11**.
9. In accordance with **Action # 11**, two States Parties– **Slovenia, Switzerland** – reported using all available avenues to promote ratification of/accession to the Convention by States not party.
10. Additionally, **the Netherlands**, as President of the Convention, addressed the Conference on Disarmament on 22 February 2021, seizing the opportunity to appeal to all members of the Conference that have not yet done so to join the Convention as soon as possible.
11. Furthermore, the President held bilateral meetings with five States not Party – **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Lebanon and Libya** – to discuss their position vis a vis accession to the Convention and encourage their participation in the work of the Convention.
12. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties committed to continue to promote universal observance of the Convention's norms and objectives, condemn violations of these norms and take appropriate steps to end the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines by any actor, including by armed non-State actors in accordance with **Action #12**.
13. In accordance with Article #12, one State Party – **Slovenia** – indicated that nationally and as a member of the European Union it promoted the universalisation of the Convention, its norms and objectives at different multilateral meetings and events. Furthermore, one State Party – **Philippines** – condemned the violation of the norms of the convention by armed non-State actors.
14. All States not party with the exception of three - **Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Uzbekistan** - have participated at least once in a Convention-related meeting, with some States not party regularly delivering statements and providing information about their State's position on the Convention and/or on their activities to implement certain provisions of the Convention as well as their contribution to mine action activities. The President sent letters to States not party encouraging them to participate in the work of the Convention and inviting them to the 22-24 Intersessional Meetings. In 2021, 11 States not party - **Armenia, Azerbaijan, India, Israel, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Libya, Morocco, Myanmar, United States of America and Viet Nam** – registered to participate in the Intersessional Meetings and **[NUMBER]** States Parties – **[INSERT NAME OF STATES PARTIES]** participated in the 19MSP.
15. In 2021, 1 State not party – **Morocco** – submitted a voluntary transparency report.
16. Many States not party acknowledge and support to various degrees the humanitarian goals of the Convention and highlighted the grave consequences of the use of anti-personnel mines. A number

of States not party express acceptance for the Convention's norms by choosing to vote every year in favour of the UNGA resolution. In 2021, [INSERT NUBMER] States not party – [INSERT NAMES OF STATES NOT PARTIES] - voted in favour of the resolution.

17. Since entry into force of the Convention seven States not party – **Egypt, Georgia, India, Kazakhstan, Korea, Republic of, Morocco** and **Singapore** - have indicated that they have put in place moratorium on the use, production, export and/or import of anti-personnel mines. In 2020 no additional State not party has reported putting in place such moratorium.

18. On 18 February 2021, the European Union (EU) adopted Council Decision (CFSP) 2021/257 in support of the Oslo Action Plan for the implementation of the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction. Part of the Decision is focused on supporting the Presidency in the implementation of its universalization mandate and supporting the activities of the Convention's Special Envoys in this endeavour.

## II. Stockpile destruction and retention of anti-personnel mines: Mandate of President of the 19MSP: the Netherlands

19. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties noted the importance of ensuring that all stockpiled anti-personnel mines are expeditiously destroyed in line with Article 4 of the Convention.

20. At the close of the 18MSP, three States Parties – **Greece, Ukraine** and **Sri Lanka** – had outstanding commitments under Article 4 with two of these State Parties – **Greece** and **Ukraine** – being in non-compliance with their Article 4 obligations after the expiration of their four-year implementation deadline of 1 March 2008 and 1 June 2010, respectively.

21. In accordance with **Action #13**, as of 21 September 2021, three States Parties – **Greece, Sri Lanka** and **Ukraine** – had provided information on the status of implementation of their obligations with two States Party – **Sri Lanka** and **Ukraine** – having reported progress in implementation since the 18MSP.

22. On 8 September 2021, **Sri Lanka** reported in a communication to the Convention's Implementation Support Unit, that it has completed its Article 4 obligations following the destruction on 24 August 2021 in Kilinochchi, **Sri Lanka**, of its last 11,840 stockpiled anti-personnel mines ahead of its 1 June 2022 deadline.

23. The President warmly welcomed the news of the completion by **Sri Lanka** within its Convention deadline. The President further welcomes the transparent manner in which **Sri Lanka** completed its Article 4 implementation efforts.

24. Since the 18MSP, **Greece** has not reported progress in the destruction of their remaining 343,413 stockpiled anti-personnel mines. In 2020, Greece indicated that recent complications emanating from environmental compliance issues have caused the temporary pause of the demilitarization process of the remaining stockpiled anti-personnel mines and that the competent department of the Ministry of Defence and the Hellenic Defence Systems (HDS) are in close consultation to find the best possible solution to resolve this issue and set the destruction of the remaining stocks back on track in order to fulfil their obligation as soon as possible. In 2021, Greece reported that it was not possible to ensure environmental compliance during the demilitarization process and that Greece therefore had to consequently terminate the cooperation with their subcontractor.

25. **Greece** reported in 2021 that they would refrain from providing a time-bound plan since the competent departments of the Ministry of National Defence and the HDS are currently assessing

options, including the conduct of an international tender procedure for the destruction of the remaining stockpiled anti-personnel mines. Greece also stated that they will continue handling the issue with utmost transparency and that mines have already been gathered and transferred in 12 final sites, from which they are being collected and transferred to HDS in Lavrio, Attica, to be destroyed.

26. Noting with concern that no anti-personnel mines have been destroyed by Greece since the 18MSP, the President urged **Greece** to act in response to the appeal made to intensify efforts for the completion of stockpile destruction obligations. The President encourages Greece to do its utmost to put an end to this situation as soon as possible, work to start the destruction process and communicate a time-bound plan for completion. The President also encourages Greece to provide a timeline for its internal procedures including a timeline for its international tender procedure.

27. Since the 18MSP, **Ukraine** reported that the contract with the contractor Ukrainian State Enterprise "Scientific Production Association "Pavlograd Chemical Plant"" had been terminated and therefore no stockpile destruction could take place in 2020 as envisaged. Ukraine reported that, to identify a new contractor, the NATO Support and Procurement Agency was providing arrangements to conduct the relevant tender procedures. Ukraine further indicated that as soon as the tender procedure is completed, Ukraine will report on the activities carried out under Article 4.

28. In information provided in its transparency report in 2021, **Ukraine** reported that 3,364,433 stockpiled anti-personnel mines remained to be destroyed as of 1 January 2021, including 3,363,828 PFM-type and 605 OZM-4 type mines. Ukraine also reported that the 605 OZM-4 mines are in areas outside of Ukraine's effective control. In 2020, to the exception of 456 stockpiled anti-personnel mines destroyed because of risks associated with their storage, no other stockpile destruction could take place.

29. The President concluded that Ukraine has provided information on the status of its stockpile destruction programme, including information on the total number and types of stockpiled anti-personnel mines remaining to be destroyed and those destroyed during the most recent reporting period. The President notes that with the latest information shared by Ukraine and given the termination of the contract for the disposal of Ukraine's stockpiled anti-personnel mines, the completion date provided by Ukraine of 2021 appears compromised.

30. The President notes the importance of Ukraine presenting a time-bound plan for completion and proceeding with implementation as soon as possible in accordance with Action #14 of the OAP. The President encourages Ukraine to continue to inform regularly on remaining challenges including the provision of updated information on tender procedures, and a detailed timetable containing milestones leading to completion and information on issues of concern which may potentially affect the projected timetable.

31. In accordance with **Action #15** one State Party – **Montenegro** – reported the discovery of 195 previously unknown stockpiled mines by the Police Directorate of Montenegro in 2020. Montenegro reported that these anti-personnel mines were taken by the representatives of the Ministry of Interior, Protection and Rescue Directorate and handed over to the chemical industry Polix in Berane for destruction through an international project supported by the Government of the United States and the International Trust Fund Enhancing Human Security. The President noted that it was positive that Montenegro informed the States Parties about this discovery and that it had taken immediate action for the destruction of these anti-personnel mines.

32. The President recalled that, in 2020, the **Gambia** had reported that, during the course of 2019, it became aware of a previously unknown stockpile of 3,000 anti-personnel mines. The President

noted that, since then, no updated information has been provided by the Gambia on the progress made to destroy these anti-personnel mines in accordance with Action #15 of the OAP and that updated information on this matter would be welcome.

33. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties noted the importance of ensuring that anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3 do not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for permitted purposes.
34. At the time of the 18MSP, 66 States Parties had reported retaining mines in accordance with Article 3.
35. Since the 18MSP, one State Party – **Guyana** – indicated that it retains anti-personnel mines for training purposes.
36. At present, there are 67 States Parties - **Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Eritrea, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Peru, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe** - that retain anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes.
37. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties committed to annually review the number of mines retained and report on the use of retained mines in accordance with **Action #16**. As of 21 September 2021, 41 States Parties that retain anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes – **Angola, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Mauritania, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Oman, Peru, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – submitted Article 7 reports. Of these, only 22 States Parties - **Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Peru, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden and Turkey** - reported on the use/destruction of retained mines during the reporting period.
38. Of the 22 States Parties that submitted information on retained mines, nine States Parties - **Angola, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Jordan, Nicaragua, Oman, Senegal and Zimbabwe** - reported no change in the number of anti-personnel mines they retain under Article 3 compared to the previous year.
39. Three States Parties – **Mozambique, Serbia and Ukraine** – submitted an annual report but their reports did not contain information on anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3.
40. In accordance with **Action #17**, four States Parties – **Iraq, Slovenia, Sudan and Zimbabwe** – reported efforts to explore alternatives to using live anti-personnel mines for training and research purposes.
41. **Bulgaria** – reported an increase in the number of anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3. Bulgaria reported that in 2020, 9,059 anti-personnel mines (8927 M2A4 and 132 M3), previously owned by the Bulgarian private company “EXPAL BULGARIA” JSC, have been successfully transferred to Italy, a State Party to the Convention, for destruction.

42. **The Netherlands** reported that 606 anti-personnel mines (DM31) previously retained for training by the Ministry of Defence of the Netherlands were transferred for the purpose of destruction to Italy on 30 November 2020. The transferred mines are in secured storage until the reactivation of the factory following an accident which led to its total lockdown.

43. In its 2020 Article 7 Report, **Italy** reported that it imported for destruction a total of 9,059 anti-personnel mines and that a total of 6,119 mines have been destroyed. Italy further reported that it imported for destruction a total of 606 anti-personnel mines belonging to another State Party for destruction but destruction activities have not yet started.

### III. Survey and clearance of mined areas: Mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation: Belgium, Norway, Sri Lanka, Zambia (Chair)

44. At the Fourth Review Conference the States Parties, while recognizing that considerable progress has been made in addressing mined areas, reiterated the need to increase the pace of survey and clearance activities to meet Article 5 obligations as soon as possible. To ensure significant progress towards their ambition of completing their time-bound obligations to the fullest extent possible by 2025, the States Parties agreed that accelerated survey and clearance would provide the greatest contribution to reducing human suffering and to protecting people from the risk posed by anti-personnel mines. The States Parties adopted a number of actions in this regard.

45. At the close of the 18MSP – 32 States Parties were in the process of implementing Article 5 obligations. Since then, the following has transpired: one State Party – **Guinea Bissau** - reported the discovery of previously unknown mined areas in areas under its jurisdiction or control.

46. There are now 33 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, State of Palestine, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – in the process of implementing Article 5.

47. Of these, as of 21 September 2021, 26 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Iraq, Mauritania, Oman, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – have submitted their Article 7 reports containing updated information on progress in implementation of Article 5 with 17 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Ecuador, Iraq, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe** – employing the Guide to Reporting in accordance with **Action #8**.

48. In the lead up to the 2021 Intersessional Meetings of the Convention, the Committee on Article 5 Implementation prepared preliminary observations on information submitted by 19 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Mozambique, Oman, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine Yemen and Zimbabwe**. Observations were shared with the respective States Parties to seek clarifications or further information. Other States Parties were also invited to report. The preliminary observations were made available on the Convention's website<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Preliminary observations prepared by the Committee on Article 5 on information submitted by the States Parties with Article 5 obligations as of 31 May 2021, can be found at: <https://www.apminebanconvention.org/intersessional-meetings/june-2021/background-documents/>

49. Of the 33 States Parties with mined areas under their jurisdiction or control, as of 21 September 2021, seven States Parties - **Afghanistan, Colombia, Iraq, Serbia, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – responded to the request from the Committee and submitted updated information on efforts to implement Article 5.

50. As of 21 September 2021, seven of the 33 States Parties implementing Article 5 - **the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Guinea-Bissau, Niger, Nigeria, State of Palestine and Somalia** - have not submitted Article 7 reports.

51. One State Party- **Mozambique** – which declared completion in 2015, noting at the time that areas remain seasonally or permanently submerged under water and are marked and regularly monitored, did not provide updated information on this situation in its Article 7 Report.

52. The Committee welcomed the information submitted by States Parties and noted an increase in the quality of reports. The Committee observed that 13 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Chad, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Iraq, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe** - provided a *high degree of clarity*<sup>2</sup> on their remaining challenge, five States Parties - **Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Mauritania, and Senegal**- provided *clarity*<sup>3</sup> and six States Parties – **Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Oman, Sri Lanka, Ukraine and Yemen** - provided *some clarity*<sup>4</sup>.

53. As of 21 September 2021, of the seven States Parties – **Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Mauritania, Nigeria, Somalia and Turkey** - with Article 5 deadlines in December 2020 and 2021/2022 which indicated would be unable to complete implementation of their Article 5 obligations by their deadline and would therefore need to submit an extension request for consideration by the 19MSP, six of them submitted their requests for extension – **Cyprus** (9 February), **the Democratic Republic of the Congo** (9 July), **Mauritania** (1 June 2021), **Nigeria** (17 May 2021), **Somalia** (20 April 2021) and **Turkey** (26 March).

54. Additionally, one State Party – **Guinea Bissau** - which had declared completion of its Article 5 obligations in 2012, reported having identified previously unknown mined areas. In accordance with the decision of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties for States Parties that find themselves in such situations, **Guinea Bissau** submitted, on 11 August, a request for an extended deadline for consideration by the 19MSP.

55. At the 18MSP, the States Parties expressed concern that **Eritrea** had not presented an Article 5 extension request and would find itself in a situation of non-compliance following expiration of its 31 December 2020 Article 5 deadline. The 18MSP called on Eritrea to submit as soon as possible a request for extension in accordance with the process established by the States Parties at the

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<sup>2</sup> State Party has provided a list of all remaining areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines and with this list including the estimated size of each area, the status of each area (i.e., “known” or “suspected”), and information on the geographic location of each area.

<sup>3</sup> State Party has provided a summary table of all remaining areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines according to regions / provinces / districts within the State, with this list including the number of areas known to contain anti-personnel mines and the number of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in each region / province / district within the State, and the estimated size of the area concerned per region / province / district.

<sup>4</sup> State Party has provided a summary table of all remaining areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines according to regions / provinces / districts within the State, with this list including the number of areas known to contain antipersonnel mines and the number of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in each region / province / district within the State, and the estimated size of the area concerned per region / province / district.

Seventh Meeting of the States Parties. The 18MSP further encouraged Eritrea to engage with the Committee on Article 5 Implementation and the Implementation Support Unit on this matter as soon as possible. Eritrea now finds itself in non-compliance with the Convention. Despite the Committee's best efforts and sustained outreach and dialogue including in cooperation with President of the 18MSP and 19MSP of the Convention, as of 21 September 2021, **Eritrea** has not submitted a request for extension of its 31 December 2020 Article 5 deadline. On 28 September 2021, the 19MSP President, on behalf of the Coordinating Committee, wrote to Eritrea expressing their growing concern regarding Eritrea's silence with regards to its implementation efforts and to invite Eritrea to comply with its obligations in the lead up to the 19MSP.

56. Of the four States Parties – **Ethiopia, Niger, Tajikistan** and **Ukraine** – that were due to submit updated work plans by 30 April 2021 pursuant to decisions taken by the States Parties on their requests for extension, one State Party - **Tajikistan** - submitted an updated work plan. [Additionally, one State Party – **Iraq** – is due to submit an updated work plan by the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties]. **[UPDATE AT 19MSP]**
57. The Committee welcomed **Tajikistan** acting upon the decisions and recommendations of the States Parties, including by providing updated information regarding the impact of survey results on its Article 5 completion efforts and reporting on adjusted milestones for implementation. The Committee recognized the importance of States Parties acting upon the decisions made by the States Parties in granting their extension requests and invites States Parties which have not done so to submit updated work plans as soon as possible.
58. In accordance with **Action #18**, 24 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Guinea Bissau, Iraq, Mauritania, Nigeria, Oman, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen** and **Zimbabwe** - reported on efforts to establish an evidence-based baseline of contamination.
59. In accordance with **Action #18**, six States Parties – **Afghanistan, Cambodia, Colombia, Serbia, South Sudan and Sri Lanka** - reported having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men.
60. In accordance with **Action #19**, 20 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Mauritania, Oman, Senegal, Serbia, Sri Lanka, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen** and **Zimbabwe** – reported having evidence-based and costed national work plans in place.
61. In accordance with **Action #20**, 12 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey** and **Zimbabwe** – provided annual updates and adjusted milestones (qualitative and quantitative) for completion.
62. In accordance with **Action #21**, nine States Parties - **Afghanistan, Colombia, Iraq, Nigeria, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Ukraine** and **Yemen** - reported being affected by anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature and are applying the provision of the Convention including survey, clearance and reporting.
63. In accordance with **Action #22**, 20 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Iraq, Mauritania, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey** and **Zimbabwe** - reported on progress and status of implementation in their Article 7 reports in a manner consistent with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). In addition, 20 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina,**

**Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Ecuador, Iraq, Mauritania, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - provided updated survey and clearance data, disaggregating by type of contamination.

64. In accordance with **Action #23**, of the six States Parties that submitted requests for extension in 2021, five States Parties – **the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mauritania, Nigeria, Somalia and Turkey** – included multiyear work plans for the period of the extension. One State Party – **Guinea Bissau** – submitted a request for an extended deadline to allow time to develop a detailed work plan for submission in a second request by 31 March 2022. Of the six States Parties that submitted request for extension two States Parties – **Cyprus and Turkey** - submitted in accordance with the process established by the States Parties.

65. In accordance with **Action #24**, of the six States Parties that have submitted requests for extension, only two States Parties – **Nigeria and Turkey** – provided information on plans to implement mine risk education and reduction during the extension period.

66. In accordance with **Action #26**, 15 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – reported on efforts to establish a national sustainable capacity and eight States Parties – **Afghanistan, Colombia, Iraq, Peru, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand and Zimbabwe** - reported having put in place a sustainable capacity.

67. In accordance with **Action #26**, three States Parties – **Guinea Bissau, Mauritania and Nigeria** – have discovered previously unknown mined areas and are addressing contamination within the framework of the Convention.

68. In accordance with **Action #27**, 12 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Serbia, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reported on efforts to improve effectiveness and efficiency primarily through the updating of National Mine Action Standards.

#### **IV. Mine risk education and reduction: Mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation: Belgium, Norway, Sri Lanka, Zambia (Chair)**

69. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties committed to intensifying their efforts to prevent new casualties in affected areas and providing effective, relevant and targeted mine risk education and other risk reduction measures to all groups at risk to increase protection until the threat of anti-personnel mines can be removed.

70. In accordance with **Action #28**, 13 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - reported on efforts to integrate mine risk education and reduction programmes into wider humanitarian, development, protection and education programmes.

71. In accordance with **Action #29**, 14 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Iraq, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen, and Zimbabwe** - reported having mine risk education and reduction programmes in place that are tailored to the threat encountered by the population and have reported data in a disaggregated manner. Additionally, three States Parties – **Afghanistan, Cambodia and Iraq** – reported carrying out mine risk education and reduction activities that collect, analyse and report data disaggregated by gender, age, disability and other diverse needs.

72. In accordance with **Action #30**, eight States Parties – **Afghanistan, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, South Sudan, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – reported on their efforts to prioritise people most at risk through an analysis of available casualty and contamination data.

73. In accordance with **Action #31**, 13 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Serbia, Sri Lanka, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reported updates on their efforts to build a national capacity to deliver mine risk education and reduction programmes.

74. In accordance with **Action #32**, 21 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Mauritania, Oman, Senegal, Serbia, Sri Lanka, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - provided information on actions taken to effectively increase the protection of all affected populations and groups at risk.

**V. Victim Assistance:** Mandate of the Committee on Victim Assistance: Thailand (Chair), Sweden, Ecuador, Algeria

75. At the 18MSP, the States Parties reaffirmed their determination to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines and to ensure the full and equal inclusion of survivors and victims. Also, at the 18MSP, on the basis of its observations of information submitted by the States Parties in 2020, the Committee on Victim Assistance encouraged the States Parties to ensure ongoing efforts to guarantee the integration of Victim Assistance into relevant national policies, structures and programmes to ensure a multi-sectoral approach, ensuring the monitoring of such efforts and reporting on progress and challenges they encountered in implementing their victim assistance commitments.

76. At the close of 18MSP, 30 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, the 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 and Zimbabwe** - reported significant numbers of mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control.

77. Of the 30 States Parties with significant numbers of mine survivors, as of 31 May 2021, 17 submitted Article 7 reports: **Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Yemen and Zimbabwe**. Of these States, 16 submitted updated information on Victim Assistance activities in their Article 7 reports: **Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Yemen and Zimbabwe**.

78. As of 31 May 2021, four other States Parties – **Algeria, Chile, Turkey and Ukraine** – submitted Article 7 reports, in which **Algeria, Chile and Turkey** provided information on their efforts to implement victim assistance commitments.

79. In the lead up to the 2021 Intersessional Meetings of the Convention, the Committee on Victim Assistance prepared preliminary observations on information submitted by 19 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe**. Observations were shared with the respective States Parties to seek clarifications or further

information. Other States Parties were also invited to report. The preliminary observations have been made available on the Convention's website<sup>5</sup>.

80. As of 21 September 2021, six more States Parties with significant numbers of mine survivors submitted Article 7 reports - **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Chad, Croatia, Ethiopia and Sri Lanka** - of which five States Parties - **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Chad, Croatia and Sri Lanka** - included information on Victim Assistance activities. And one State Party – **Serbia** – submitted information on its victim assistance activities directly to the Committee on Victim Assistance.
81. As of 21 September 2021, 12 States Parties with Victim Assistance commitments - **Afghanistan, Algeria, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Sudan, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - responded to preliminary observations presented at the 2021 Intersessional Meetings by the Committee on Victim Assistance, by providing further information or clarifications. The Committee welcomed the information provided by the States Parties and appreciate the improvements in the reports.
82. Of the 30 States Parties with significant numbers of mine survivors in areas under their jurisdiction or control, as of 21 September 2021, eight States Parties - **Albania, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Somalia and Uganda** – have not submitted updated information on their efforts to implement Victim Assistance commitments.
83. In accordance with **Action #33**, 24 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – reported having one or more government entity(ies) designated to coordinate victim assistance related activities, although some of the States Parties reported encountering difficulties in maintaining active engagement among stakeholders or conducting regular coordination meeting. In response to **Action #33** commitments to develop national plans, 18 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand and Zimbabwe** – reported having developed or in the process of developing national action plans – this includes the States Parties that reported embedding the needs of mine survivors into existing plans, such as disability, health, social protection, humanitarian response and other frameworks.
84. In accordance with **Action #34**, 21 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – reported applying multi-sectoral approach to integrate victim assistance commitments into broader national policies and programmes, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as pertinent. Additionally, 19 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe** – reported on inclusion of mine survivors and their representative organizations including persons with disabilities in relevant programmes and policies.
85. In accordance with **Action #35**, 14 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand and Turkey** – provided

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<sup>5</sup> Preliminary observations prepared by the Committee on Victim Assistance on information submitted by the States Parties with Victim Assistance responsibilities as of 31 May 2021, can be found at: <https://www.apminebanconvention.org/intersessional-meetings/june-2021/background-documents/>

information on the status of and/or challenges in establishing or strengthening a Victim Assistance national database or integrating Victim Assistance information into disability data systems. Additionally, 19 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – provided disaggregated information on mine victims or indicated plans to do so. While progress can be seen in disaggregating information by gender and age, in most cases disaggregated information by disability or impairment of mine survivors was not reported.

86. In accordance with **Action #36**, 18 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reported on existence of first aid or other pre-hospital emergency medical care, made available through mainstream public healthcare centres and public hospitals.

87. In accordance with **Action #37**, 16 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Senegal, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe** – reported having in place or plan to develop national referral mechanism to ensure meeting the needs and rights of mine survivors. Additionally, 10 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, Peru, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe** – reported having developed directory of services, some of which are made accessible and available online, while others reported sharing the information with relevant authorities and service providers as relevant.

88. In accordance with **Actions #38**, 24 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – reported progress or the availability of all or some of the elements of rehabilitation services, including:

- a. 19 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe** – reported on efforts to increase the availability and accessibility of comprehensive rehabilitation services;
- b. 18 States Parties - **Algeria, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe** – reported providing psychological and psychosocial support services, vast majority of which are made available as an integral part of the respective States Parties' national public healthcare services; and
- c. Seven States Parties – **Algeria, Cambodia, Colombia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Jordan, Tajikistan and Thailand** – reported on the availability of psychosocial or peer-to-peer support, and three States Parties - **Afghanistan, Turkey and Zimbabwe** - reported plans to develop peer-to-peer or other forms of psychosocial rehabilitation in accordance with the needs of mine victims.

89. In accordance with **Action #39**, 19 States Parties – **Algeria, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe** – reported progress in meeting the social and economic inclusion of mine victims, including by undertaking efforts to removing

physical and behavioural barriers to facilitate social and economic inclusion of mine survivors and persons with disabilities.

90. In accordance with **Action #40**, 16 States Parties – **Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Senegal, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe** – reported on their integration of protection of mine survivors in national humanitarian response or preparedness plans. Like in 2019, most of the States Parties that have provided information on implementation of Action #40 reported on the existence of national disaster management policies for safety and protection of their citizens, including mine survivors and persons with disabilities. Some of these States Parties also provided information on special efforts made to ensure the safety of persons with disabilities and mine survivors alongside other vulnerable groups during the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, the Committee on Victim Assistance in support of the States Parties to implement Action 40, prioritised raising awareness in this regard, including by commissioning a case studies on integration of the safety and protection needs of mine victims into national policies and programmes in **Afghanistan, Colombia and Uganda**<sup>6</sup>.

91. In accordance with Action **#41**, 20 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe** – provided updates on inclusion and participation of mine survivors, persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in matters that affect them, with some States Parties such as **Afghanistan, Colombia, Mozambique, South Sudan and Zimbabwe** reporting enhanced efforts in advancing the participation and inclusion among mine survivors, persons with disabilities and their representative organisations by strengthening or updating national plans or policies and strategies the years 2019 and 2020.

#### **VI. International Cooperation and Assistance - Mandate of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance: Colombia, Germany, Japan, Sudan**

92. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties noted that while each State Party is ultimately responsible for implementing the provisions of the Convention in areas under its jurisdiction or control, enhanced cooperation could support implementation of Convention obligations as soon as possible.

93. In accordance with **Action #42**, 22 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – reported making national financial commitments to the implementation of their Convention obligations. Among these States Parties, two States Parties – **Angola** and the **United Kingdom** – have reported on efforts to explore alternative and/or innovative sources of funding and encourage other States to do the same.

94. Additionally, 24 States Parties – **Austria, Australia, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and the United Kingdom** – reported providing financial or other support to affected States Parties. Of these, seven States Parties – **Canada, Finland, Germany, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and the United Kingdom** – provided information on how they support considerations for gender in mine action.

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<sup>6</sup> The case studies which is entitled “*Ensuring the Safety and Protection of Mine Survivors in Situation of Risk and Humanitarian Emergencies*” is available online at: <https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/meetings-of-the-states-parties/18msp/victim-assistance-experts-meeting/>

95. In accordance with **Action #43**, 30 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe**. – provided information on progress, challenges and requirements for assistance in Article 7 reports and Convention meetings.
96. Also in accordance with **Action #43**, one State Party – **Mauritania** – took advantage of the Individualised Approach on the margins of the Intersessional Meetings. Furthermore **[INSERT NUMBER]** – **[INSERT NAME OF STATES]** – took advantage of the Individualised Approach on the margins of the 19MSP.
97. In accordance with **Action #44**, three States Parties – **Afghanistan, Colombia, Serbia** – reported on efforts to strengthen national dialogue and ensuring regular dialogue with national and international stakeholders and establishing an in-country platform for dialogue between stakeholders.
98. In accordance with **Action #45**, 26 States Parties – **Australia, Austria, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Japan, Lithuania, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, and United Kingdom**– reported providing funding or other support for mine clearance with 14 States Parties – **Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland** - reported providing funding or other support for victim assistance efforts and 21 States Parties - **Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Japan, Lithuania, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and United Kingdom** -reported providing funding or other support for mine clearance efforts.
99. In accordance with **Action #46**, 11 States Parties – **Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Switzerland, the United Kingdom** - reported on efforts to coordinate their support for effective implementation of the Convention.
100. In accordance with **Action #47**, 9 States Parties – **Australia, Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Japan, Finland, Serbia, Tajikistan and the United Kingdom** – reported sharing best practices and lesson learned through international, regional, South-South and/or bilateral Cooperation.

**VII. Measures to ensure compliance** – Mandate of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance: Chile, Panama, Poland, Spain, the Netherlands

101. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties recognized the importance of compliance with the provisions of the Convention and committed to promote compliance to meet the Convention’s objectives.
102. In this regard, the States Parties committed to ensure that, in the event of alleged or known non-compliance with the general obligations under Article 1, the State Party concerned will provide information on the situation to all States Parties in the most expeditious, comprehensive and transparent manner possible and will work together with other States Parties in a spirit of cooperation to resolve the matter in an expeditious and effective manner, in accordance with Article 8.1 and **Action #48**.

103. Since the close of the 18MSP, the Committee has continued its consideration of cases of non-compliance and allegations of non-compliance with Article 1.1 of the Convention by two States Parties – **Sudan** and **Yemen**. The Committee noted that since the 18MSP no new allegations have been brought to the attention of the Committee.

104. The Committee welcomes the dialogue sustained with the two States Parties over the course of the year, including through bilateral meetings. The Committee also welcomes the interaction with organizations in the deliberation of their work including Human Rights Watch, ICBL, ICRC and UNMAS.

105. Concerning **Sudan**, the Committee appreciates Sudan's engagement with the Committee and welcomes Sudan continuing to act upon its commitment under **Action #48**. The Committee welcomes continued updated information on the security situation in the remaining areas where allegations have surfaced and where Sudan indicated that security presents an impediment to investigations. The Committee encourages Sudan to continue working with all partners to ensure that investigations can take place as soon as possible.

106. Concerning **Yemen**, the Committee appreciates Yemen's engagement with the Committee and looks forward to engaging further with Yemen. The Committee welcomes Yemen acting upon its commitments under **Action #48**. The Committee observed that it would welcome continued updated information on the security situation and efforts made by Yemen to carry out investigations on allegations and on the transfer and use of mines within areas under its jurisdiction or control.

107. To ensure compliance with the Convention, the States Parties recognized in the context of **Action #49** of the OAP, the importance of States Parties submitting Article 7 reports on an annual basis, in particular States Parties with obligations under Article 4 or 5 or retaining or transferring mines in line with Article 3.

108. In this regard, as of 21 September 2021, the following States Parties have not submitted reports in 2021:

- a. Concerning the 33 States Parties with Article 5 obligations, 7 States Parties – **the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Guinea-Bissau, Niger, Nigeria, State of Palestine and Somalia** – have not submitted an Article 7 report. Of these, five States Parties – **Democratic Republic of the Congo (2019), Eritrea (2014), Guinea-Bissau (2011), Niger (2018) and Nigeria (2012)** – have not submitted an Article 7 report in the last two years. The Committee notes that the **Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau and Nigeria** submitted a request for extension of its Article 5 deadline in 2020 with information on its implementation of Article 5.
- b. Concerning the 67 States Parties retaining mines under Article 3, 26 States Parties – **Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Eritrea, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia** - have not submitted an Article 7 Report. Three States Parties that submitted Article 7 reports – **Mozambique, Serbia and Ukraine** – submitted an annual report but the report did not contain information on anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3.

Of these, 21 States Parties – **Benin (2008), Bhutan (2018), Cameroon (2009), Cape Verde (2009), Congo (2009), Cote d'Ivoire (2014), Djibouti (2005), Eritrea (2014), Guinea-Bissau (2011), Honduras (2007), Kenya (2008), Mali (2005), Namibia (2010), Nigeria (2012), Rwanda**

**(2008), South Africa (2014), Tanzania (2009), Togo (2003), Uganda (2012), Venezuela (2012) and Zambia (2019)** – have not submitted an Article 7 in the last two years.

109. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties recognized the importance of States Parties urgently fulfilling their obligations under Article 9 in accordance with **Action #50**. At the close of the Convention's 18MSP, 53 States Parties had not reported having adopted legislation or that they considered existing laws to be sufficient in the context of Article 9.
110. Since the 18MSP, one State Party – **Ukraine** – in a communication to the ISU of 13 September 2021 indicated that it considers existing laws to be sufficient.
111. As of 21 September 2021, 52 States Parties - **Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Comoros, Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Nauru, Nigeria, Niue, Palau, Palestine, State of, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Togo, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Uruguay and Vanuatu** - have not reported the adoption of national legislation or if they consider existing national laws to be sufficient to give effect to the Convention.
112. At the Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties, in committing to meeting their obligations in the Convention's traditional spirit of cooperation and transparency, identified several best practices that are key to the successful implementation of the Convention's obligations.
113. In accordance with **Action #1**, 26 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – have reported on the integration of Convention implementation activities into other national frameworks associated with development, poverty reduction, humanitarian response and disabilities. This includes 11 States Parties reporting having integrated mine action activities into national plans and 22 States Parties reporting having assigned an entity such as Ministry of Health or Ministry of Social Affairs and/or national disability council to lead or co-lead on the integration of victim assistance into broader frameworks.
114. Additionally, in accordance with **Action #1**, 22 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reported making national financial commitment to the implementation of their Article 5 and or victim assistance obligations under the Convention. This includes 16 States Parties reporting having provided a financial commitment to mine clearance and 19 States Parties reporting having provided a financial commitment for victim assistance implementation.
115. In accordance with **Action #2**, 21 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Mauritania, Oman, Senegal, Serbia, Sri Lanka, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** – reported having evidence-based costed and timebound national strategies and work plans in place for achieving their mine clearance obligations.

Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Senegal, Serbia, Sri Lanka, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

116. In accordance with **Action #3**, 20 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - reported on efforts to ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered and inform all areas of Convention implementation.
117. In accordance with **Action #3** of the 84 delegations of States Parties registered to attend the 2021 Intersessional Meetings, 41 delegations of States Parties – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Holy See, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Palestine, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda, the United Kingdom, Uruguay and Venezuela** – included women in their delegations.
118. In accordance with Action #4, 12 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Serbia, Sri Lanka, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe**– reported developing their national strategies /work plans in an inclusive manner taking into consideration the needs of affected communities. Furthermore 19 States Parties with significant number of mine victims – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe** – reported that they include victim organizations in victim assistance planning. Finally, no delegation reported mine victims on their respective delegations.
119. In accordance with **Action #5**, six States Parties – **Colombia, Mauritania, Oman, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and Thailand** - reported having national mine action standards based on IMAS in place and 14 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Iraq, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sudan, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe**- reported that they were in the process of updating National Mine Action Standards during the reporting period.
120. In accordance with Action #6, 17 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Peru, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - have reported having included mine action related activities within their humanitarian response plans, peacebuilding, development or human rights plans, where relevant.
121. In accordance with **Action #7** of the OAP six States Parties – **Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Croatia, Thailand and Zimbabwe** – have reported on partnership with other States Parties in support of fulfilment of the Convention obligations with 24 States Parties – **Austria, Australia, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and the United Kingdom** - reporting financial or other support and five States Parties – **Belgium, Canada, the Netherlands, New Zealand, United Kingdom** – reporting providing multi-year funding to affected States Parties.
122. In accordance with **Action #8** of the OAP 16 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen Zimbabwe**– prepared their Article 7 report using the Guide to Reporting. Additionally, 29 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania,**

**Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - provide information on progress and challenges in implementation including during the 22-24 June 2021 Intersessional Meetings and a further [# STATES PARTIES] – [NAMES OF STATES PARTIES] – did so during the 19MSP.

123. In accordance with **Action #9**, 17 States Parties - **Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Iraq, Mauritania, Serbia, Sri Lanka, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe** - highlighted that they maintain a national information management system with updated information on the status of implementation.
124. In accordance with **Action #10** of the OAP, as of 31 August 2021, 114 States Parties have paid their assessed contributions for the 19MSP by 31 August 2020. As of 21 September 2021, according to the UN, 50 States Parties – **Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Iraq, Jamaica, Lithuania, Malawi, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, State of Palestine, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe** – have outstanding contributions. In some cases States did send in their payment but due to small difference in the amount paid and the amount owed the State appears to have outstanding contributions.
125. In line with **Action #10** of the OAP, as of 21 September 2021, 15 States Parties – **Algeria, Australia, Austria, Canada, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Finland, Ireland, Japan, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and United Kingdom** – have contributed to the Convention's Implementation Support Unit in 2021. Additionally, four States Parties – **France, Germany, Norway and Sweden** – have indicated that they will contribute to the ISU in 2021.