

**TWENTY-FIRST MEETING  
OF THE STATES PARTIES  
GENEVA, 20—24 NOVEMBER 2023**



Germany supports mine clearance in various parts of the world including in Sri Lanka. Photo, HALO Trust.



Ending the suffering and casualties  
caused by anti-personnel mines

# 1 Agenda at a Glance

MONDAY 20	TUESDAY 21	WEDNESDAY 22
		<b>09:00 – 09:55</b>
		<p><b>Side Event: Article 5 Implementation: The road to the Fifth Review Conference</b>            Host: Mine Action Review Building E – Room XXIV            Contact Lucy(at)npaid.org</p>
<b>10:00 – 13:00</b>	<b>10:00 – 13:00</b>	<b>10:00 – 13:00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Official opening of the meeting</li> <li>• Ceremonial opening of the meeting</li> <li>• Adoption of the agenda</li> <li>• Election of the Vice-Presidents of the meeting and of other officers</li> <li>• Confirmation of the Secretary-General of the meeting</li> <li>• Organisation of work</li> <li>• <b>12:00 Thematic Panel</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analysis of these requests (continued)</li> <li>• Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention</li> </ul> <p>(a) Assisting the victims</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention</li> </ul> <p>(b) Clearing mined areas and mine risk education and reduction (continued)</p>
<b>13:00 – 15:00</b>	<b>13:00 – 15:00</b>	<b>13:00 – 15:00</b>
<p><b>Mitigating the Risks of IED contamination – Challenges and Good Practices</b>            Hosts: Germany, GICHD Building: E Room: XXIV            Contact: s07-4(at)auswaertiges- amt.de</p> <p><b>Remobilizing Resources for Anti-Personnel Mine Contamination in West Africa</b>            Host: Mines Advisory Group Building A – Room VIII            Contact: riccardo.labianco(at)maginternational.org</p> <p><b>Landmine Monitor 2023: Delegates Briefing</b>            Host: ICBL - Building: H            Rooms: 207/208/209            Contact: monitor(at)icblcmc.org</p>	<p><b>Gender Matters in the Convention: Taking Stock of Progress, Looking Ahead</b>            Hosts: GICHD, UNIDIR and Germany Building: E Room: XIX (Plenary)            Contact: gender-unidir(at)un.org</p> <p><b>Project Briefing: Launch of VA Global Conference Report, Update on universalization, Dialogues on VA in Iraq and Sudan and Article 5 in Colombia and Zimbabwe</b>            Host: EU Delegation. Building: E Room: XXIV Contact: isu(at)apmine-banconvention.org</p>	<p><b>Mainstreaming Climate Change and the Environment on The Road to the Fifth Review Conference</b>            Host: GICHD Building: E Room: XIX (Plenary)            Contact: c.mestre(at)gichd.org</p>
<b>15:00 - 18:00</b>	<b>15:00 - 18:00</b>	<b>15:00 - 18:00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General exchange of views</li> <li>• Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analysis of these requests</li> </ul> <p><b>18:30 OPENING RECEPTION</b>            Hosted by: Germany, Switzerland, Canton of Geneva, and City of Geneva            Location: Restaurant of the ICRC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention</li> </ul> <p>(a) Assisting the victims (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention</li> </ul> <p>(b) Clearing mined areas and mine risk education and reduction (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (c) Cooperation and Assistance</li> </ul>

# 1 Agenda at a Glance

THURSDAY 23	FRIDAY 24
<b>10:00 – 13:00</b>	<b>10:00 – 13:00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention</li> </ul> <p>(c) Cooperation and Assistance (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention</li> </ul> <p>(d) Preventing and suppressing prohibited activities and facilitating compliance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General exchange of views (continued)</li> <li>• Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention</li> </ul> <p>(h) Implementation Support</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ISU report, activities, and finances</li> <li>Other matters concerning implementation support</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of assessed contributions received pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention</li> </ul>
<b>13:00 – 15:00</b>	<b>13:00 – 15:00</b>
<p><b>Private Sector Engagement in Mine Action</b>            Host: Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority            Building E – Room XIX (Plenary)            Contact: lypanharith(at)cmaa.gov.kh</p> <p><b>By the Numbers: Gender and Employment in Mine Action</b>            Host: Mine Action Canada – Building A Room IX            Contact: erin(at)minesactioncanada.org</p>	<p><b>Walking the Talk: Implementing Sustainable Localised Mine Action</b>            Host: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Knowledge Platform Security and Rule of Law, Danish Refugee Council, GICHD, The HALO Trust, Health and Social Care Organization, and Mine Clearance Planning Agency            Building E – Room XXIV Contact devisha.ramsোধ(at)minbuza.nl</p> <p><b>Improvised Explosive Devices in West Africa: Challenges and Opportunities for Control</b>            Host: Small Arms Survey            Building A – Room IX            Contact: manon.blancafort(at)smallarmssurvey.org</p>
<b>15:00 - 18:00</b>	<b>15:00 - 18:00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention</li> </ul> <p>(e) Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines;</p> <p>(f) Universalising the Convention;</p> <p>(g) Transparency and the exchange of information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of requests under Article 5</li> <li>• Consideration of matters arising from/in the context of reports submitted under Article 7</li> <li>• Consideration of requests submitted under Article 8</li> <li>• Election of the President of the Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties, the Twenty-Second Meeting of the States Parties, and Twenty-Third Meeting of the States Parties</li> <li>• Duration and matters pertaining to the preparations for the Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties and the Twenty-Second Meeting of the States Parties</li> <li>• Any other business</li> <li>• Consideration and adoption of the final document</li> <li>• Closure of the Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties</li> </ul>



The Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties (21 MSP) is the formal, diplomatic meeting of the 164 States that have accepted to be bound by the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Production, Stockpiling and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction and last formal meeting prior to the Fifth Review Conference.

The 21 MSP is presided over by H.E. Thomas Göbel, Permanent Representative of Germany to the Conference on Disarmament, who was elected at the conclusion of the Twentieth Meeting of the States Parties at the end of November 2022.

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# 1 Programme of the 21MSP – Monday

**MONDAY 20 NOVEMBER, 10:00 – 12:00**

## 1 Official opening of the meeting

The meeting will be opened by the President of the Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties (21MSP), H.E. Thomas Göbel, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Germany to the Conference on Disarmament.

## 2 Ceremonial opening of the meeting

A ceremonial opening will feature messages from:

- H.E. Katja Keul, Minister of State at the German Federal Foreign Office,
- Ms Izumi Nakamitsu, Under-Secretary-General, UN High Representative for Disarmament,
- HRH Prince Mired Raad Zeid Al-Husseini, Special Envoy on Universalization and Lord Chamberlain of the Hashemite Royal Court
- Ms Emilie Vath, Ambassador, Humanity and Inclusion on behalf of mine victims and survivors,
- Mr Gilles Carbonnier, Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross,
- Ms Nimaya Dahanayake, a Youth fellow from Sri Lanka on behalf of the ICBL, and
- Dr. Barbara Haering, President of the GICHD Council of Foundation.

The opening ceremony will also feature a musical performance by the Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra (Nürnberger Symphoniker).

## 3 Adoption of the agenda

The Meeting will be asked to adopt its agenda as contained in document APLC/MSP.21/2023/1, which was presented to delegations at the 19-21 June 2023 Intersessional Meetings.

## 4 Election of the Vice-Presidents of the meeting and of other officers

The Meeting will be asked to elect the eight outgoing members of the Committees as Vice-Presidents of the 21MSP: **France, Iraq, Netherlands, Italy, Switzerland, Thailand, Türkiye and Uganda.**

## 5 Confirmation of the Secretary-General of the meeting

The Meeting will be asked to confirm the Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Conference on Disarmament H.E. Julien Thöni as Secretary-General of the 21MSP. Ambassador Thöni will be invited to offer remarks as host country and Secretary-General of the 21MSP.

## 6 Organisation of work

The Meeting will be asked to adopt its programme as contained in document APLC/MSP.21/2023/2, which was presented to delegations at the 19-21 June 2023 Intersessional Meetings.



Germany presided over the Eighth Pledging Conference on 24 March 2023 in Geneva. Minister of State H.E. Katja Keul offered opening remarks.

12:00 – 13:00

## 7 Thematic panel: More effective cooperation between mine-affected and supporting States Parties – The Individualised Approach in context

It has been long recognised that while each State Party is responsible for implementing the provisions of the Convention in areas under its jurisdiction or control, enhanced cooperation can support a more rapid implementation of Convention obligations. The States Parties have also long recognised that overcoming distinct and often unique circumstances faced by mine-affected States is key and that needs for cooperation and support vary according to national implementation contexts.

These realisations led to the establishment of the Individualised Approach which in its essence, offers a platform for affected States Parties to share information on their challenges in implementation and requirements for support. Furthermore, National Mine Action Platforms are meant to ensure regular dialogue between stakeholders and foster more systematic and long-term partnerships. The Individualised Approach is thus the first step in a comprehensive process encompassing National Mine Action Platforms and other forms of enhanced cooperation. What is clear is that mine-affected States and those in a position to provide assistance have an important role to play in the success of these approaches.

As the 21MSP is the last formal opportunity to take stock of our collective efforts before the Fifth Review Conference, it offers an opportunity for more in-depth discussion on how the Individualised Approach and National Mine Action Platforms can succeed, determine where challenges for mine-affected States and donors lay, and which areas to consider when looking at more effective international cooperation.

The panel will seek to answer the following questions:

- *What are Individualised Approaches and National Mine Action Platforms? And what is their role in building partnerships?*
- *What challenges do affected-States face, what are the ebbs and flows of partnerships and international support, and how could the Individualised Approach and National Mine Action Platforms help?*
- *What are the necessary conditions – on the side of mine-affected State Parties and on the side of donor states – for partnerships to be successful?*
- *What challenges do States have in establishing National Mine Action Platforms? Are there any best practices?*
- *What should the Convention community do towards the Fifth Review Conference to ensure the strengthening of cooperation mechanisms beyond nice words on paper?*

**Moderator** – 21MSP President Ambassador Thomas Göbel

- **Thailand** – Patawee Treekarunasawad, Minister-Counsellor  
Thailand will offer an overview of the need for an individualized approach and national mine action platforms as means to respond to the diverse and unique challenges faced by States Parties in their implementation efforts.
- **Angola** – Narciso Tiacafe, Head of Operations & Accreditation, National Mine Action Agency of Angola (ANAMA)  
Angola will offer information on the difficulties with the ebbs and flows of partnerships and how this challenges implementation.
- **Norway** – Camilla Dannevig, Senior Advisor for Humanitarian Disarmament, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Norway will offer insights into their funding rationale and reflect on challenges for donor states.

# 1 Programme of the 21MSP – Monday

## Participation

Following the panel the moderator will invite comments from the audience. To prepare for this discussion delegations may wish to consider the following questions:

- How can States in a position to provide assistance coordinate their resources towards successful implementation of the Convention and increased flexibility?
- How can mechanisms for enhanced cooperation be used more efficiently and what should we consider in a future action plan to ensure that no mine-affected state is left behind?

The moderator will close with some parting thoughts / suggestions on the road to the development of the new action plan and towards strengthening partnerships for completion.

## 13:00 – 15:00 Side Events

### Mitigating the Risks of IED Contamination – Challenges and Good Practices

Building: E, Room: XXIV (Plenary)

**Host: Germany, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)**

The Convention Presidency, Germany, recognises that contamination by improvised explosive devices (IED) constitutes a major and ongoing challenge for many States Parties. This side event will provide a platform for participants to share lessons learnt and best practices on IED response and disposal, including incorporating IMAS 09.31 into national mine action standards. These include, safety distances, use of personal protective equipment, qualifications, as well as challenges related to quality management, data collection and integration with existing databases, knowledge transfer, training, and resources.

Contact: s07-4(at)auswaertiges-amt.de

### Landmine Monitor 2023: Delegates Briefing

Building: H, Rooms: 207/208/209

**Host: Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor**

The Landmine Monitor editorial team will present key findings covering; mine ban policy, use, production, trade, and stockpiling; progress and remaining challenges in assessing and addressing the impact of mine contamination and casualties through clearance, risk education, and victim assistance; and global trends in mine action funding.

Contact: monitor(at)icblcmc.org

### Remobilizing Resources for Anti-Personnel Mine Contamination in West Africa

Building: A, Room VIII

**Host: Mines Advisory Group (MAG)**

This event will focus on Guinea Bissau, Mauritania and Senegal States that have a long history of anti-personal landmine contamination. Despite the efforts made by these countries, a number of obstacles stand in the way of fulfilling their Convention obligations, including the need for meaningful involvement of national institutions, the availability of financial, technical and human resources, and the necessity for adequate national financial commitments and international assistance. Based on the experience of directly affected countries in West Africa and in other parts of the world, supporting States and other stakeholders will share challenges and invite discussion on possible solutions.

Contact: riccardo.labianco(at)maginternational.org

# 1 Programme of the 21MSP – Monday

## 15:00 – 16:00

### 8 General exchange of views

Delegations will be given the opportunity to deliver brief general statements no longer than four (4) minutes. Interested delegations should contact the Implementation Support Unit to be inscribed in the speakers' list ([isu\(at\)apminebanconvention.org](mailto:isu(at)apminebanconvention.org)).

Given the volume of work that must be dealt with, States Parties and Observers are encouraged to refrain from making general statements but rather provide updates on implementation on thematic matters indicated in agenda item 10. For those delegations that do not wish to deliver oral statements, written statements can be distributed and made available on the Convention's website.

## 16:00 – 18:00

### 9 Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analysis of these requests

The Meeting will consider requests for extensions on mine clearance deadlines that have been or are due to be submitted by Eritrea and Ukraine. States Parties submitting requests will be invited to present the salient points of their requests (8-10 minutes).

In keeping with past practice, there will be an opportunity for discussions on extension requests, with the States Parties returning to formal consideration of these requests later in the week.

The Twentieth Meeting of the States Parties, mandated the Committee on Article 5 Implementation to:

“Assess the Article 5 extension request process and challenges, based on the previously adopted decisions by States Parties and, taking into consideration other relevant documents on this matter, determine whether there would be a common ground for strengthening the process, including the considerations of all relevant stakeholders in an open, inclusive, and transparent manner, in particular mine affected States, and to report its conclusions and recommendations at the Twenty-first Meeting of States Parties.”

The States Parties will be asked to welcome the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation.

## 18:30

### Opening reception

All participants of the Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties are invited to a cocktail reception on the occasion of the opening day of the 21MSP.

The reception will take place at the International Committee of the Red Cross restaurant, 17 avenue de la Paix, 1202 Geneva, and will be hosted by Germany, Switzerland, the Canton of Geneva, and City of Geneva.





# 1 Programme of the 21MSP – Tuesday

## TUESDAY 21 NOVEMBER, 10:00 – 13:00

### 9 Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analysis of these requests (continued)

### 10 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

#### a) Assisting the victims: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Victim Assistance

The Committee on Victim Assistance will present its conclusions and recommendations.

States Parties implementing victim assistance activities<sup>1</sup> will be invited to provide brief updates (4-5 minutes) on their efforts to fulfil obligations victim assistance (Actions 33 through 41) of the Oslo Action Plan. In addition, these States Parties will be invited to comment on the conclusions of the Committee on Victim Assistance. Other delegations may remark on these updates and share their views on victim assistance.

States Parties are encouraged to inform on their efforts to mainstream gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities.



A National Stakeholder Dialogue for a Mine-Free Zimbabwe by 2025 took place in Harare in January. The Zimbabwean Mine Action Centre will launch the meeting report and plan for follow up during a Briefing hosted by the Delegation of the European Union on Tuesday 21 November.

<sup>1</sup>The following 38 States Parties have reported carrying out victim assistance activities: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Palestine (State of), Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen, and Zimbabwe.

## 13:00 – 15:00 Side Events

### Gender Matters in the Convention: Taking Stock of Progress and Looking Ahead

Building: E

Room: XIX (Plenary)

**Host: GICHD, UNIDIR and the Permanent Mission of Germany**

This event will launch a new factsheet on “Gender and Diversity in the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention”. The event will explore factors such as how age can influence the likelihood of becoming a landmine victim and the ability to access medical attention, as well as long-term reintegration, and risk education and mine awareness resources. Speakers will reflect on how these issues have translated into normative instruments guiding the implementation of the Convention through gender-related actions of the Oslo Action Plan. Panelists will also propose ideas on how to sustain these gains and consolidate gender mainstreaming in the next action plan of the Convention.

Contact: [gender-unidir\(at\)un.org](mailto:gender-unidir@un.org)

### European Union Global Project Briefing: Gains Made, Challenges Remaining

Building: E

Room: XXIV

**Host: Delegation of the European Union to the UN in Geneva**

Representatives from States Parties that have held national dialogues or that plan on doing so will present an update on their activities, including Ghana (ECOWAS), Sudan, Yemen, and Zimbabwe. In addition, the Special Envoy will inform on his universalization efforts under the project including those carried out in conjunction with the President. In addition, the Co-Chairs of the Third Victim Assistance Global Conference recently held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia and Germany will present their final report.

Contact: [isu\(at\)apminebanconvention.org](mailto:isu@apminebanconvention.org)

## 15:00 – 18:00

### 10 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continued)

#### a) Assisting the victims: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Victim Assistance (continued)



In August, Iraq hosted a National Stakeholder Dialogue on Victim Assistance to provide inputs to the National Disability Action Plan. Youth were largely represented during the conference in Baghdad. After the Dialogue, a young survivor, Ms Wrood Taleb was invited to Cambodia to open the Third Global Conference on Victim Assistance.

## WEDNESDAY 23 NOVEMBER

### 9:00 – 9:55 Side Events

#### **Article 5 Implementation: The Road to The Fifth Review Conference: Learning Lessons and Identifying Challenges to Strengthen Future Implementation**

**Host: Mine Action Review** | Building E, Room XXIV

Contact: [lucyp\(at\)npaid.org](mailto:lucyp(at)npaid.org)

This side event will discuss challenges and lessons learnt in Article 5 implementation since the Oslo Review Conference. Topics to be discussed include pros and cons of setting aspirational goals; why implementation must not only be timely but also inclusive and sustainable; funding and donor coordination; building national capacity now in order to tackle residual risk later, and the importance of upholding international law and norms.

### 10:00 – 13:00

#### **10 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continued)**

##### **b) Clearing mined areas and mine risk education and reduction: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation**

The Committee on Article 5 Implementation will present its conclusions and recommendations.

States Parties which have recently completed or are still in the process of clearing mined areas<sup>2</sup> will be invited to provide brief updates (4-5 minutes) on their efforts to fulfil their obligations including Actions 18 through 32 of the Oslo Action Plan. In addition, these States Parties will be invited to comment on the conclusions of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation. Other delegations may remark on these updates and share their views on Article 5 implementation.

States Parties are encouraged to inform on their efforts to mainstream gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities.

### 13:00 – 15:00 Side Events

#### **Mainstreaming Climate Change and the Environment into the Convention: The Road to the Fifth Review Conference**

**Host: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining** | Building: E, Room: XIX

This side event will focus on progress and opportunities to further mainstream climate change and environment in the Convention's next five-year action plan. Of the Twenty countries most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, twelve are contaminated with explosive ordnance. While States Parties and mine action organisations increasingly recognise the linkages between climate change, environment, and mine action, much remains to be done to comprehensively integrate climate change and environmental considerations into the Convention's implementation efforts. Panellists will highlight existing mine action initiatives that foster climate resilience, promote environmental protection, and enhance climate mitigation and adaptation.

<sup>2</sup>The following 33 States Parties are in the process of clearing mined areas in accordance with Article 5: Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palestine (State of), Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

## 15:00 - 18:00

### 10 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continued)

**b) Clearing mined areas and mine risk education and reduction: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation (continued)**

**c) Cooperation and Assistance: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance**

The Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance will present its conclusions and recommendations.

In particular, the Committee will present its efforts to strengthen cooperation and assistance and implementation of Actions 42 to 47), the individualised approach, and on improving communication amongst States Parties.

Delegations will be given the opportunity to provide updates and share their views on cooperation and assistance and on the conclusions of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance.

States Parties are encouraged to inform on their efforts to mainstream gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities.

## THURSDAY 23 NOVEMBER, 10:00 – 13:00

### 10 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continued)

**c) Cooperation and Assistance: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance (continued)**

**d) Preventing and suppressing prohibited activities and facilitating compliance: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance**

The Committee on Cooperative Compliance will present its conclusions and recommendations.

States Parties<sup>3</sup> which have been mentioned in the conclusions of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance may wish to provide an update on ongoing investigations or activities undertaken to ensure compliance in accordance with Actions 48 to 50). In addition, these States Parties are invited to comment on the conclusions of the Committee. Other delegations may remark on these updates and share their views on compliance issues.

<sup>3</sup>Sudan, Ukraine and Yemen.

## 13:00 – 15:00 Side Events

### Private Sector Engagement in Mine Action

**Host: Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA)**

Building E, Room XIX (Plenary)

Landmines and explosive remnants of war (LM/ERW) continue to pose a serious threat to the lives and livelihoods of people in Cambodia. Over 65,000 LM/ERW casualties have been recorded on the national database. This has a devastating impact on individuals, families, communities, and society as a whole. The private sector has a vital role to play in helping Cambodia achieve its goal of becoming a mine-free country by 2025. This event will share ways in which the private sector can make financial and in-kind contributions, partner with Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority and other mine action organisations, and advocate for mine action and raising awareness.

Contact: [lypanharith\(at\)cmaa.gov.kh](mailto:lypanharith(at)cmaa.gov.kh)

### By the Numbers: Gender and Employment in Mine Action

**Host: Mines Action Canada** | Building A, Room IX

This side event will launch an update to the study, “Gender and Employment in Mine Action by the Numbers” completed in 2019. Panellists will share the findings of this year’s survey and offer a comparison to the data collected four years ago.

Contact: [erin\(at\)minesactioncanada.org](mailto:erin(at)minesactioncanada.org)

## 15:00 – 18:00

### 10 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continued)

#### e) Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines

The President will present its conclusions and recommendations on stockpile destruction.

States Parties responsible for destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines<sup>4</sup> as well States Parties that have discovered previously unknown stockpiles and States Parties exploring available alternatives to using live anti-personnel mines for training and research purposes, will be invited to provide brief updates on their efforts to fulfil their obligations in accordance with Actions 13 to 17. These updates should contain only new information with efforts made to avoid duplication with respect to updates provided in June at the Intersessional Meetings.

Other delegations will be given the opportunity to remark on these updates and to share their views on stockpile destruction.

#### f) Universalizing the Convention

The President will give an overview of the status of universalization.

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<sup>4</sup>Greece and Ukraine

# 1 Programme of the 21MSP – Thursday / Friday

States not party to the Convention will be invited to share views on the Convention and to provide updates on steps taken or considered to accede to the Convention. Other delegations will be given the opportunity to provide updates on their efforts to encourage universal acceptance of the Convention and to share their views on universalization.

## **g) Transparency and the exchange of information**

The President will give an overview of the status of transparency.

Delegations may provide updates and share views on transparency and the exchange of information, including transparency as concerns mines retained for permitted purposes.

## **FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER, 10:00 – 13:00**

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### **8 General Exchange of views (continued)**

If necessary, the General exchange of views agenda item will be reopened to give the opportunity to those delegations which could not deliver general statements on Monday to do so. Statements should not be longer than four (4) minutes and interested delegations should contact the Implementation Support Unit to be inscribed on the speakers' list ([isu@apminebanconvention.org](mailto:isu@apminebanconvention.org)).

### **10 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continued)**

#### **h) Implementation Support**

##### **i. Report on the activities, functioning and finances of the ISU and presentation of a work plan and a budget for the 2024 activities of the ISU**

Further to the "Directive from the States Parties to the ISU" adopted by the 10MSP and further to decisions of the 14MSP on strengthening financial governance and transparency, the ISU is to propose and present every year to the Coordinating Committee for endorsement, and subsequently to the Meeting of the States Parties for approval, a detailed yearly budget and work plan for the ensuing year within the range and limits of the applicable multi-year work plan, both in terms of expenditures related to core support and expenditures related to enhanced support contained therein.

The Director of the ISU will present the work plan and the budget for the activities of the ISU in 2024. The Meeting will be asked to approve these documents.

The Director of the ISU will report on the activities, functioning and finances of the ISU and present the 2022 ISU audit report as well as the ISU preliminary financial report for 2023.<sup>5</sup> The Meeting will be asked to approve the report on the activities and finances of the ISU and the ISU's 2022 audited financial statement.

Delegations will be given the opportunity to provide comments and/or share their views on the ISU work plan and budget 2024, the 2022 audit report, and the 2023 preliminary financial report.

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<sup>5</sup>The ISU is tasked to report in written form as well as orally on the activities, functioning and finances of the ISU to each Meeting of the States Parties and to submit an audited annual financial report for the previous year and a preliminary financial report for the present year to the Coordinating Committee and subsequently to the Meeting of the States Parties for approval.

## 1 Programme of the 21MSP – Friday

### ii. Other matters concerning implementation support

The Meeting will be asked to agree on the dates of the 2024 Intersessional Meetings:  
**17-19 June 2024.**

In keeping with its mandate, in 2023 the 21 MSP President undertook the task of consulting with States Parties to identify a list of nominees to serve as new Committee members following the 20MSP. On 18 May 2023, the President wrote to all States Parties to indicate that it was seeking two new States Parties for each of the four Committees for two-year terms. On the basis of interest expressed, the President has developed a proposal listing of States Parties to serve as new Committee members from the end of the 21 MSP for a two-year term.

If this proposal is agreed to by the 21 MSP, the following eight new States Parties would start their two-year membership term at the end of the 21 MSP:

- **Committee on Article 5 Implementation:**  
(new members) **Thailand and the United Kingdom**, to join Colombia and Sweden
- **Committee on Cooperative Compliance:**  
(new members) **Germany and Peru**, to join Norway and South Africa
- **Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance:**  
(new members) **Denmark and Türkiye**, to join Algeria and Japan
- **Committee on Victim Assistance:**  
(new members) **Burkina Faso and the Netherlands**, to join Slovenia and Zambia

### 11 Status of assessed contributions received pursuant to article 14 of the Convention<sup>6</sup>

The status of assessed contributions to the Meetings of the States Parties will be presented and delegations will be given the opportunity to provide comments and views on the assessed contributions.



Senegal's Individualised Approach event took place on 21 June on the margins of the Intersessional Meetings. The event was hosted by Senegal's Mine Action Centre (CNMAS) with support of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance. Find the report online: <https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/membership/Senegal/individualised-approach/>

<sup>6</sup>A decision was taken at the Fourth Review Conference to continue to include in the agenda of the annual Meetings of the States Parties an agenda item on the "Status of assessed contributions received pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention."

## 13:00 – 15:00 Side events

### **Walking the Talk: Implementing Sustainable Localised Mine Action**

**Host: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Knowledge Platform Security and Rule of Law, Danish Refugee Council, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, The HALO Trust, Health and Social Care Organization, and the Mine Clearance Planning Agency.** | Building E, Room XXIV

Building on the Oslo Action Plan principles of, ‘strong national ownership’ and ‘partnership, coordination and regular dialogue between stakeholders’, this side event will identify potential institutional obstacles as well as enabling factors to ensure locally led responses and national ownership in Humanitarian Mine Action.

Reflecting on localisation in two different States Parties: Iraq and Afghanistan, this side event aims to provide an open and constructive discussion on how mine action stakeholders can walk the talk on localisation. Partners will share preliminary findings of a learning journey that was undertaken over the past year to deepen their understanding of what localisation means in local contexts and what lessons can be drawn for the benefit of the mine action sector globally.

Contact: [devisha.ramsaedh@minbuza.nl](mailto:devisha.ramsaedh@minbuza.nl)

### **Improvised Explosive Devices in West Africa: Challenges and Opportunities for Control**

**Host: Small Arms Survey** | Building A, Room IX

This side event will discuss the conclusions of a new report, ‘Out of Control: The Trafficking of IED Components and Commercial Explosives in West Africa.’ The use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) in West Africa expanded dramatically in recent years and the human impact of these weapons is a critical dimension that requires increased focus. As of 2022, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali, Nigeria, and Niger were heavily affected by these weapons while Benin, Côte d’Ivoire, and Togo suffered from their use as an emerging threat. IED building networks have established material and training links across conflict theatres in West Africa and the Lake Chad Basin. Coordinated preventative action among affected, source and transit States is required to prevent unauthorised access to components used in IEDs. The Convention offers an opportunity to support affected States to better understand and report on the problem, mitigate risks to civilians, and raise awareness of the impact. Fulfilment of State Party obligations to clear anti-personnel minefields can also address one potential source of IED explosives and components.

Contact: [manon.blancafort@smallarmssurvey.org](mailto:manon.blancafort@smallarmssurvey.org)

## 15:00 – 18:00

### **12 Consideration of requests submitted under Article 5**

The Meeting will be asked to take decisions on the request for extended mine clearance deadlines which have been submitted by Eritrea and Ukraine.

### **13 Consideration of matters arising from/in the context of reports submitted under Article 7**



## 14 Consideration of requests submitted under Article 8

Failing the establishment of a cooperative dialogue and the resolution of the current status of non-compliance through the submission of an extension request by Eritrea by 31 March 2023, the 21 MSP mandated the President of the Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties to seek clarification and resolve questions related to compliance by Eritrea through the Secretary-General of the United Nations in accordance with Article 8.2 of the Convention and to report back to the States Parties at their Twenty-First meeting.

The President will report back to the States Parties on the implementation of this decision.

## 15 Election of the President of the Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties and of the Twenty-Second Meeting of the States Parties

The Meeting will be asked to agree that H.E. Ly Thuch, Senior Minister and First Vice-President of the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA) be elected to preside over the Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties.



*The Meeting will be asked to elect Cambodia as Presidency of the Fifth Review Conference (#SiemReapSummit).*

*This will be the second time Cambodia presides over the Convention. In 2011, Cambodia was President of the 11MSP. In that occasion, H.E. Prum Sophamonkol was the Secretary General.*

*Photo (R-L), H.E. Ly Thuch and H.E. Prum Sophamonkol.*

The Meeting will be asked to welcome the offer made by Japan to preside over the Twenty-Second Meeting of the States Parties and elect the Ambassador-Designate to the Conference on Disarmament of Japan H.E. Tomiko ICHIKAWA.



*The ISU welcomed a high-level delegation of Parliamentarians from Japan to discuss the state of the Convention and Japan's continued important contribution.*

The Meeting will be asked to welcome the offer made by Zambia to preside over the Twenty-Third Meeting of the States Parties and elect H.E. Eunice M. Tembo LUAMBIA, Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations in Geneva



## 16 Duration and matters pertaining to the preparations for the Fifth Review Conference and the Twenty-Second Meeting of the States Parties

The Meeting will be asked to agree that the Fifth Review Conference take place in Siem Reap, Cambodia from 25 to 29 November 2024.

The Meeting will be asked to agree that the First Preparatory Meeting in advance of the Fifth Review Conference take place on 20 June 2024 in Geneva and that the Second Preparatory Meeting in advance of the Fifth Review Conference take place on 18 September 2024 also in Geneva.

## 17 Any other business

Delegations will be given the opportunity take the floor on matters that have not been covered otherwise by the meeting.

## 18 Consideration and adoption of the final document

The Meeting will be asked to consider and adopt its final report.

## 19 Closure of the Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties

The meeting will be closed by the President.



In June 2023, Germany presided over the Intersessional Meetings of the Convention's various Committees during a three-day period. The Meetings are hosted by Switzerland. This was also an opportunity for the 21MSP President to meet with the 10MSP President, H.E. Gazmand Turdiu of Albania who represented his country during the Meetings.

## PURSUING THE PURPOSE OF THE CONVENTION

The Convention seeks “to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by antipersonnel mines” through the pursuit of four core aims: universal acceptance of a ban on anti-personnel mines; destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines; clearance of mined areas; and assistance to mine victims. To achieve these aims, it is essential to facilitate compliance, promote cooperation and assistance, facilitate transparency and the exchange of information, and strong implementation support.

Over 80% of the world’s States – including most that at one time used, stockpiled, produced, or transferred anti-personnel mines, and are or have been affected by anti-personnel mines – are now bound by the Convention. The vast majority of States not party abide by the global norm established by this humanitarian disarmament instrument and attend Meetings of the States Parties as Observers.



In Bogota, Colombia hosted four preparatory meetings prior to its National Stakeholder Dialogue on Article 5 which provided a wide array of inputs for its national authority and clearance programme as part of its Total Peace strategy.



## Third Global Conference on Victim Assistance in a Disability Rights Context: For Greater Inclusion

The *Third Global Conference on Assistance to Victims of Anti-Personnel Mines and Other Explosive Ordnance in a Disability Rights Context: For Greater Inclusion* took place in Phnom Penh, Cambodia from 17-19 October 2023. The meeting aimed to **reflect, inspire, learn, and empower** as it built on previous global conferences hosted by Colombia (2014) and Jordan (2019).

The Conference was hosted by Cambodia through its Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA), co-financed through a global project sponsored by the Council of the European Union, with the Implementation Support Unit of the Convention providing the technical support.

The current Convention President and Ambassador of Germany to the Conference on Disarmament H.E. Thomas Göbel together with the President Designate of the Siem Reap Review Conference Senior Minister, and First Vice President of the CMAA, H.E. Ly Thuch, co-chaired the Conference.



Over 200 persons attended the three-day meeting that gathered state and civil society representatives from more than 45 countries including from 39 States Parties and not party.

Find the Co-Chairs' summary, List of Participants, and videos of the various sessions through the link below or scanning the QR Code.



<https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/resources/eu-project/third-va-global-conf/>

The Convention community takes a pause to remember the many who have fallen victim to anti-personnel mines. We also pause to remember those who have worked for our common goal to reach a mine-free world and guarantee the rights of mine victims everywhere. Here, some committed individuals that we lost this year.



As Chairman of the National Mine Action Authority of Zimbabwe Mr Nicholas Mbara was a familiar face in the Convention community. The Chairman had been a key figure of the National Stakeholder Dialogue earlier this year. He will be greatly missed.



Photo left, © University of Bath, and at right © Manchester United

As sporting ambassador Sir Bobby Charlton, an English professional footballer widely considered one of the greatest players, witnessed first-hand the devastating impact that landmines had on innocent communities. Sir Bobby was determined to do something practical to help the people he had met in Cambodia and around the world and The Sir Bobby Charlton Foundation – Find A Better Way, was established. In 2019, delegates to the Second Global Conference on Victim Assistance got to visit the work supported by his foundation in Amman, where it helps refugees affected by mines and other explosive ordnance.



- March 1** **Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Entry into Force of the Convention**
- March TBD** Ninth International Pledging Conference, Geneva
- March 31** **Deadline for the submission of requests for extension under Article**
- April 4** International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action
- April 30** **Deadline for all States Parties to submit Article 7 transparency reports for calendar year 2023**
- June 17-19** Intersessional Meetings, Geneva
- June 20** First Preparatory Meeting for the Siem Reap Review Conference
- September 18** Twenty-Seventh Anniversary of the Adoption of the Convention and Second Preparatory Meeting for the Siem Reap Review Conference
- November 25-29** **Siem Reap Review Conference, Cambodia**
- December 3** International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- December 3 and 4** Twenty-Seventh Anniversary of the Signing of the Convention



Sudan hosted a National Stakeholder Dialogue on Victim Assistance that sought to provide last comments to its National Strategy on Disability.

This brochure was produced by the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit. The Implementation Support Unit (ISU) is secretariat to the 1997 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 to the Convention including by

- Providing advice and technical support on implementation and universalization;
- Providing support to the Convention's office holders;
- 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 the States Parties and directly accountable to them. The ISU is hosted at the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining thanks to support provided by **Switzerland**.



Colombia presided over the 20MSP in 2022 year that also commemorated the 25 years since the signing of the Convention. Various special panels and events took place including the illumination of Geneva's iconic Jet d'eau in Convention colours.



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