



Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention



Convention on the Prohibition of the
Use, Stockpiling, Production and
Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines
and on Their Destruction



The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention is a short reference to the:

CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

...also known as the *Ottawa Convention*

The Convention is the international community's comprehensive response to the humanitarian impact caused by anti-personnel mines; indiscriminate weapons that remain dangerous for decades after conflicts have ended.

The Convention was adopted in Oslo on 18 September 1997. It opened for signature in Ottawa on 3 and 4 December 1997, and remained open until its entry into force on 1 March 1999. For their determination in calling for the Convention, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and its coordinator Jody Williams were awarded the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize.

While significant progress has been achieved, the States Parties face new challenges including increased use of anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature and rising number of victims. To address these issues the States Parties adopted the *Oslo Action Plan (OAP) 2020-2024*.

The OAP supports implementation of the Convention with a view of reaching the ambition of the States Parties to ensure that there are no new mine victims, that survivors participate in their societies on an equal basis to others, and to intensify efforts to complete obligations with the urgency required, to the fullest extent possible, by 2025.

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CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

Preamble

The States Parties,

Determined to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, that kill or maim hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians and especially children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons, and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement,

Believing it necessary to do their utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to face the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world, and to assure their destruction,

Wishing to do their utmost in providing assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration of mine victims,

Recognizing that a total ban of anti-personnel mines would also be an important confidence-building measure,

Welcoming the adoption of the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996, annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, and calling for the early ratification of this Protocol by all States which have not yet done so,

Welcoming also United Nations General Assembly Resolution 51/45 S of 10 December 1996 urging all States to pursue vigorously an effective, legally binding international agreement to ban the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel landmines,



Welcoming furthermore the measures taken over the past years, both, unilaterally and multilaterally, aiming at prohibiting, restricting or suspending the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines,

Stressing the role of public conscience in furthering the principles of humanity as evidenced by the call for a total ban of anti-personnel mines and recognizing the efforts to that end undertaken by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and numerous other nongovernmental organizations around the world,

Recalling the Ottawa Declaration of 5 October 1996 and the Brussels Declaration of 27 June 1997 urging the international community to negotiate an international and legally binding agreement prohibiting the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines,

Emphasizing the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to this Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization in all relevant fora including, inter alia, the United Nations, the Conference on Disarmament, regional organizations, and groupings, and review conferences of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,

Basing themselves on the principle of international humanitarian law that the right of the parties to an armed conflict to choose methods or means of warfare is not unlimited, on the principle that prohibits the employment in armed conflicts of weapons, projectiles and materials and methods of warfare of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering and on the principle that a distinction must be made between civilians and combatants,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

General obligations

1. Each State Party undertakes never under any circumstances:
 - a. To use anti-personnel mines;
 - b. To develop, produce, otherwise acquire, stockpile, retain or transfer to anyone, directly or indirectly, anti-personnel mines;
 - c. To assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention.
2. Each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in accordance with the provisions of this Convention.

Article 2

Definitions

1. "Anti-personnel mine" means a mine designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person and that will incapacitate injure or kill one or more persons. Mines designed to be detonated by the presence, proximity or contact of a Vehicle as opposed to a person that are equipped with anti-handling devices, are not considered anti-personnel mines as a result of being so equipped.
2. "Mine" means a munition designed to be placed under, on or near the ground or other surface area and to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person or a vehicle.
3. "Anti-handling device" means a device intended to protect a mine and which is part of, linked to, attached to or placed under the mine and which activates when an attempt is made to tamper with or otherwise intentionally disturb the mine.
4. "Transfer" involves, in addition to the physical movement of anti-personnel mines into or from national territory, the transfer of title to and control over the mines, but does not involve the transfer of territory containing emplaced anti-personnel mines.
5. "Mined area" means an area which is dangerous due to the presence or suspected presence of mines.



Article 3

Exceptions

1. Notwithstanding the general obligations under Article 1, the retention or transfer of a number of anti-personnel mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques is permitted. The amount of such mines shall not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for the above-mentioned purposes.
2. The transfer of anti-personnel mines for the purpose of destruction is permitted.

Article 4

Destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines

Except as provided for in Article 3, each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines it owns or possesses, or that are under its jurisdiction or control, as soon as possible but not later than four years after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party.

Article 5

Destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas

1. Each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control, as soon as possible but not later than ten years after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party.
2. Each State Party shall make every effort to identify all areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced and shall ensure as soon as possible that all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control are perimeter-marked, monitored and protected by fencing or other means, to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians, until all anti-personnel mines contained therein have been destroyed.

The marking shall at least be to the standards set out in the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996, annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

3. If a State Party believes that it will be unable to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines referred to in paragraph 1 within that time period, it may submit a request to a Meeting of the States Parties or a Review Conference for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of such anti-personnel mines, for a period of up to ten years.
4. Each request shall contain:
 - a. The duration of the proposed extension;
 - b. A detailed explanation of the reasons for the proposed extension, including:
 - (i) The preparation and status of work conducted under national demining programs;
 - (ii) The financial and technical means available to the State Party for the destruction of all the anti-personnel mines; and
 - (iii) Circumstances which impede the ability of the State Party to destroy all the anti-personnel mines in mined areas;
 - c. The humanitarian, social, economic, and environmental implications of the extension; and
 - d. Any other information relevant to the request for the proposed extension.
5. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Review Conference shall, taking into consideration the factors contained in paragraph 4, assess the request and decide by a majority of votes of States Parties present and voting whether to grant the request for an extension period.
6. Such an extension may be renewed upon the submission of a new request in accordance with paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of this Article. In requesting a further extension period, a State Party shall submit relevant additional information on what has been undertaken in the previous extension period pursuant to this Article.

Article 6

International cooperation and assistance

1. In fulfilling its obligations under this Convention each State Party has the right to seek and receive assistance, where feasible, from other States Parties to the extent possible.

2. Each State Party undertakes to facilitate and shall have the right to participate in the fullest possible exchange of equipment, material and scientific and technological information concerning the implementation of this Convention. The States Parties shall not impose undue restrictions on the provision of mine clearance equipment and related technological information for humanitarian purposes.
3. Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims and for mine awareness programs. Such assistance may be provided, inter alia, through the United Nations system, international, regional or national organizations or institutions, the International Committee of the Red Cross, national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and their International Federation, non-governmental organizations, or on a bilateral basis.
4. Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for mine clearance and related activities. Such assistance may be provided, inter alia, through the United Nations system, international or regional organizations or institutions, non-governmental organizations or institutions, or on a bilateral basis, or by contributing to the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance, or other regional funds that deal with demining.
5. Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines.
6. Each State Party undertakes to provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations system, especially information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance.
7. States Parties may request the United Nations, regional organizations, other States Parties or other competent intergovernmental or non-governmental fora to assist its authorities in the elaboration of a national demining program to determine, inter alia:



- a. The extent and scope of the anti-personnel mine problem;
 - b. The financial, technological and human resources that are required for the implementation of the program;
 - c. The estimated number of years necessary to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under the jurisdiction or control of the concerned State Party;
 - d. Mine awareness activities to reduce the incidence of mine-related injuries or deaths;
 - e. Assistance to mine victims;
 - f. The relationship between the Government of the concerned State Party and the relevant governmental, inter-governmental or non-governmental entities that will work in the implementation of the program.
8. Each State Party giving and receiving assistance under the provisions of this Article shall cooperate with a view to ensuring the full and prompt implementation of agreed assistance programs.

Article 7 **Transparency measures**

1. Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations as soon as practicable, and in any event not later than 180 days after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party on:
 - a. The national implementation measures referred to in Article 9;
 - b. The total of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed by it, or under its jurisdiction or control, to include a breakdown of the type, quantity and, if possible, lot numbers of each type of anti-personnel mine stockpiled;
 - c. To the extent possible, the location of all mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines under its jurisdiction or control, to include as much detail as possible regarding the type and quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine in each mined area and when they were emplaced;

- d. The types, quantities and, if possible, lot numbers of all anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for the development of and training mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques, or transferred for the purpose of destruction, as well as the institutions authorized by a State Party to retain or transfer anti-personnel mines, in accordance with Article 3;
 - e. The status of programs for the conversion or de-commissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities;
 - f. The status of programs for the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, including details of the methods which will be used in destruction, the location of all destruction sites and the applicable safety and environmental standards to be observed;
 - g. The types and quantities of all anti-personnel mines destroyed after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party, to include a breakdown of the quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine destroyed, in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, respectively, along with, if possible, the lot numbers of each type of anti-personnel mine in the case of destruction in accordance with Article 4;
 - h. The technical characteristics of each type of anti-personnel mine produced, to the extent known, and those currently owned or possessed by a State Party, giving, where reasonably possible, such categories of information as may facilitate identification and clearance of anti-personnel mines; at a minimum, this information shall include the dimensions, fusing, explosive content, metallic content, colour photographs and other information which may facilitate mine clearance; and
 - i. The measures taken to provide an immediate and effective warning to the population in relation to all areas identified under paragraph 2 of Article 5.
2. The information provided in accordance with this Article shall be updated by the States Parties annually, covering the last calendar year, and reported to the Secretary-General of the United Nations not later than 30 April of each year.

3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit all such reports received to the States Parties.

Article 8 **Facilitation and clarification of compliance**

1. The States Parties agree to consult and cooperate with each other regarding the implementation of the provisions of this Convention, and to work together in a spirit of cooperation to facilitate compliance by States Parties with their obligations under this Convention.
2. If one or more States Parties wish to clarify and seek to resolve questions relating to compliance with the provisions of this Convention by another State Party, it may submit, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, a Request for Clarification of that matter to that State Party. Such a request shall be accompanied by all appropriate information. Each State Party shall refrain from unfounded Requests for Clarification, care being taken to avoid abuse. A State Party that receives a Request for Clarification shall provide, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, within 28 days to the requesting State Party all information which would assist in clarifying this matter.
3. If the requesting State Party does not receive a response through the Secretary-General of the United Nations within that time period, or deems the response to the Request for Clarification to be unsatisfactory, it may submit the matter through the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the next Meeting of the States Parties. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit the submission, accompanied by all appropriate information pertaining to the Request for Clarification, to all States Parties. All such information shall be presented to the requested State Party which shall have the right to respond.
4. Pending the convening of any meeting of the States Parties, any of the States Parties concerned may request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to exercise his or her good offices to facilitate the clarification requested.



5. The requesting State Party may propose through the Secretary-General of the United Nations the convening of a Special Meeting of the States Parties to consider the matter. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall thereupon communicate this proposal and all information submitted by the States Parties concerned, to all States Parties with a request that they indicate whether they favour a Special Meeting of the States Parties, for the purpose of considering the matter. In the event that within 14 days from the date of such communication, at least one-third of the States Parties favours such a Special Meeting, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall convene this Special Meeting of the States Parties within a further 14 days. A quorum for this Meeting shall consist of a majority of States Parties.
6. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties, as the case may be, shall first determine whether to consider the matter further, taking into account all information submitted by the States Parties concerned. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall make every effort to reach a decision by consensus. If despite all efforts to that end no agreement has been reached, it shall take this decision by a majority of States Parties present and voting.
7. All States Parties shall cooperate fully with the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties in the fulfilment of its review of the matter, including any fact-finding missions that are authorized in accordance with paragraph 8.
8. If further clarification is required, the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall authorize a fact-finding mission and decide on its mandate by a majority of States Parties present and voting. At any time, the requested State Party may invite a fact-finding mission to its territory. Such a mission shall take place without a decision by a Meeting of the States Parties or a Special Meeting of the States Parties to authorize such a mission. The mission, consisting of up to 9 experts, designated and approved in accordance with paragraphs 9 and 10, may collect additional information on the spot or in other places directly related to the alleged compliance issue under the jurisdiction or control of the requested State Party.
9. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall prepare and update a list of the names, nationalities and other relevant data of qualified experts provided by States Parties and communicate it to all States Parties. Any expert included on this list shall be regarded as designated

for all fact- finding missions unless a State Party declares its non-acceptance in writing. In the event of non-acceptance, the expert shall not participate in fact finding missions on the territory or any other place under the jurisdiction or control of the objecting State Party, if the non-acceptance was declared prior to the appointment of the expert to such missions.

10. Upon receiving a request from the Meeting of the States Parties or a Special Meeting of the States Parties, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall, after consultations with the requested State Party, appoint the members of the mission, including its leader. Nationals of States Parties requesting the fact-finding mission or directly affected by it shall not be appointed to the mission. The members of the fact-finding mission shall enjoy privileges and immunities under Article VI of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, adopted on 13 February 1946.
11. Upon at least 72 hours' notice, the members of the fact-finding mission shall arrive in the territory of the requested State Party at the earliest opportunity. The requested State Party shall take the necessary administrative measures to receive, transport and accommodate the mission, and shall be responsible for ensuring the security of the mission to the maximum extent possible while they are on territory under its control.
12. Without prejudice to the sovereignty of the requested State Party, the fact-finding mission may bring into the territory of the requested State Party the necessary equipment which shall be used exclusively for gathering information on the alleged compliance issue. Prior to its arrival, the mission will advise the requested State Party of the equipment that it intends to utilize in the course of its fact-finding mission.
13. The requested State Party shall make all efforts to ensure that the fact-finding mission is given the opportunity to speak with all relevant persons who may be able to provide information related to the alleged compliance issue.
14. The requested State Party shall grant access for the fact-finding mission to all areas and installations under its control where facts relevant to the compliance issue could be expected to be collected. This shall be subject to any arrangements that the requested State Party considers necessary for:
 - a. The protection of sensitive equipment, information and areas;

- b. The protection of any constitutional obligations the requested State Party may have with regard to proprietary rights, searches and seizures, or other constitutional rights; or
- c. The physical protection and safety of the members of the fact-finding mission.

In the event that the requested State Party makes such arrangements, it shall make every reasonable effort to demonstrate through alternative means its compliance with this Convention.

- 15. The fact-finding mission may remain in the territory of the State Party concerned for no more than 14 days, and at any particular site no more than 7 days, unless otherwise agreed.
- 16. All information provided in confidence and not related to the subject matter of the fact-finding mission shall be treated on a confidential basis.
- 17. The fact-finding mission shall report, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties the results of its findings.
- 18. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall consider all relevant information, including the report submitted by the fact-finding mission, and may request the requested State Party to take measures to address the compliance issue within a specified period of time. The requested State Party shall report on all measures taken in response to this request.
- 19. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties may suggest to the States Parties concerned ways and means to further clarify or resolve the matter under consideration, including the initiation of appropriate procedures in conformity with international law. In circumstances where the issue at hand is determined to be due to circumstances beyond the control of the requested State Party, the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties may recommend appropriate measures, including the use of cooperative measures referred to in Article 6.
- 20. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall make every effort to reach its decisions referred to in

paragraphs 18 and 19 by consensus, otherwise by a two-thirds majority of States Parties present and voting.

Article 9

National implementation measures

Each State Party shall take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of pen sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control.

Article 10

Settlement of disputes

1. The States Parties shall consult and cooperate with each other to settle any dispute that may arise with regard to the application or the interpretation of this Convention. Each State Party may bring any such dispute before the Meeting of the States Parties.
2. The Meeting of the States Parties may contribute to the settlement of the dispute by whatever means it deems appropriate, including offering its good offices, calling upon the States parties to a dispute to start the settlement procedure of their choice and recommending a time-limit for any agreed procedure.
3. This Article is without prejudice to the provisions of this Convention on facilitation and clarification of compliance.

Article 11

Meetings of the States Parties

1. The States Parties shall meet regularly in order to consider any matter with regard to the application or implementation of this Convention, including:
 - a. The operation and status of this Convention;
 - b. Matters arising from the reports submitted under the provisions of this Convention;
 - c. International cooperation and assistance in accordance with Article 6;
 - d. The development of technologies to clear anti-personnel mines;
 - e. Submissions of States Parties under Article 8; and

- f. Decisions relating to submissions of States Parties as provided for in Article 5.
2. The First Meeting of the States Parties shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations within one year after the entry into force of this Convention. The subsequent meetings shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations annually until the first Review Conference.
 3. Under the conditions set out in Article 8, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall convene a Special Meeting of the States Parties.
 4. States not party to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations may be invited to attend these meetings as observers in accordance with the agreed Rules of Procedure.



Article 12 Review Conferences

1. A Review Conference shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations five years after the entry into force of this Convention. Further Review Conferences shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations if so requested by one or more States Parties, provided that the interval between Review Conferences shall in no case be less than five years. All States Parties to this Convention shall be invited to each Review Conference.
2. The purpose of the Review Conference shall be:

- a. To review the operation and status of this Convention;
 - b. To consider the need for and the interval between further Meetings of the States Parties referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 11;
 - c. To take decisions on submissions of States Parties as provided for in Article 5; and,
 - d. To adopt, if necessary, in its final report, conclusions related to the implementation of this Convention.
3. States not parties to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations may be invited to attend each Review Conference as observers in accordance with the agreed Rules of Procedure.

Article 13

Amendments

1. At any time after the entry into force of this Convention any State Party may propose amendments to this Convention. Any proposal for an amendment shall be communicated to the Depositary, who shall circulate it to all States Parties and shall seek their views on whether an Amendment Conference should be convened to consider the proposal. If a majority of the States Parties notify the Depositary no later than 30 days after its circulation that they support further consideration of the proposal, the Depositary shall convene an Amendment Conference to which all States Parties shall be invited.
2. States not parties to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations may be invited to attend each Amendment Conference as observers in accordance with the agreed Rules of Procedure.
3. The Amendment Conference shall be held immediately following a Meeting of the States Parties or a Review Conference unless a majority of the States Parties request that it be held earlier.
4. Any amendment to this Convention shall be adopted by a majority of two-thirds of the States Parties present and voting at the Amendment Conference. The Depositary shall communicate any amendment so adopted to the States Parties.

5. An amendment to this Convention shall enter into force for all States Parties to this Convention which have accepted it, upon the deposit with the Depositary of instruments of acceptance by a majority of States Parties. Thereafter it shall enter into force for any remaining State Party on the date of deposit of its instrument of acceptance.

Article 14

Costs

1. The costs of the Meetings of the States Parties, the Special Meetings of the States Parties, the Review Conferences and the Amendment Conferences shall be borne by the States Parties and States not party to this Convention participating therein, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately.
2. The costs incurred by the Secretary-General of the United Nations under Articles 7 and 8 and the costs of any fact-finding mission shall be borne by the States Parties in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately.

Article 15

Signature

This Convention, done at Oslo, Norway, on 18 September 1997, shall be open for signature at Ottawa, Canada, by all States from 3 December 1997 until 4 December 1997, and at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 December 1997 until its entry into force.

Article 16

Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession

1. This Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval of the Signatories.
2. It shall be open for accession by any State which has not signed the Convention.



3. The instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the Depositary.

Article 17

Entry into force

1. This Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the sixth month after the month in which the 40th instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession has been deposited.
2. For any State which deposits its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession after the date of the deposit of the 40th instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, this Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the sixth month after the date on which that State has deposited its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

Article 18

Provisional application

Any State may at the time of its ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, declare that it will apply provisionally paragraph 1 of Article 1 of this Convention pending its entry into force.

Article 19

Reservations

The Articles of this Convention shall not be subject to reservations.

Article 20

Duration and withdrawal

1. This Convention shall be of unlimited duration.
2. Each State Party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty, have the right to withdraw from this Convention. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to all other States Parties, to the Depositary and to the United Nations Security Council. Such instrument of withdrawal shall include a full explanation of the reasons motivating this withdrawal.
3. Such withdrawal shall only take effect six months after the receipt of the instrument of withdrawal by the Depositary. If, however, on the expiry of that six- month period, the withdrawing State Party is engaged in an armed conflict, the withdrawal shall not take effect before the end of the armed conflict.

4. The withdrawal of a State Party from this Convention shall not in any way affect the duty of States to continue fulfilling the obligations assumed under any relevant rules of international law.

Article 21

Depositary

The Secretary-General of the United Nations is hereby designated as the Depositary of this Convention.

Article 22

Authentic texts

The original of this Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Photo Tim Graham/Getty





2 OSLO DECLARATION ON A MINE-FREE WORLD

1. We, the 164 States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, having met at the Fourth Review Conference in Oslo in November 2019, express our firm commitment to end the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines. We are proud of the tremendous progress we have made in protecting women, girls, boys and men from the threat and use of anti-personnel mines to date. We now commit to strengthening our efforts in order to achieve our common goals of a mine-free world and the full and equal inclusion of survivors and victims.
2. The norms established by the Convention are strong and we pledge to promote and defend them. We condemn the use of anti-personnel mines by any actor and will continue to spare no effort to universalise the Convention. We base our efforts on the respect for our obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law.
3. Since the entry into force of the Convention 20 years ago, we have destroyed more than 52 million stockpiled anti-personnel mines and 31 of us have completed our mine clearance obligations. We have reduced the risk of further humanitarian harm, we have released vast areas of land to communities for productive use, and we have made progress in ensuring victims and survivors lead dignified lives.
4. The successful implementation of the Convention has been underpinned by a unique spirit of cooperation and transparency, including strong partnerships with international organisations and civil society. We remain committed to continue fostering and strengthening these partnerships to achieve our common goals.
5. While we are proud of our joint achievements, many challenges remain. Contamination by anti-personnel mines, including those of an improvised nature, continues to pose a threat to human life and impede sustainable development.





6. We, the States Parties, are deeply concerned by the rise in the number of casualties caused by anti-personnel mines in recent years. The high number of injuries and deaths is a stark reminder of the continued relevance of the Convention. We will continue and strengthen our efforts to stigmatise and end the use of these weapons banned under the Convention, including new use of anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature, for which all the Convention's provisions apply. We will do our utmost to ensure full and timely implementation of all the Convention's provisions.
7. We are committed to meeting our Convention obligations and clearing all mined areas as soon as possible and will make every effort within our power to increase the speed of survey and clearance over the next five years, taking into consideration the need for innovation in clearance methodology.
8. We will destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines as soon as possible and in line with the deadlines set under the Convention; mindful that each anti-personnel mine destroyed potentially represents a life or limb saved.
9. We will intensify our efforts to prevent new casualties in affected areas. We will strive towards 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 antipersonnel mines can be removed.
10. We will take practical steps to take into account the different needs, vulnerabilities and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men as we implement the obligations of the Convention. We recognize that integrating a gender perspective and taking the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account in all aspects of mine action programming and Convention implementation is important to effectively protect all people from anti-personnel mines. We will strive to remove barriers to full, equal and gender-balanced participation in mine action and in Convention meetings.

11. We recognise that a mine-free world will not immediately mean a world without mine victims and survivors. We are committed to ensuring the full, equal and effective participation of mine survivors and victims in society, based on respect for human rights, gender equality, diverse needs and non-discrimination.
12. We recognise the need to integrate assistance to victims and survivors into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks relating to the rights of persons with disabilities, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction.
13. We believe that strong national ownership and international cooperation and assistance are essential for the continued success of the Convention. We will do our utmost to strengthen partnerships and to sustain and, where necessary, increase resources, assistance, national and international funding. We will explore options for new and alternative sources of funding with a view to increasing the resources available to realise the Convention's aims.
14. We emphasize that the effective implementation of the Convention directly contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the commitment to leaving no one behind. We will continue to develop synergies between the Convention and the sustainable development agenda to ensure the greatest benefits possible for communities affected by anti-personnel mines.
15. Through the realisation of the Convention's aims, States Parties are saving lives, protecting people, assisting victims and enabling sustainable development in affected areas. We, the States Parties, commit to intensifying our efforts to complete our respective time bound obligations with the urgency that the completion work requires. We aspire to meet these goals to the fullest extent possible by 2025. The Oslo Action Plan 2019-2024 will be an essential tool towards the fulfilment of this ambition.





3

OSLO ACTION PLAN*



Introduction

1. Ensuring the full universalisation and implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention is vital for protecting people and putting an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines. While recognising the progress made since the entry into force of the Convention, States Parties are deeply concerned by the rise in the number of casualties since 2014. Anti-personnel mines contamination from the past continues to cause harm and new use of anti-personnel mines, including those of an improvised nature, has added to the challenge in recent years.



* The information submitted in the States Parties' annual Article 7 reports serve as the main source of data to assess progress. Members of the Coordinating Committee and the President are 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. States Parties are encouraged to provide detailed information allowing for as accurate an assessment as possible for implementation of the Oslo Action Plan.

2. The States Parties reaffirm their unwavering commitment to end the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines for all people for all time. They will intensify their efforts to complete their time-bound obligations as soon as possible, and to the fullest extent possible by 2025. In doing so, the States Parties recognise that achieving a mine-free world will not immediately mean a world without mine victims and survivors and continue to be guided by their desire to ensure sustainable, integrated support for victims.
3. Mine action is broadly recognised as a humanitarian protection activity as well as a key enabler for development, humanitarian action, peace and security. Implementation of the Convention contributes significantly to preventing human suffering and in turn to advancing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the commitment to leave no one behind.
4. The Convention is the legally binding framework that guides the States Parties' actions as they implement the Convention in pursuit of their common goal. The *Oslo Action Plan* details the actions States Parties will take during the period of 2020–2024 to support implementation of the Convention, building on the achievements of the Nairobi, Cartagena and Maputo Action Plans.



5. States Parties are committed to meeting their obligations in the Convention's traditional spirit of cooperation and transparency. In support of fulfilling their obligations, they will continue to recognise the special partnerships of the Convention with the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining and to foster partnerships with civil society in support of implementing the Convention.

Since the entry into force of the Convention, the States Parties have identified best practices that are key to the successful implementation of the Convention's obligations, including, but not limited to:

- strong national ownership;
 - evidence-based national strategies and work plans;
 - integrating and mainstreaming gender considerations and taking the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account in mine action programming;
 - efficient use of available resources, including through the use of the latest methodologies in line with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS);
 - partnership, coordination and regular dialogue between stakeholders;
 - national and international resource commitments, where possible on a multi-year basis;
 - transparency and the exchange of high quality and accurate information in line with the Convention obligations;
 - accurate and sustainable national information management systems;
 - the effective functioning of the Convention's implementation machinery, including the work of the Committees, the support provided by the Implementation Support Unit and the holding of Meetings of the States Parties.
6. Recognising these best practices, the States Parties will take the following cross-cutting actions, which will contribute to the effective implementation of all areas of the Oslo Action Plan.



Action 1

Demonstrate high levels of national ownership¹, including by integrating Convention implementation activities into national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, humanitarian response plans and national strategies for the inclusion of persons with disabilities as appropriate, and by making financial and other commitments to implementation.

Indicators

1. the number of 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
2. the percentage of mine-affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention

Action 2

Develop evidence-based, costed and time-bound national strategies and work plans to fulfil and implement Convention obligations as soon as possible.

Indicator

- the percentage of mine-affected States Parties that report having evidence-based, costed and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place



¹ The States Parties have defined national ownership as entailing the following: 'maintaining interest at a high level in fulfilling Convention obligations; empowering and providing relevant State entities with the human, financial and material capacity to carry out their obligations under the Convention; articulating the measures its State entities will undertake to implement relevant aspects of Convention in the most inclusive, efficient and expedient manner possible and plans to overcome any challenges that need to be addressed; and making a regular significant national financial commitment to the State's programmes to implement the Convention'.

Action 3

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, in order to deliver an inclusive approach. Strive to remove barriers to full, equal and gender balanced participation in mine action and in Convention meetings.

Indicators

1. the percentage of 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
2. the percentage of women in States Parties' delegations attending Convention meetings

Action 4

Take into consideration the needs of mine survivors and affected communities and ensure their meaningful participation in all Convention related matters, including their equal and active participation in Convention meetings.

Indicators

1. the percentage of affected States Parties that report having developed their national strategies and work plans in an inclusive manner
2. the number of mine victims participating as part of delegations to Convention meetings
3. the percentage of States Parties with a significant number of victims that report that they include victim organisations in victim assistance planning at the national and local level

Action 5

Keep national mine action standards up to date in accordance with the latest International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), adapt them to new challenges and employ best practices to ensure efficient and effective implementation.

Indicator

- the percentage of affected 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.

Action 6

Strengthen partnerships and integrate responses between the mine action community and relevant humanitarian, peacebuilding, development and human rights communities, bearing in mind the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties that report having included mine action related activities within their humanitarian response plans, peacebuilding, development or human rights plans, where relevant

Action 7

States Parties in a position to do so will provide assistance, where feasible, to other States Parties in developing, updating or implementing their national strategies and work plans to fulfil their respective Convention obligations. Where possible, they will enter into multi-year partnerships and provide multi-year funding.

Indicators

1. the number of States Parties that report partnerships with other States Parties in support of fulfilment of Convention obligations
2. the number of States Parties that report providing financial or other support to affected States Parties
3. the number of States Parties that report providing multi-year funding to affected States Parties

Action 8

Provide quality information on progress and challenges in implementing the Convention, including on cooperation and assistance, by 30 April each year in line with Article 7, employing the Guide to Reporting², and during formal and informal meetings.

Indicators

1. the number of States Parties that prepare their Article 7 reports using the Guide to Reporting
2. the number of States Parties that report on progress and challenges during formal and informal meetings

² APLC/MSP.14/2015/WP.2, <https://bit.ly/Guide-Reporting>

Action 9

Establish and maintain a national information management system containing accurate and up-to-date data at the national level on the status of implementation. The design and implementation of information management systems will ensure that they are nationally owned, sustainable and take into account the need for data that can be accessed, managed and analysed post-completion.

Indicator

- the percentage of affected States Parties that report having a sustainable national information management system in place

Action 10

Pay their assessed contributions in line with Article 14 of the Convention as early in the year as possible, and swiftly settle any arrears, to ensure that meetings can take place as planned. States Parties in a position to do so will consider providing voluntary resources for the effective functioning of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU), making multi-year commitments where feasible, in accordance with the ISU's 5-year work plan.

Indicators

1. the percentage of States Parties that pay their assessed contributions no later than three months before the Meeting of the States Parties
2. the number of States Parties that make voluntary financial contributions to the ISU



Universalization

7. The Convention has established a strong norm against any use, production, stockpiling and transfer of anti-personnel mines. While this norm is widely adhered to even by States not party to the Convention, efforts to promote universalisation of the Convention and the strengthening of its norms must continue. In order to do so, the States Parties will take the following actions.

Action 11

Use all available avenues to promote ratification of/accesion to the Convention by States not party including by encouraging their participation in the work of the Convention.

Indicators

1. the number of new States Parties to the Convention
2. the percentage of States not party participating in meetings of the Convention
3. the percentage of States not party submitting voluntary Article 7 reports

Action 12

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.

Indicators

1. the percentage of States not party that report putting in place moratoria on activities prohibited by the Convention
2. the number of votes in favour of the annual UN General Assembly resolution on the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention



Stockpile destruction and retention of anti-personnel mines

- Great strides have been made in the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines since the entry into force of the Convention. Each mine destroyed represents a potential life or limb saved.

To ensure that all stockpiled anti-personnel mines are expeditiously destroyed in line with Article 4 of the Convention and that anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3 do not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for permitted purposes, States Parties with obligations under Article 4 and/or who retain anti-personnel mines in line with Article 3 will take the following actions.

Action 13

Develop a time-bound plan with clear milestones for the fulfilment of Article 4 within their deadline as soon as possible following the entry into force of the Convention, and regularly inform States Parties on progress made and remaining challenges in implementation.

Indicators

- the number of States Parties that have completed their Article 4 obligations
- the number of States Parties implementing Article 4 that have time-bound plans in place for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines
- the number of stockpiled anti-personnel mines destroyed

Action 14

States Parties that have failed to meet their stockpile destruction deadline and therefore are in non-compliance with Article 4 will present a time-bound plan for completion and urgently proceed with implementation as soon as possible in a transparent manner, regularly informing States Parties on progress made and remaining challenges.

Indicator

- the percentage of States Parties that failed to meet their deadline that present time-bound plans for completion and report progress in implementation



Action 15

Any State Party that discovers previously unknown stockpiles after stockpile destruction deadlines have passed will inform States Parties as soon as possible and destroy these anti-personnel mines as a matter of urgent priority and no later than six months after their discovery.

Indicator

- the percentage of the States Parties that have reported the discovery of previously unknown stockpiles destroy these anti-personnel mines within six months

Action 16

Any State Party that retains anti-personnel mines for reasons permitted under Article 3 of the Convention will annually review the number of mines retained to ensure that they do not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for permitted purposes, and will destroy all anti-personnel mines that exceed that number. The States Parties will report annually by 30 April on the use of retained mines and on their destruction.

Indicator

- the percentage of States Parties with anti-personnel mines retained for permitted purposes that report on the current and planned uses of these mines

Action 17

Explore available alternatives to using live anti-personnel mines for training and research purposes where possible.

Indicator

- the total number of States Parties that report replacing live anti-personnel mines with alternative measures for training and research purposes



Survey and Clearance of Mined Areas

9. Considerable progress has been made in addressing mined areas, but the States Parties reiterate 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.

Accelerated survey and clearance will provide the greatest contribution to reducing human suffering and to protecting people from the risk posed by anti-personnel mines. New use of anti-personnel mines in recent conflicts, including those of an improvised nature, has added to the remaining challenge of some States Parties in fulfilling their commitments under Article 5.

In their efforts to address all remaining anti-personnel mine contamination safely and swiftly, States Parties with obligations under Article 5 will take the following actions.

Action 18

States Parties 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.

Indicators

1. the percentage of 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)
2. the percentage of affected States Parties who report having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men



Action 19

Develop evidence-based and costed national work plans, including projections of the number of areas and the amount of mined area to be addressed annually to achieve completion as soon as possible, and no later than their Article 5 deadline, to be presented at the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties in 2020.

Indicator

- the percentage of 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)

Action 20

Annually update their national work plans based on new evidence and report on adjusted milestones in their Article 7 reports by 30 April each year, including information on the number of areas and amount of mined area to be addressed annually and on how priorities have been established.

Indicators

1. the percentage of affected States Parties that have reported annual updates and adjusted milestones to their national work plans in their 30 April transparency reports
2. the number of States Parties that have fulfilled their obligations under Article 5

Action 21

States Parties affected by anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature will ensure that they apply all provisions and obligations under the Convention to such contamination as they do for all other types of anti-personnel mines, including during survey and clearance in fulfilment of Article 5 and disaggregate by types of mines when reporting in fulfilment of Article 7 obligations.

Indicator

- the number of 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)

Action 22

Report in a manner consistent with IMAS by providing information on the remaining challenges, disaggregating by 'suspected hazardous areas' and 'confirmed hazardous areas' and their relative size, as well as by the type of contamination. Report on progress in accordance with the land release methodology employed (i.e. cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey, or cleared through clearance).

Indicators

1. the percentage of affected States Parties reporting on the remaining challenge and progress made in accordance with IMAS
2. the percentage of affected States Parties providing survey and clearance data in Article 5 extension requests and Article 7 reports that disaggregates by type of contamination

Action 23

States Parties submitting requests for extensions will ensure that these requests contain detailed, costed and multi-year work plans for the extension period and are developed through an inclusive process, in line with the decisions of the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties³ and the recommendations endorsed by the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties in the paper "Reflections on the Article 5 Extensions Process"⁴.

Indicators

1. the percentage of extension requests that include detailed, costed and multi-year work plans for the extension period
2. the percentage of extension requests that are submitted in accordance with the process established by the States Parties



³ APLC/MSP.7/2006/L.3, <https://bit.ly/Full-Implementation-Art5>

⁴ APLC/MSP.12/2012/4, <http://bit.ly/Reflections-Art5Extension>

Action 24

States Parties submitting requests for extensions will also ensure that the request include detailed, costed and multi-year plans for context-specific mine risk education and reduction in affected communities.

Indicator

- the percentage of extension requests that include appropriate plans for risk education and reduction activities

Action 25

States Parties who complete their clearance obligations will continue the best practice of submitting voluntary Declarations of Completion and give due consideration to the paper "Reflections and understandings on the implementation and completion of Article 5 mine clearance obligations"⁵ in that regard.

Indicator

- the percentage of States Parties that have completed their Article 5 obligations and that submit voluntary declarations of completion



⁵ APLC/MSP.17/2018/10, <http://bit.ly/Reflections-Art5-Obligations>

Action 26

Ensure that national strategies and work plans for completion make provisions for a sustainable national capacity to address previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas discovered following completion. In addressing these areas, they will consider the commitments made at the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties as contained in the paper «Proposed rational response to States Parties discovering previously unknown mined areas after deadlines have passed»⁶.

Indicators

1. the percentage of affected States Parties that include provisions for addressing previously unknown mined areas in their national strategies and/or completion plans
2. the percentage of affected States Parties that report having put in place sustainable national capacities to address the discovery of previously unknown mined areas
3. the percentage of States Parties that discover previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas, that apply the decision of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties

Action 27

Take appropriate steps to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of survey and clearance, including by promoting the research, application and sharing of innovative technological means to this effect.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties that report promoting research, application and sharing of innovative technological means



⁶ APLC/MSP.12/2012/7, <http://bit.ly/PreviouslyUnknownMinedAreas>

Mine Risk Education and Reduction

10. Mine risk education can help prevent new mine accidents and save lives. In addition to clearance, providing risk education and other risk reduction programmes to affected populations is a primary means of preventing injuries and fatal accidents. In recent years, large new groups of refugees and internally displaced persons have come to count among the many groups at risk from anti-personnel mines and the number of casualties has been on the rise.

Against this backdrop, the delivery of effective, relevant risk education and other risk reduction programmes that are sensitive to gender, age, disability and that take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account, require ongoing focus in order to prevent new mine accidents. In order to address this situation, the States Parties will take the following actions.

Action 28

Integrate mine risk education activities with wider humanitarian, development, protection and education efforts, as well as with ongoing survey, clearance and victim assistance activities to reduce the risk to the affected population and decrease their need for risk-taking.

Indicator

- the percentage of 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

Action 29

Provide context-specific mine risk education and reduction programmes to all affected populations and groups at risk. Ensure that such programmes are developed on the basis of a needs assessment, that they are tailored to the threat encountered by the population, and that they are sensitive to gender, age, disability and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account.

Indicators

1. the percentage of affected States Parties that report having mine risk education and reduction programmes for all affected populations in place
2. the percentage of 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

Action 30

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.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties that report having established an evidence-based priority-setting mechanism for mine risk education and reduction programmes

Action 31

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.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties that provide risk education and reduction programmes to affected communities in the case that previously unknown mined areas are discovered

Action 32

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.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties reporting on their mine risk education and other risk reduction programmes and results



Victim Assistance

11. States Parties remain committed to ensuring the full, equal and effective participation of mine victims in society, based on respect for human rights, gender equality, inclusion and non-discrimination. The States Parties have recognised that, in order to be effective and sustainable, victim assistance should be integrated into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks relating to the rights of persons with disabilities, and to health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction in support of the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

States Parties with victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control will endeavour to do their utmost to provide appropriate, affordable and accessible services to mine victims, on an equal basis with others. In order to realise this commitment, States Parties with a significant number of victims under their jurisdiction or control will take the following actions.

Action 33

Ensure that a relevant government entity is assigned to oversee the integration of victim assistance into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks. The assigned entity will develop an action plan and monitor and report on implementation based on specific, measurable, realistic and time-bound objectives to support mine victims. This involves the removal of physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers to access such services; and the use of an approach that is inclusive of gender, age and disability and takes diverse needs into account in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all programmes.

Indicators

1. the number of States Parties that have designated a government entity to coordinate victim assistance activities
2. the number of States Parties that have national action plans in place containing specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound objectives and related indicators



Action 34

Carry out multi-sectoral efforts to ensure that the needs and rights of mine victims are effectively addressed through national policy and legal frameworks relating to disability, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction, in line with the relevant provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties that report that they include mine victims in relevant national policy and support frameworks

Action 35

Establish or strengthen a centralised database that includes information on persons killed by mines as well as on persons injured by mines and their needs and challenges, disaggregated by gender, age and disability, and make this information available to relevant stakeholders to ensure a comprehensive response to addressing the needs of mine victims.

Indicators

1. the number of States Parties that include victims of anti-personnel mines in disability data systems
2. the number of States Parties that disaggregate victim data by gender, age and disability

Action 36

Provide effective and efficient first aid to casualties in mine-affected communities, as well as other medical emergency services, and ongoing medical care.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties reporting on efforts to ensure an efficient and effective emergency response to mine accidents

Action 37

Ensure, where appropriate and possible, a national referral mechanism to facilitate access to services for mine victims, including by creating and disseminating a comprehensive directory of services.

Indicators

1. the number of States Parties that report having a national referral mechanism
2. the number of States Parties that report having a directory of services in place

Action 38

Take steps to ensure that, taking into account local, national and regional circumstances, all mine victims, including in rural and remote areas, have access to comprehensive rehabilitation services and psychological and psychosocial support services, including through the provision of outreach rehabilitation service, where necessary, while paying particular attention to the most vulnerable. This includes the provision of assistive devices, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and peer-to-peer support programs.

Indicators

1. the number of States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability and accessibility of comprehensive rehabilitation services
2. the number of States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability of psychological and psychosocial support services
3. the number of States Parties that have established peer-to-peer services within their national healthcare system

Action 39

Carry out efforts to ensure the social and economic inclusion of mine victims, such as access to education, capacity-building, employment referral services, microfinance institutions, business development services, rural development and social protection programmes, including in rural and remote areas.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties reporting on efforts to remove barriers to the social and economic inclusion of mine victims

Action 40

Ensure that relevant national humanitarian response and preparedness plans provide for the safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters, in line with relevant international humanitarian and human rights law and international guidelines.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties that report integrating protection of mine survivors in their humanitarian response and preparedness plans

Action 41

Ensure the full inclusion and effective participation of mine victims and their representative organizations in all matters that affect them, including in rural and remote areas.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties that report that they include victim representatives or their organisations in victim assistance planning at the national and local level



Photo, Nijaz Memic

International Cooperation and Assistance

12. While reaffirming that each State Party is responsible for implementing the provisions of the Convention in areas under its jurisdiction or control, the States Parties stress that enhanced cooperation can support implementation of Convention obligations as soon as possible. With a view to enhancing cooperation in order to meet the Convention's obligations and aspirations as soon as possible, States Parties will take the following actions.

Action 42

Do their utmost to commit the resources needed to meet Convention obligations as soon as possible and explore all possible alternative and/or innovative sources of funding.

Indicators

1. the percentage of mine-affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention
2. the number of States Parties that provide financial or other support to affected States Parties
3. alternative and/or innovative sources of financing have been explored

Action 43

States Parties seeking assistance will develop resource mobilisation plans and use all mechanisms within the Convention to disseminate information on challenges and requirements for assistance, including through their annual Article 7 transparency reports and by taking advantage of the individualised approach. States Parties will share the outcomes of the individualised approach with the wider mine action community in order to maximise its impact.

Indicators

1. the number of States Parties requiring support that provide information on progress, challenges and requirements for assistance in Article 7 reports and Convention meetings
2. the number of States Parties that have taken advantage of the individualised approach and that report having received follow-up and/or increased support to meet the needs identified

Action 44

States Parties will strengthen national coordination including by ensuring regular dialogue with national and international stakeholders on progress, challenges and support for implementation of their obligations under the Convention. They will consider, where relevant, establishing an appropriate national platform for regular dialogue among all stakeholders.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties that have an in-country platform for dialogue among all stakeholders that meets on a regular basis

Action 45

States Parties in a position to do so will provide assistance to other States Parties in the implementation of their obligations under the Convention, in line with their development policies. In doing so, they will support the implementation of clear, evidence-based national strategies and work plans that respond to the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities and are built on sound gender, age and disability analysis. Support to victim assistance can be provided through the mine action budget, and/or through integrating victim assistance into broader development and humanitarian efforts.

Indicators

1. the number of States Parties that report providing financial or other support to affected States Parties
2. the number of States Parties that report providing support to victim assistance through the mine action budget and/or making support available to victims, on an equal basis with others, as part of broader development and humanitarian efforts
3. the number of States Parties that report providing support to mine clearance activities



Action 46

States Parties in a position to provide assistance will, where possible using existing mechanisms, coordinate their support for the effective implementation of Convention obligations by affected States Parties.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties that report coordinating their support for the effective implementation of the Convention

Action 47

Continuously explore opportunities for cooperation, including international, regional and bilateral, cooperation between affected States Parties or South-to-South, with a view to voluntary sharing of best practices and lessons learnt. Cooperation of this kind may include making mutually supporting clearance commitments in border areas, sharing experience of integrating gender and taking the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account into programming, and, in line with Article 6, exchanging equipment, material and scientific and technological information (or donating them after one State Party reaches completion) in order to promote the implementation of the Convention.

Indicator

- the number of States Parties that report sharing best practices and lessons learnt through international, regional, South-to-South and/or bilateral cooperation



Measures to Ensure Compliance

13. Stressing the importance of complying with all the Convention's provisions, the States Parties remain committed to ensuring compliance with the obligations of the Convention in order to reach its objectives. Reaffirming their commitment to promote compliance with the Convention, the States Parties will take the following actions.

Action 48

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. It 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.

Indicators

1. the number of States Parties with alleged or known non-compliance in relation to Article 1
2. the percentage of States Parties in a situation of alleged/known non-compliance with Article 1 that provide updates to all States Parties States



Action 49

Any State Party implementing obligations in particular under Article 4 or 5, or retaining or transferring mines in line with Article 3 that has not submitted an Article 7 report detailing progress in implementing these obligations each year will provide in close cooperation with the ISU an annual update on the status of implementation in line with Article 7 and will provide information to all States Parties in the most expeditious, comprehensive and transparent manner possible. If no information on implementing the relevant obligations for two consecutive years is provided, the President will assist and engage with the States Parties concerned in close cooperation with the relevant Committee.

Indicator

- the percentage of States Parties that are implementing obligations under Article 4 or 5, or retaining mines in line with Article 3.1, and that have not submitted an Article 7 report detailing progress in implementing these obligations in the last two years, that provide updates to all States Parties in Article 7 reports and during meetings of the States Parties

Action 50

Any State Party that has not yet fulfilled its obligations under Article 9 of the Convention will urgently take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures to implement those obligations and report on the measures taken no later than by the Twentieth Meeting of the States Parties.

Indicator

- the percentage of States Parties that have reported having fulfilled Article 9





4

PURPOSE, MANDATE, MEMBERSHIP AND WORKING METHODS OF THE STATES PARTIES' IMPLEMENTATION MACHINERY

Convention President



Mandate

1. Chair the Meeting of the States Parties or Review Conference.
2. Chair the Intersessional Meetings.
3. Chair the Committee on Cooperative Compliance.
4. Chair the Coordinating Committee.
5. Take the lead, in consultation with the Coordinating Committee, with respect to any issue related to the pursuit of the Convention's aims other than those related to the mandates of the committees (named here below), including matters related to stockpile destruction under Article 4 and transparency regarding the exceptions contained in Article 3 of the Convention.
6. Propose, if deemed necessary, one or more members of the Coordinating Committee to provide support on any issue of the President's mandate, which may require particular attention, including on financial matters.
7. Promote implementation and universalization of the Convention and its norms, including in relevant multilateral and regional fora, as well as at the national level.



8. Lead efforts to mobilise sufficient resources to fund the operations of the Implementation Support Unit.
9. Take the lead on matters related to the United Nations assessed contributions received pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention.
10. Promote coordination amongst all structures established by the States Parties.
11. Propose a set of new officeholders for agreement by the forthcoming Meeting of the States Parties. The proposed set of officeholders shall be balanced regionally as well as between States Parties in the process of implementing key obligations of the Convention, those in a position to provide financial or other assistance, and other States Parties.
12. Present a preliminary report on activities at Intersessional Meetings if need be, as well as use Intersessional Meetings, when relevant, as a forum for addressing specific topics of interest.
13. Present a final report on activities, as well as conclusions and recommendations if relevant, at Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.
14. Any other relevant matters.



Coordinating Committee

Purpose and mandate

1. To coordinate the work flowing from and related to formal and informal meetings of the States Parties. To fulfil responsibilities related to the Implementation Support Unit accountability as agreed to at the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties; the Committee does not have substantive decision-making capacity.

Membership

2. It is composed of the President, President-Designate during the year prior to her/his presidency, as well as members of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation, Committee on Cooperative Compliance, Committee on Victim Assistance, and Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance. The Sponsorship Coordinator participates in the work of the Committee as Observer.

Working methods

3. In keeping with past practice, the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), ICBL, and Geneva Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) are invited as Observers. The Committee strives to reach general agreement in all aspects of its work.

Committee on Article 5 Implementation

Purpose

1. To intensify efforts, particularly those outlined in the *Oslo Action Plan*, to ensure that Article 5 is fully implemented as soon as possible, while acknowledging local, national and regional circumstances in its practical implementation.
2. To provide feedback to States Parties having submitted information on “the location of all mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines” and on mine clearance programmes as well as their results. Furthermore, the Committee is to ensure, as agreed to by the States Parties that, “a cooperative engagement of Article 5 implementing States Parties continues after requests have been granted.”

Mandate

3. Review relevant information on Article 5 implementation submitted by States Parties, including in the context of Article 7 obligations and on efforts undertaken under Article 6 on international cooperation and assistance, seek clarity when required and provide advice and support in a cooperative manner to States Parties on the fulfilment of their obligations to report on Article 5 implementation.
4. Review relevant information provided by the States Parties on implementation of the commitments contained in the *Oslo Action Plan*.

5. Prepare and submit to the States Parties in advance of Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences an analysis of each request for an Article 5 extended deadline, taking into account as relevant, the decisions on the analysis process as agreed to by the Seventh and the Twelfth Meetings of the States Parties.
6. Engage relevant States Parties, after any extension requests have been granted, on the implementation of their commitments as contained in requests and related decisions on their requests. The Committee will present preliminary observations at Intersessional Meetings if need be, and conclusions and recommendations at Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.
7. Consider matters related to gender and diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities in every aspect of its work.
8. Present preliminary observations at Intersessional Meetings if need be, and final annual conclusions and recommendations at Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.
9. Remain transparent and accountable, including by reporting on activities at both Intersessional Meetings and Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

Membership

10. It is composed of a representative group of four States Parties serving overlapping two-year terms, including at least one State either in the process of implementing Article 5 or having completed implementation of Article 5 after carrying out mine clearance activities.
11. A Chair is selected yearly among the States Parties serving the second year of their two-year terms. The Chair is responsible for convening and chairing meetings, issuing communications on behalf of the Committee and directing the Implementation Support Unit to assist the work of the Committee.

Working Methods

12. Draw, as needed, from the working methods established in 2008 by the Article 5 Analysing Group, including by placing a heavy emphasis on cooperation with States Parties in the process of implementing Article 5 and by drawing upon expert input as required. The Committee is to strive to reach general agreement in all aspects of its work.

13. Appoint a focal point among its members to provide advice on gender mainstreaming and ensure that the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities are taken into account in the implementation of the *Oslo Action Plan*.
14. Increase and strengthen coordination with other Committees, including by examining implementation by States Parties in a more holistic manner, and by considering the submission of joint conclusions on the status of implementation of the Convention by States Parties at the Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

Committee on Cooperative Compliance

Purpose

1. To assist the States Parties in acting upon their commitment under Article 8.1 of the Convention to work together in a spirit of cooperation to facilitate compliance in a supportive and amicable manner.
2. To improve the management of the work of the Convention in a highly cooperative manner. Its establishment does not supersede the provisions of Article 8 or amend the Convention, and its status and prerogatives are identical to that of other elements of the Convention's machinery.

Mandate

3. Consider, objectively and informally, whether a concern about compliance with the Convention's prohibitions contained in Article 1.1 of the Convention is potentially credible and if so, consider any follow up that might be appropriate for States Parties to better understand the situation.
4. When appropriate, in close consultation with the States Parties concerned, clarify the situation, and if as a result it assesses that the concern is credible, make suggestions on steps that the States Parties concerned could take to ensure that the Convention remains strong and effective.
5. For cases where the concern is credible, present preliminary observations at Intersessional Meetings if need be, and conclusions and recommendations at Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.
6. Address all matters under Article 1.2 in cases where a State Party has not submitted an Article 7 Report detailing progress in implementing relevant obligations each year.

7. Support States Parties in their efforts to implement and report on matters contained in Article 9 of the Convention.
8. Encourage the States Parties to submit annual Article 7 reports.
9. Review relevant information provided by the States Parties on the implementation of the commitments contained in the *Oslo Action Plan*.
10. Consider matters related to gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities in every aspect of its work.
11. Remain transparent and accountable, including by reporting on activities at both Intersessional and Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

Membership

12. It is composed of the President, who chairs the committee, and a representative group of four States Parties serving overlapping two-year terms as committee members. The Chair is responsible for convening and chairing meetings, issuing communications on behalf of the Committee and directing the Implementation Support Unit to assist the work of the Committee.

Working Methods

13. Strive to reach general agreement in all aspects of its work. The Committee may draw upon expert input as required.
14. Appoint a focal point among its members to provide advice on gender mainstreaming and ensure that the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities are taken into account in the implementation of the *Oslo Action Plan*.
15. Increase and strengthen coordination with other Committees, including by examining implementation by States Parties in a more holistic manner, and by considering the submission of joint conclusions on the status of implementation of the Convention by States Parties at the Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.



Purpose

1. To build upon the solid foundation the States Parties have constructed on the issue of victim assistance, in order to support States Parties in their national efforts to strengthen and advance victim assistance, in particular in States Parties with mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control.
2. To ensure balance between ongoing discussions on pertinent aspects of victim assistance within the framework of the Convention itself, and taking the discussion on meeting the needs and guaranteeing the rights of mine victims to other fora where relevant and related issues are debated.

Mandate

3. Provide advice and support in a cooperative manner to States Parties in the fulfilment of their commitments under the *Oslo Action Plan*, draw observations in consultation with the States Parties concerned and assist these States Parties in making their needs known.
4. Take other relevant initiatives to facilitate discussion on ways and means of enhancing victim assistance and to ensure the wellbeing of mine victims.
5. Raise awareness, in relevant fora, of the importance of addressing the needs and guaranteeing the rights of mine victims in broader domains such as health care, disability and human rights, development, poverty reduction, and employment, drawing from the breadth of understandings agreed to by the States Parties on victim assistance.
6. Review relevant information provided by the States Parties on the implementation of the commitments contained in the *Oslo Action Plan*.
7. Consider matters related to gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities in every aspect of its work.
8. Present conclusions and recommendations following consultations with the States Parties concerned at Intersessional Meetings, if need be, Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences, including on progress, achievements and challenges, in order to strengthen victim assistance.
9. Remain transparent and accountable, including by reporting on activities at both Intersessional Meetings and Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

Membership

10. It is composed of a representative group of four States Parties, serving overlapping two-year terms. Each year, the Committee selects a Chair among the States Parties serving the second year of their two-year terms. The Chair of the Committee is responsible for convening and chairing meetings, issuing communications on behalf of the Committee and directing the Implementation Support Unit to assist the work of the Committee.

Working methods

11. Draw, as needed, on the expertise of the ICBL and ICRC and involve them in its work, as Observers, and invite other States Parties, the United Nations and other relevant international and non-governmental organisations to participate on an *ad hoc* basis. Strive to reach general agreement in all aspects of its work.
12. Appoint a focal point among its members to provide advice on gender mainstreaming and ensure that the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities are taken into account in the implementation of the *Oslo Action Plan*.
13. Increase and strengthen coordination with other Committees, including by examining implementation by States Parties in a more holistic manner, and by considering the submission of joint conclusions on the status of implementation of the Convention by States Parties at the Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance

Purpose

1. To assist the States Parties in the full implementation of Article 6 of the Convention, in line with their reaffirmation of ending the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines is a shared commitment.

Mandate

2. Promote cooperation and assistance under the Convention, including by organising or encouraging the organisation of multilateral, regional or national dialogues on cooperation and assistance, in Geneva or elsewhere.
3. Facilitate the fostering of partnerships between States Parties seeking to receive assistance and those in a position to provide such assistance, including through the use of information exchange tools (e.g. "Platform for Partnerships").

4. Coordinate with other implementation mechanisms established by the States Parties in order to facilitate and accelerate the full implementation of the Convention.
5. Review relevant information provided by the States Parties on the implementation of the commitments of the *Oslo Action Plan*.
6. Consider matters related to gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities in every aspect of its work.
7. Present preliminary observations at Intersessional Meetings if need be, and conclusions and recommendations, if relevant, at Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.
8. Remain transparent and accountable, including by reporting on activities at both Intersessional Meetings and Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

Membership

9. It is composed of a representative group of four States Parties serving overlapping two-year terms, including an affected State Party and a State Party that is a provider of support or assistance. Each year, the Committee selects a Chair among the States Parties serving the second year of their two-year terms. The Chair is responsible for convening and chairing meetings, issuing communications on behalf of the Committee and directing the Implementation Support Unit to assist the work of the Committee.

Working methods

10. Draw, as needed, on the expert input of the ICBL and ICRC and involve them in its work, invite other States Parties, the United Nations and other relevant international and non-governmental organisations to participate on an ad hoc basis. Strive to reach general agreement in all aspects of its work.
11. Appoint a focal point among its members to provide advice on gender mainstreaming and ensure that the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities are taken into account in the implementation of the *Oslo Action Plan*.



12. Increase and strengthen coordination with other Committees, including by examining implementation by States Parties in a more holistic manner, and considering the submission of joint conclusions on the status of implementation of the Convention by States Parties at the Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conference

1. The Fourth Review Conference decided to convene annually, until the Fifth Review Conference, a Meeting of the States Parties for up to five days at the end of November or beginning of December and to hold the Fifth Review Conference at the end of 2024.
2. In addition to the provisions of the Convention, the Conference agreed that, keeping with the mandate for Meetings of the States Parties “to consider any matter with regard to the application or implementation of this Convention,” these Meetings of the States Parties could inter alia consider:
 - a. Conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Article 5 implementation.
 - b. Requests for extended mine clearance deadlines.
 - c. If any, conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance.
 - d. Conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Victim Assistance.
 - e. Conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance.
 - f. The status of assessed contributions received pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention.
 - g. Any other relevant matters.
 - h. The Implementation Support Unit report, audited statement and work plan/budget, pursuant to the 2010 Directive of the States Parties to the Implementation Support Unit.

3. The Conference agreed that Meetings of the States Parties will continue to be a forum where States Parties with obligations under the Convention report on their progress in their implementation of these, and other States Parties as well as other Convention actors, including the United Nations, the ICRC, ICBL and GICHD, have an opportunity to provide comments and views during these meetings.

Intersessional Meetings

1. The Fourth Review Conference decided to hold the Intersessional Meetings annually in Geneva for a minimum of two days of plenary meetings. The Conference further decided to maintain their informal nature and consider adding on an annual basis:
 - a. Either a thematic segment during the two-day Intersessional Meetings or a day of thematic discussions, and that all topics relevant to the Convention be addressed, including the status of implementation of the *Oslo Action Plan*.
 - b. The President of the annual Meeting of the States Parties will consider and decide on these options in consultation with the Coordinating Committee.
2. States Parties as well as other Convention actors, including the United Nations, ICRC, ICBL, and GICHD have an opportunity to provide comments and views during these meetings.





The **Implementation Support Unit (ISU)** is the Secretariat to the **Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction**

The ISU is mandated to support the States Parties, in particular by doing the following:

- Supporting the Convention's implementation machinery and office holders,
- Providing advice and technical support to individual States Parties on the implementation and universalization of the Convention,
- Communicating on behalf of the President and States Parties, and providing information about the Convention,
- Keeping records of formal and informal meetings under the Convention, and,
- Liaising and coordinating with relevant international and non-governmental organisations that participate in the work of the Convention.

The ISU is funded on a voluntary basis by States Parties to the Convention and directly accountable to them. It is hosted at the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining thanks to financial support provided by Switzerland.





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Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
Implementation Support Unit

Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2C; Tower 3
PO Box 1300
1211 Geneva, Switzerland

T: +41 (0) 22 730 93 11
F: +41 (0) 22 730 93 62
E: isu@apminebanconvention.org

www.apminebanconvention.org

