

**PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS
COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE
(Mozambique, Belgium, Chile and Italy)**

Intersessional Meetings 22-24 May 2019

Observations of the Committee on the information submitted by Chad

1. The Committee welcomes the submission by Chad of updated information on its victim assistance activities in 2018. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following preliminary observations.

Mine casualties

2. The Committee observed that Chad reported 22 registered mine casualties in 2018, of which 11 were killed and 11 got injured in Borkou and Tibesti regions, showing a significant decrease compared to 136 casualties reported last year and would welcome this information disaggregated by sex and age as well as an update on the total number of all registered mine victims in Chad.

Assessment of needs, the availability and gaps in services (Action #12)

3. The Committee observed that Chad reported on the existence of a well-established system for the data collection on mines/ERW accidents, however, the report stated that no needs assessment was carried out in 2018 due to lack of financial means.
4. The Committee would welcome information on the availability and gaps in mainstream and specialised services as concerned mine/ERW victims in Chad.

Time-bound and measurable objectives (Action #13)

5. The Committee observed the adoption of the five-year National Plan for Victim Assistance that was developed in 2016 and enforcement of the law on the rights of persons with disabilities by a presidential decree. The Committee would welcome an electronic copy of the plan and the law.

Enhancement in the integration of victim assistance into broader frameworks, including the allocation of budgets for their implementations (Action #14)

6. The Committee observed that Chad did not report enhancement in the integration of victim assistance into broader policies and programmes and that the report stated no budget was allocated to victim assistance activities for the year 2019. The Committee encourages Chad to prioritise victim assistance and invest efforts in meeting the objectives of action 14.

Increase availability of and accessibility to rehabilitation services, economic inclusion opportunities and social protection measures for all mine victims, regardless of their gender and age (Action #15)

7. The Committee observed that Chad reported making efforts in implementing action 15 by undertaking the following activities:
 - a. The National High Commissioner for Demining has set up a network of community representatives in the affected areas who can identify, refer and accompany the victims to the available services;

- b. The collaboration continued in the framework of PRODECO with the rehabilitation centre Catholic Relief and Development to increase victims' access the services;
 - c. And given the financial constraints in the country, the HCND has been seeking support from the international organisations and the UN agencies to enhance assistance to victims.
8. The Committee encourages Chad to increase efforts in meeting its commitments under action 15 and report on plans and activities addressing the reported challenges in victim assistance.

Strengthen local capacities and enhance coordination (Action #15)

9. The Committee observed that a coordination committee on victim assistance has been created to coordinate, facilitate and monitor and the implementation of the action plan. The Committee would welcome information on efforts in strengthening local capacities towards enhancing assistance to mine victims.

Inclusion and participation of mine victims (Action #16)

10. The Committee observed that Chad did not report progress in inclusion and participation of mine victims in relevant policies and programmes and the Committee would welcome information in this regard.

Removing barriers and raising awareness (Actions #15 and #17)

11. The Committee observed that Chad did not report progress in achieving the objectives of action 15 and action 17 and the Committee would welcome information on these matters.

Measurable improvements, challenges and priorities for assistance in advance of the next Review Conference (Action #18)

12. The Committee observed that Chad did not report measurable improvements in assisting the victims, nor the report provided information concerning priorities to address challenges, the report, however, highlighted lack of financial resources a prominent challenge facing the victim assistance programme in Chad. The Committee encourages Chad to step up efforts in mobilising the required resources in victim assistance to implement actions 12 to 18 of the Maputo Action Plan by the Oslo Review Conference taking place in November 2019.