

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

COMMITTEE ON ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION (Belgium (Chair), France, Iraq, and Sri Lanka)

Intersessional Meetings 20 – 22 June 2022

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 5 BY ANGOLA

I. Progress in implementation (OAP Action #8, #20, #22)

1. Angola reported that in 2021 it addressed 8,709,662 square metres, including 1,247,264 square metres cancelled, 1,553,063 square metres reduced and 5,909,335 square metres cleared resulting in the destruction of 3,104 anti-personnel mines, 663 anti-vehicle mines, 29 items of abandoned explosive ordnance, and 2,797 items of explosive ordnance.
2. Angola further reported that operators of the Executive Demining Commission (CED) cleared a total of 15,226,900 square metres in 2021. In addition Angola reported having cleared 421,506 kilometres of road; 246,841 kilometres of power lines and 26 kilometres of pipeline, resulting in the destruction of 513 anti-personnel mines, 51 anti-tank mines and 39,559 items of unexploded ordnance.
3. Angola reported that during the reporting period survey had been conducted in previously inaccessible areas of; Cuanza Norte, Cuanza Sul, Moxico and Cuando Cubango. The Committee would welcome further information on the results of survey and how survey outcomes impact Angola's understanding of its remaining challenge and annual implementation milestones (Action #20).
4. The Committee observed that the information provided by Angola on progress in implementation allowed for comparability with that provided in its 2018 updated work plan. The Committee welcomed Angola providing disaggregated information on progress in accordance with land release methodology employed, using the Guide to Reporting and in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) (Action #8, Action #22).

II. Clarity regarding remaining challenge (OAP Action #18, #22)

5. The Committee observed that Angola provided some clarity¹ concerning its remaining challenge (Action #18). Angola reported a remaining challenge of 1,097 hazardous areas measuring 71,490,781 square metres in 18 Provinces (Action #22).
6. Action #22 of the OAP (OAP) requests States to report in a manner consistent with IMAS by providing information on the remaining challenges, disaggregating by 'suspected hazardous areas'

¹ "Some clarity" has been used when a State Party has provided a summary table listing some information related to the number of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in each region / province / district within the State.

and 'confirmed hazardous areas' and their relative size, as well as by type of contamination. The Committee observed that Angola had not provided information its Article 7 Report on its remaining challenge in a manner consistent with the IMAS by providing information disaggregated by suspected hazardous areas and confirmed hazardous areas and would welcome additional information from Angola in this regard (Action #22).

7. Action #18 of the OAP requests States that have not yet done so will identify the precise perimeter of mined areas, to the extent possible, and establish evidence based, accurate baselines of contamination based on information collected from all relevant sources, no later than by the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties in 2021. The Committee observed that Angola was still in the process of identifying the precise perimeter of mined areas and would welcome updated information from Angola on these efforts (Action #18).
8. Action #18 of the OAP requests States to report on having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men. The Committee observed that Angola had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts to establish Angola's baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men. The Committee would welcome additional information on Angola's efforts in this regard (Action #18).

III. National plans for clearance and survey (OAP Actions #1, #2, #3, #6, #19, #20, #26)

9. The Committee recalled that Angola's updated work plan submitted in 2018 contained a national evidence based and costed plan for survey and clearance in which Angola projects to annually address 164 mined areas measuring 17,210,199 square metres (Action #2, Action #19).
10. Action #20 of the OAP requests States to annually update their national work plans based on new evidenced and report on adjusted milestones. The Committee observed that while Angola had in place an updated work plan, Angola had not provided in its Article 7 Report annual updates based on new evidence and on adjusted milestones and on how priorities have been established and would welcome further information in this regard (Action #20).
11. Angola reported on an annual national and international financial commitments towards implementation (Action #1).
12. Action #1 of the OAP requests States to demonstrate high levels of national ownership, including by integrating Convention implementation activities into national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, humanitarian response plans. The Committee observed Angola had not provided in its Article 7 Report information on its efforts to integrate Convention implementation activities into national development plans and would welcome further information in this regard (Action #1).
13. Action #6 of the OAP requests States to strengthen partnerships and integrate responses between mine action related activities and humanitarian response plans, peacebuilding, development or human rights plans, where relevant. The Committee observed that Angola had not provided in its Article 7 Report information on these efforts and would welcome further information in this regard (Action #6).
14. Action #3 of the OAP requests States to ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered and inform all areas of Convention implementation and mine action programmes. The Committee recalled that while in 2020 Angola reported to have, "committed to the alignment and integration of gender equality into the sector", Angola had not

provided information in its Article 7 Report on these efforts and would welcome further information in this regard (Action #3).

15. Angola reported on provisions for a sustainable national capacity to address previously unknown mined areas, including the implementation of sensitisation meetings with Provincial leadership in Namibe, Huambo, Uige, Malange, and Cuanza Norte Provinces in order to prepare for the potential declaration of completion of all known mined areas in these provinces. Angola also reported the completion of a National Mine Action Standard on residual contamination management (Action #26).

IV. Efficient and expedient implementation (OAP Actions #5, #9, #27)

16. Angola reported on its efforts to ensure that National Mine Action Standards (NMAS) are up to date in accordance with the latest methodologies (IMAS), including completion of ten chapters of Mine Action National Standards (Action #5).
17. Angola reported on the update of a mine action national standard on information management (Action #9).
18. Angola reported on its efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of survey and clearance, including continued efforts to strengthen the capacity to manage and implement mine action through the support of international partners, and the update of a Mine Action National Standards (Action #27).

V. Actions in accordance with plans in extension requests and decisions on them

19. In considering Angola's 2017 extension request, the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties requested Angola to submit updated information on several matters. The Committee welcomes the information provided by Angola on;
 - Progress made relative to the annual clearance plans, commitments and milestones contained in Angola's extension request;
 - Efforts made to strengthen the technical and operational capacities of the operations office in planning, monitoring and evaluation; and
 - Resource mobilisation efforts and external financing received and resources made available by the government of Angola to support implementation efforts, and the results of these efforts; including efforts to ensure that mine action is considered within national development plans and other relevant national plans which may benefit Angola's resource mobilisation efforts.
20. The Committee would welcome updated information from Angola on the following decisions of the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties:
 - The outcomes of survey efforts and how additional clarity obtained may change Angola's understanding of the remaining implementation challenge;
 - Efforts made to strengthen the implementation of the quality management system and results of efforts to update the norms and standards of management and quality control;

- The number, location and size of remaining mined areas, plans to clear or otherwise release these areas and information on areas already released, disaggregated by release through clearance, technical survey and non-technical survey;
- Progress made regarding efforts to resolve and eliminate problems related to data discrepancies, harmonization of the data of the Executive Demining Commission (CED) and the National Demining Institute and efforts to ensure the integrity of the national mine action database; and
- Efforts made to strengthen the involvement and the coordination of activities with the CED, and the result of these efforts.

VI. Mine risk education and reduction (OAP Actions #28-32)

21. Action #32 of the OAP requests States to Report on mine risk education and other risk reduction programmes in Article 7 reports, including the methodologies used, the challenges faced and the results achieved, with information disaggregated by gender and age. The Committee observed that while Angola reported on the results achieved disaggregated by gender and age Angola had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on the methodologies used and challenges faced and would welcome further information in this regard (Action #32).
22. Action #28 of the OAP requests States to integrate MRE/R with wider humanitarian, development, protection and education efforts, as well as with ongoing survey and clearance activities. The Committee observed that while Angola reported that risk education is implemented by all humanitarian operators during their clearance operations, Angola had not provided information in its Article 7 Report and would welcome further information in this regard (Action #28).
23. Action #29 of the OAP requests States to provide context-specific mine risk education and reduction programmes, (MRE/R) for all affected populations and groups at risk. To ensure if such programmes were developed on the basis of a needs assessment that they are tailored to the threat encountered by the population, and are sensitive to gender, age, disability and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account. The Committee observed that Angola had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report and would welcome further information in this regard (Action #29).
24. Action #30 of the OAP requests States to Prioritise people most at risk by linking mine risk education and reduction programmes and messages directly to an analysis of available casualty and contamination data, an understanding of the affected population's behaviour, risk pattern and coping mechanisms, and, wherever possible, anticipated population movements. The Committee observed that Angola had not provided updated information on these efforts and would welcome information in this regard (Action #30).
25. Action #31 of the OAP requests States to build national capacity to deliver mine risk education and reduction programmes with the ability to adapt to changing needs and contexts, including the delivery of such programmes to affected communities in the case that previously unknown mined areas are discovered. The Committee observed that Angola had not reported updated information in its Article 7 Report on this matter and would welcome further information in this regard (Action #31).

VII. Challenges in implementation (OAP Action #8)

26. The Committee observed that Angola provided quality information on challenges in implementation, including the impact of COVID-19 continued to bring challenges in the implementation of demining activities, although with less restrictions on movements and gatherings than previously reported (Action #8).

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker
Article 5 Implementation
Angola
CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS

Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 9 August)
#1	# States Parties that report, having included Convention implementation activities in national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, humanitarian response plans and national strategies for the inclusion of persons with disabilities, where appropriate						The Committee would welcome information on Angola's efforts to integrate Convention implementation activities into national development plans
	% mine-affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention						
#2	% mine-affected States Parties that report having evidence-based, costed and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place						
#3	% affected States Parties whose national work plans and strategies integrate gender and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account						The Committee would welcome information on Angola's efforts to ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered and inform all areas of Convention implementation and mine action programmes.
	# women in States Parties' delegations attending Convention meetings						
#5	% States Parties that have updated their national standards to address new challenges and ensure the employment of best practices, taking into consideration the latest IMAS						
#6	# States Parties that report having included mine action related activities within their humanitarian response plans, peacebuilding, development or human rights plans, where relevant						The Committee would welcome information on Angola's efforts to strengthen partnerships and integrate responses between mine action related activities and humanitarian response plans, peacebuilding, development or human rights plans, where relevant.

#8	# States Parties that prepare their Article 7 reports using the Guide to Reporting					
	# States Parties that report on progress and challenges during formal and informal meetings					
#9	% States Parties that report having a sustainable national information management system in place					

SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OF MINED AREAS							
Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 9 August)
#18	% affected States Parties that have established an accurate and evidence-based contamination baseline no later than the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties in 2021 (and by each year thereafter if not all affected States Parties have done so by 19MSP)						
	% affected States Parties who report having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men						The Committee would welcome information on Angola's efforts on having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men.
#19	% affected States Parties presenting work plans for the implementation of Article 5 by the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties (and MSPs thereafter and by each year thereafter if not all affected States Parties have done so by 18MSP)						
#20	# affected States Parties that have reported annual updates and adjusted milestones to their national work plans in their 30 April transparency reports						The Committee would welcome information on Angola's efforts to annually update their national work plans based on new evidenced and report on adjusted milestones.
	# States Parties that have fulfilled their obligations under Article 5						
#21	# States Parties that apply the provisions of the Convention to anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature (for the purpose of this indicator: survey, clear and report)						
#22	% of affected States Parties reporting on the remaining challenge and progress made in accordance with IMAS						The Committee would welcome information on Angola's efforts to report on its remaining challenge in a manner consistent with the IMAS by providing information disaggregated by suspected hazardous areas and confirmed

							hazardous areas and would welcome additional information from Angola in this regard
	% of affected States Parties providing survey and clearance data in Article 5 extension requests and Article 7 reports that disaggregates by type of contamination						
#23	% extension requests that include detailed, costed and multi-year work plans for the extension period						
	% extension requests that are submitted in accordance with the process established by the States Parties						
#24	% extension requests that include appropriate plans for risk education and reduction activities						
#25	% States Parties that have completed their Article 5 obligations and that submit voluntary declarations of completion						
#26	% affected States Parties that include provisions for addressing previously unknown mined areas in their national strategies and/or completion plans						
	% affected States Parties that report having put in place sustainable national capacities to address the discovery of previously unknown mined areas						
	% States Parties that discover previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas, that apply the decision of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties						
#27	# States Parties that report promoting research, application and sharing of innovative technological means						
MINE RISK EDUCATION AND REDUCTION							
Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 9 August)
#28	% affected States Parties that report having included mine risk education and reduction programmes in their humanitarian response and protection plans and/or development plans, as well as in their mine action plans, where relevant						The Committee would welcome information on Angola's efforts to integrate MRE/R with wider humanitarian, development, protection and education efforts, as well as with ongoing survey and clearance activities.
#29	% affected States Parties that report having mine risk education and reduction programmes for all affected populations in place						The Committee would welcome information on Angola's efforts to provide context-specific mine risk education and

							reduction programmes, (MRE/R) for all affected populations and groups at risk.
	% States Parties that report carrying out mine risk education and reduction activities that collect, analyse and report data disaggregated by gender, age, disability and other diverse needs						The Committee would welcome information on Angola's efforts to ensure if such programmes were developed on the basis of a needs assessment that they are tailored to the threat encountered by the population, and are sensitive to gender, age, disability and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account.
#30	# States Parties that report having established an evidence-based priority-setting mechanism for mine risk education and reduction programmes						The Committee would welcome information on Angola's efforts to prioritise people most at risk by linking mine risk education and reduction programmes and messages directly to an analysis of available casualty and contamination data, an understanding of the affected population's behaviour, risk pattern and coping mechanisms, and, wherever possible, anticipated population movements.
#31	# States Parties that provide risk education and reduction programmes to affected communities in the case that previously unknown mined areas are discovered						The Committee would welcome information on Angola's efforts to build national capacity to deliver mine risk education and reduction programmes with the ability to adapt to changing needs and contexts, including the delivery of such programmes to affected communities in the case that previously unknown mined areas are discovered
#32	# States Parties reporting on their mine risk education and other risk reduction programmes and results						

