

PRELIMINARY MID-TERM ASSESMENT

COLOMBIA

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION – VICTIM ASSISTANCE

COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE

(Algeria, Ecuador, Italy and Uganda)

Intersessional Meetings

20-22 June 2022

1. The Committee welcomes the submission by Colombia of updated information on its victim assistance activities.
2. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following preliminary observations.

Mine casualties

3. Colombia reported 152 casualties in 2021, that has increased the total number of victims of anti-personnel mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) to 12,144, of which 9,806 have survived and 2,338 were killed.
4. Colombia reported that information on mine victims is disaggregated by gender, age, disability, status, ethnicity and they were shared with relevant ministries.
5. The Committee appreciates Colombia's continued efforts in providing comprehensive data on mine victims and would welcome further information on indirect victims, such as affected families.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACTIONS:

Strengthen partnerships and integrate victim assistance into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks and designation of a government entity to oversee the (Action #33 and also Actions #1 and #6)

6. Colombia reported that the Office of the High Commissioner for Peace (OACP) and the national mine action centre (AICMA) remain responsible for coordination of activities related to mine and UXO victims.
7. Colombia reported that in 2021 the OACP through its technical subcommittee, continued to meet with relevant stakeholders to coordinate efforts around victim assistance, including by undertaking the following activities:
 - Approval of operational plan of the subcommittee for 2021;
 - Observations of the VA Checklist of the Oslo Action Plan;
 - Examining of the IMAS 13.10;
 - Awareness on “La Ruta de Atención Integral en Salud a Víctimas de MAP -MUSE” in Dabeiba – Antioquia;
 - Reporting progress/updates to AICMA; and
 - Mapping out challenges and recommendations to address them in 2022.

8. Colombia also reported that OACP is a member of the Information Systems Technical Subcommittee created by the Victims Law, through which it promotes the integration of victim assistance into broader frameworks, including through the National System of Comprehensive Care and Reparation for Victims (SNARIV).

Develop and implement measurable, realistic and time-bound national action plan (Action #33 and also Action #2)

9. Colombia reported on implementation of “La Ruta de Atención Integral en Salud a Víctimas de MAP -MUSE” a national action plan on victim assistance (referred as “La Ruta” in this document), that has been in place since 2007 and the Comprehensive Health Care and Functional Rehabilitation Roadmap for mine and UXO victims that has been in place since 2016, these plans that are developed in accordance with the Law 1448, aim to ensure provision of comprehensive assistance to victims. La Ruta include five levels of interventions, as follows:

- pre-hospital care;
- emergency care;
- hospital care;
- functional rehabilitation; and
- comprehensive rehabilitation.

10. Colombia also reported that the Ministry of Health and Social Protection (MOHSP), which is the lead entity in implementing La Ruta, has allocated \$2,194,179,800 to 14 municipal state social enterprises to strengthen assistance processes for persons with disabilities in the process of reintegration, including by providing rehabilitation services.

Removing barriers including physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers to access such services (Action #33)

11. Colombia reported efforts such as capacity building of associations of mine victims, awareness raising, policy developments and strengthened coordination to further inclusion of mine victims into society.

12. The Committee welcomes Colombia to provide information on progress made in improving physical accessibility of public buildings/places to increase socio-economic inclusion of mine victims, and persons with disabilities.

Applying multi-sectoral efforts to ensure that the needs and rights of mine victims are effectively addressed in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Action #34)

13. Colombia reported that victim assistance is carried out based on a multisectoral understanding due its cross-cutting nature. Colombia reported making progress in accordance with the Law 1448 and the decree 1784 of 2019 to integrate victim assistance into broader frameworks, by working together or coordinating with various ministries, national agencies and stakeholders.

14. The Committee noted that Colombia has shown progress by integrating victim assistance into broader frameworks such as through the Ten-year Health Plan 2012-2021 and Public Policy for Comprehensive Healthcare (PAIS), and efforts were made to draw attention to the needs of children and adolescents by engaging the Colombian Institute of Family and Welfare (ICBF).

15. Colombia reported that victim assistance activities were in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) which has been domesticated by Law 1346 of 2009 and Law 1618 of 2013.

Establish or strengthen of a centralised database / national information management system (Action #35 and also Action #9)

16. Colombia reported that AICMA is a member of a Technical Subcommittee on Information Management that work to design and implement processes and procedures that allow interoperability, traceability, and the efficient flow of information between the entities that are involved in the National System of Attention and Comprehensive Reparation to Victims (SNARIV).
17. Colombia also reported that information on civilian mine victims was registered in the Anti-personnel Mine Survivors Information Service (SISMAP), and it seeks to streamline and provide transparency to the process of registration, characterization and monitoring of victim assistance.
18. Colombia also reported on availability of a Comprehensive Social Protection Information System – SISPRO, a database used by the Health and Social Protection Sector at the MOHSP.

Access to first aid and ongoing emergency medical care (Action #36)

19. Colombia reported on availability of first aid in mine affected communities and that the MOHSP provided comprehensive healthcare assistance to mine victims and systems and plans are in place including the Ten-Year Health Plan (2012 -2021), Public Policy for Comprehensive Health Care – PAIS, to ensure the victims access various kinds of rehabilitation and social programmes they need.
20. Colombia reported that measures were put into place to ensure the safety of minor victims, such supporting their guardian/accompany throughout the healthcare, rehabilitation and recovery processes.
21. Colombia also reported that work had started to develop an agreement to enhance primary healthcare, basic support and first aid to affected territories.

Developing national referral mechanism (Action #37)

22. Colombia reported that efforts were made in 2021 to assess and identify barriers hindering the implementation of La Ruta, and as a result, measures were put into place to advance the implementation, including to improve referral process in delivery of healthcare services to mine victims.
23. In 2021, Colombia reported that a referral mechanism was developed within the General System of Social Security in Health (SGSSS) and referrals were also made by the regulatory centre for emergencies of each department.
24. The Committee would welcome information on availability of directory(ies) of services that can facilitate mine victims' access to services.

Access to rehabilitation services including physiotherapy, assistive devices and occupational therapy (Action #38)

25. Colombia reported availability of comprehensive functional rehabilitation in accordance with Resolution 2481 of 2020 and La Ruta and under the lead of the MOHSP, that works to ensure the provision of efficient, effective and affordable medical care and functioning rehabilitation to persons with disabilities.

26. In 2021, Colombia reported that the mine victims that are members of the armed forces or armed forces with disabilities are provided with rehabilitation through armed forces institutions such as the Ministry of Defense. Among other services available for armed forces with disabilities, the Inclusive Rehabilitation Centre (CRI) with cooperation of Korea provided rehabilitation and socio-economic inclusion support to them.

27. The Committee recalls that in 2020 Colombia reported that the MOHSP was working on a mechanism to improve tariff conditions in favour of assistive devices that Colombia imports and would welcome information on progress made in this regard.

Access to psychological and psychosocial services including peer-to-peer support (Action #38)

28. Colombia reported on availability of psychosocial support as an integral part of a comprehensive healthcare programme to mine victims and their family members.

29. Colombia reported that psychosocial support to mine victims is provided through the Program of Psychosocial Care and Comprehensive Health for Victims (PAPSIVI) in each territory and that a resolution (2272) was issued in December 2021 to enhance psychological support and other efforts. Colombia elaborated that the PAPSIVI contains as a set of interdisciplinary activities, procedures and interventions to provide comprehensive health care and psychosocial care, designed and implemented by the MOHSP.

30. The Committee would welcome further information on availability of peer-to-peer support and its integration into health systems.

Access to social and economic inclusion services, including in rural and remote areas (Action #39)

31. Colombia reported progress in empowering mine victims through capacity building of local associations representing mine survivors in different parts of the country. Colombia reported that seven associations were provided with 185,000USD to raise awareness on risks posed by mines and UXOs.

32. Colombia reported that supporting the associations has led to promoting them from recipient of assistance to active partners of the AICMA, which will continue through the future.

Taking measure for safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risks and emergencies (Action #40)

33. The Committee recalls that in 2021, Colombia reported that the Ministry of National Education promoted the strategy of risk management and education in situations of emergencies with the aim to strengthen capacities of certified territorial entities to prevent threats, risks with regards to safety and protection of students.

Strengthening inclusion and participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in all matters that affect them (Action #41 and also Action #4)

34. Colombia reported investing significant efforts to enhance the capacity of national associations of mines and UXO survivors, including through training, guidance, information sharing, strengthening their membership with their National Network and by contracting them as partners of AICMA to deliver risk education in affected communities.

35. Colombia reported that in 2021, AICMA partnered with seven associations of mines and UXO victims to support them in providing risk educations as well as to raise awareness on La Ruta in their communities and among municipalities.

CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS:

Demonstrate high levels of national ownership, including [...] by making financial and other commitments to implementation (Action #1)

36. Colombia reported several policy developments as well as allocation of financial resources to local representative associations of survivors to deliver risk educations in affected communities.

Ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered (Action #3)

37. Colombia reported that gender and diversity have been considered in accordance with the Law 1448, which requires the government to ensure age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and disabilities of the victims are considered in relevant policies and programmes.

Challenges in implementation of Victim Assistance Commitments (Action #8)

38. Colombia reported encountering difficulty to reach out to some of the country's territories due to security conditions, terrain and operational costs in addition to challenges caused by COVID-19 pandemic.

39. The Committee would welcome information on how the international community, including the Committee on Victim Assistance can assist Colombia to fulfil its victim assistance obligations under the Convention and the OAP.

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker
Victim Assistance
Colombia

Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information request by the Committee (deadline 9 August)
#33	# States Parties that have designated a government entity to coordinate victim assistance activities						
	# States Parties that have national action plans in place containing specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound objectives and related indicators						The Committee welcomes Colombia to provide information on progress made in improving physical accessibility of public buildings/places to increase socio-economic inclusion of mine victims, and persons with disabilities.
#34	# States Parties that report that they include mine victims in relevant national policy and support frameworks						
#35	# States Parties that include victims of anti-personnel mines in disability data systems						The Committee would welcome further information on indirect victims, such as affected families.
	# States Parties that disaggregate victim data by gender, age and disability						
#36	# States Parties reporting on efforts to ensure an efficient and effective emergency response to mine accidents						
#37	# States Parties that report having a national referral mechanism						The Committee would welcome information on availability of directory of services that can facilitate mine victims' access to services.
	# States Parties that report having a directory of services in place						
#38	# States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability and accessibility of comprehensive rehabilitation services						The Committee recalls that in 2020 Colombia reported that the Ministry of Health and Social Protection (MOHSP) was working on a mechanism to improve tariff conditions in favour of assistive devices that Colombia imports and would welcome information on progress made in this regard.
	# States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability of psychological and psychosocial support services						
	# States Parties that have established peer-to-peer services within their national healthcare system						The Committee would welcome further information on availability of peer-to-peer support and its integration into health systems.
#39	# States Parties reporting on efforts to remove barriers to the social and economic inclusion of mine victims						
#40	# States Parties that report integrating protection of mine survivors in their humanitarian response and preparedness plans						The Committee would welcome information on measures in place to ensure the integration of the needs and rights of mine survivors into national humanitarian response and/or other relevant mainstream frameworks to ensure their protection and safety in situations of risks and humanitarian emergencies.
#41	# States Parties that report that they include victim representatives or their organizations in victim assistance planning at the national and local level						

CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS

#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						
	% mine-affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention						
#3	# mine-affected States Parties that report having evidence-based, costed and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place						
	# women in States Parties' delegations attending Convention meetings						
#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						The Committee would welcome information on how the international community, including the Committee on Victim Assistance can assist Colombia to fulfil its victim assistance obligations under the Convention and the OAP.