

**Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention  
Thematic Panel  
“Implementation of Article 5 of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention”  
Friday, 8 June 2018, 10:00 – 11:00**

**Concept Note**

**Date and venue**

Friday, 8 June 2018, 10:00-11:00, Room A, World Meteorological Building

**Background**

Since the entry into force of the Convention, 61 States Parties have reported having an obligation under Article 5 with 30 States Parties having completed implementation and 31 States Parties currently in the process of implementation. Each of these States face specific national circumstances both in terms of the quantitative and qualitative dimensions of their remaining challenge.

Achieving the purpose and objective of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention of putting an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines will be achieved in large part by ensuring the efficient and effective implementation of the mine clearance commitments of the Convention as enshrined in Article 5. Since the entry into force of the Convention, the States Parties have taken a number of decisions to ensure a common unequivocal understanding of what it means to implement Article 5. This clear and unambiguous understanding is critical to the integrity of the Convention.

States Parties have acknowledged that in exceptional circumstances, there may be a situation in which after original or extended deadlines to implement Article 5 have expired, previously unknown mined areas, including a newly mined areas, may be discovered. The States Parties have adopted a rational response on how to proceed in such cases. It is important that there is a clear understanding by the States Parties of how to proceed and that this decision by applied as adopted.

Today, a number of States Parties find themselves facing challenges associated with improvised anti-personnel mines having been extensively employed in areas under their jurisdiction or control. In the past months, a wealth of debate has been ongoing concerning improvised anti-personnel mines. It is important for States Parties to understand what this means for the implementation of their Article 5 obligations and their respective deadlines as well as other Convention commitments.

## **Objectives**

The objectives of the Panel are to:

- Recall the understandings adopted by the States Parties on the implementation of Article 5;
- Recall the understandings adopted by the States Parties for situations in which previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas, are discovered after deadlines have passed;
- Reinforce the understanding on how improvised anti-personnel mines are dealt with in the context of the implementation of the Convention.

## **Speakers and panellists**

Moderation: **Vincent Choffat, PhD**, Chair of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation

Panel:

- Representative of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit
- Representative of Mozambique
- Representative of Colombia

## **Format**

The panellists will provide targeted presentations on their specific topic [7-10 minutes]. The floor will then be open to the plenary for discussion on these matters.

## **Outcome**

The discussion will feed into the Committee's efforts to developing some additional guidelines for States Parties to consider in declaring completion of their Article 5 commitments to be presented to the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties.