

Status of Article 7 Reporting

Submitted by the President of the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties

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I. Introduction

In accordance with Article 7 of the Convention, States Parties are obliged to submit annually updated information on the actions that they are taking to implement the Convention. Article 7 is a legal obligation for all States Parties.

The submission of regular updated information provides an overview of the status of implementation of the Convention, including clarity on States Parties' achievements and remaining potential obstacles in implementation. This information is also essential for the Convention's Committees to fulfil their respective mandates and to carry out cooperative dialogue with the States Parties concerning implementation.

It is especially important that States Parties implementing core obligations under the Convention submit updated information annually and that this information be of a high quality.

States Parties which are not in the process of implementing core obligations under the Convention and/or that have no updated information to provide can make use of the simplified reporting tool so as to make reporting easier and quicker.

The 2018 overall reporting rate stands at almost 40 percent (38.51 percent in 2017 at this time) and amongst the States Parties which have not provided reports in 2018 are States Parties which have key obligations to fulfil.

It is important that all States Parties continue to report updated information annually, but more particularly the following States Parties with key obligations:

- The 31 States Parties with mine clearance obligations (Art.5);
- The 3 States Parties with stockpile destruction obligations (Art.4);
- The 29 States Parties which have indicated that they have significant numbers of landmine survivors;
- The 75 States Parties which have indicated that they retain anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes (Art.3);
- The 59 States Parties which have not yet indicated either having adopted national implementation measures or that existing laws are sufficient (Art.9).

A number of tools have been developed over the years to facilitate reporting and to guide States Parties in the process of preparing Article 7 reports. States Parties are encouraged to make use of these tools as well as seek the support of the Implementation Support Unit.

II. Status of reporting¹

a) Overview of reporting by all States Parties

i) Initial reports: of the 164 States Parties required to submit an initial report in accordance with Article 7.1, 161 States Parties have done so. Three States Parties have yet to submit their initial reports: Sri Lanka and the State of Palestine (reports due on 28 November 2018) and Tuvalu (report due by 28 August 2012).

ii) Annual updated information: of the 161 States Parties which were required in 2018 to submit annual updated information through their Article 7 report, 64 States Parties have done so. The overall reporting rate in 2018 is 39.75 %.

b) Reporting by States Parties in the process of implementing core obligations under the Convention

i) States Parties with stockpiled anti-personnel mines (Article 4)

Reporting rate 66%

- Three States Parties have indicated that they have stockpiled anti-personnel mines to destroy in accordance with Article 4: Greece, Oman and Ukraine. Two of them submitted an annual transparency report in 2018 with updated information concerning Article 4 obligations: Greece and Ukraine.

ii) States Parties with anti-personnel mines in mined areas (Article 5)

Reporting rate 74.2%

- 31² States Parties have indicated that they have anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with Article 5, 23 have submitted updated information on Article 5 through their transparency report in 2018: Afghanistan, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Iraq, Mauritania, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sudan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Zimbabwe.

iii) States Parties with anti-personnel mines retained for permitted purposes (Article 3)

Reporting rate 53%

- 75 States Parties have indicated retaining anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes in accordance with Article 3, 40 have submitted updated information through their transparency report in 2018: Afghanistan, Argentina, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan,

¹ As of 31 May 2018

² Two States that have recently acceded to the Convention - Palestine and Sri Lanka - may confirm that they have mine clearance obligations in their initial transparency report due under Article 7 of the Convention, should they do so, their Article 5 deadline would be 1 June 2028. In addition, Mozambique, since declaring completion in 2015, indicated that it has four suspected areas that remain underwater and that no intervention in these areas can be carried out at present.

Mauritania, Mozambique, Netherlands, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe.

iv) States Parties which have not yet reported having adopted legislation or reported that existing laws are sufficient (Article 9)

Reporting rate 10.3 %

- Of the 58 States Parties which have not reported either having adopted national implementation measures or that existing legislation is sufficient to cover the purpose of Article 9, 6 have submitted a transparency report in 2018: Afghanistan, Ecuador, Iraq, San Marino, South Sudan and Thailand.

v) States Parties which have indicated that they have significant numbers of landmine survivors

Reporting rate: 51.7%

- Of the 29 States Parties that have indicated that they have significant numbers of landmine survivors, 16³ submitted updated information on victim assistance through their Article 7 reports in 2018: Afghanistan, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Jordan, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sudan, Thailand and Zimbabwe and one (1) State Party submitted information on victim assistance using other means: Burundi⁴.

c) Use of the Guide to Reporting

In 2018, the following States Parties employed the Guide to Reporting to prepare their Article 7 reports: Afghanistan, Cambodia, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Ireland, Mauritania, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and Zimbabwe.

d) Reporting by States Parties that are not in the process of implementing core obligations under the Convention

Action #25 of the *Maputo Action Plan* indicates that “where applicable, those States Parties without implementation obligations will make use of the simplified tools for fulfilling Article 7 obligations”

Reporting rate: 38.4%

- There are 39 States Parties currently without core implementation obligations.⁵ Of these, 16 submitted reports: Australia, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Estonia, Holy See, Hungary, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Qatar, Samoa, Switzerland and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

³ 18 States Parties with significant numbers of landmine survivors submitted an Article 7 report in 2018 of which 16 have included information on victim assistance.

⁴ Burundi has not yet submitted Article 7 report in 2018, but it has submitted updated information on its victim assistance programme.

⁵ States Parties that either never had or have completed the implementation of their obligations under Article 3, 4, 5 and 9 and that are not part of the 29 victim assistance States Parties.

- The following 9 States Parties used the simplified reporting tool or a note verbale: Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Holy See, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Norway, Poland, Samoa and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

e) Voluntary reporting by States not party

- Of the 33 States not party to the Convention, only Morocco submitted voluntary transparency information in 2018.