

Thematic discussion: Cooperation and assistance 23 May

It is well recognized that the Convention's shared goals can be advanced through enhanced cooperation. While each State Party is responsible for implementing the Convention in areas under its jurisdiction or control, each State Party also has the right to seek and receive assistance. Furthermore, each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance.

In 2017, a handful of donors contributed 79 % of all international donor-reported funding for global mine action, meaning there is scope for increasing the number of donors, including among the States Parties. At the same time, mine-affected countries themselves have gained significant expertise in implementation of the different provisions of the Convention. This experience is relevant for other States Parties facing similar circumstances (e.g. addressing mines in forested areas, improving efficiency in mine clearance, providing support to victims). This emphasizes the point that cooperation and assistance encompasses not only financial support, but also exchange of expertise and best practice.

National ownership and strong, realistic, time-bound and evidence based national plans continue to be recognized as key factors that facilitate not only progress in mine action but also may help attract cooperation and assistance from other states. Likewise, robust and continuous in-country conversations amongst stakeholders has been highlighted as an important component in facilitating progress in implementation.

Format and purpose

The thematic discussions intend to inform and provide impetus towards the development of a strong Oslo Action Plan. Each thematic discussion will be chaired by the President and will rely on a panel of presenters to frame the issue from their perspective through short presentations. The floor will then be open for all participants to share their views and ideas for the development of the Oslo Action

Panelists

Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance (Sweden)

Humanity and Inclusion

Landmine Free 2025 Campaign

UNDP

Questions for discussion

- Could the Oslo Action Plan help encourage increased south-south cooperation and exchange of expertise between mine-affected countries? If so, how?
- What can be done to encourage more states to become donors to mine action?
- How can cooperation and assistance under the Mine Ban Convention be closer linked to other areas of development cooperation (ie. SDGs, health, economic development etc.)?
- How can cooperation and assistance within the Convention best support individual countries to reach completion of their Art. 5 obligations, including those that may have new contamination resulting from new use of improvised mines?
- How can the Mine Ban Convention encourage and support in-country based dialogues between all relevant stakeholders (national authorities, operators, international organizations, donors) to support effective and coordinated mine action?

