

**PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS  
COMMITTEE ON ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION  
(Austria, Canada, Colombia, the Netherlands)**

**Intersessional Meetings 22-24 May 2019**

**PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 5 BY THE STATE OF  
PALESTINE**

**I. Progress in implementation**

1. The State of Palestine did not report any change of progress in implementation for 2018. In its initial article 7 transparency report submitted 28 November 2018, the State of Palestine reported that in 2012 it carried out non-technical surveys identifying 16 mined areas measuring 604,634 square metres. The State of Palestine also reported 69 suspected hazardous areas on the border with Jordan which are not under control of the State of Palestine. In 2017, the State of Palestine reported that five mined areas measuring 194,500 square meters were cleared, 796 antipersonnel mines, 67 anti-tank mines and explosive ordnance were destroyed in the process.
2. The Committee noted that the State of Palestine could provide more clarity regarding its progress in implementation by reporting progress in a manner consistent with IMAS. The Committee further noted that the State of Palestine could provide more clarity by employing the Guide to Reporting adopted by the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties, (14MSP).

**II. Clarity regarding remaining challenge**

3. The Committee concluded that the State of Palestine had provided some clarity regarding its remaining challenge. The State of Palestine reported in its initial transparency report 6 mined areas in 3 districts measuring 354,992 square metres are currently being addressed. The Committee observed that it would welcome more precise information from the State of Palestine on its remaining challenge.

**III. National plans for clearance and survey**

4. The Committee noted that the State of Palestine reported in its initial transparency report that the clearance of known mined areas is expected to be completed by the end of 2020, if the necessary support is available for the organizations operating in the State. The Committee welcomes further information from the State of Palestine on efforts to address its remaining challenge by 2020.

**IV. Efficient and expedient implementation**

5. The Committee noted that in its initial transparency report the State of Palestine did not provide information on its land release standards polices and methodologies, in line with IMAS. The Committee noted that further information on the State of Palestine's land release standards would be welcome.

**VI. Mine risk reduction**

6. The State of Palestine reported in its initial transparency report that mine risk education campaigns were carried out through television and printed media in 7 Governorates. The Committee noted the actions taken by the State of Palestine in MRE and welcomes further

information on its efforts to ensure that these activities are age-appropriate and gender-sensitive, coherent with applicable national and international standards, tailored to the needs of mine-affected communities and integrated into ongoing mine action activities, namely data gathering, clearance and victim assistance as appropriate.