

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY
REGARDING
THE MOZAMBIQUE NATIONAL MINE ACTION PLAN 2008 – 2014**

Introduction

Mozambique and Norway have engaged in a long-standing cooperation for the effective implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Mine Ban Convention). This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is an instrument to strengthen and develop the relations between our respective Governments and to establish an overall framework for our cooperation in support of the National Mine Action Plan, resulting in a mine-free Mozambique by 2014.

Framework

The Government of the Republic of Mozambique, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and the National Demining Institute (IND) have presented the Mozambique National Mine Action Plan 2008 – 2014, which has as an ultimate aim to enable the Government to declare Mozambique as free of anti-personnel mines, in compliance with article 5.1 in the Mine Ban Convention, no later than 1 March 2014.

The Government's vision and main objectives are to:

- Declare Mozambique in compliance with Article 5.1 of the Mine Ban Convention
- Reduce the number of new landmine victims and release areas for productive use, in support of socio-economic development
- Support the full implementation of the Mine Ban Convention by all States Parties

Mozambique's and Norway's commitment in promoting humanitarian disarmament, international law, human rights and good governance, is vital for achieving the above objectives, and forms the basis of the cooperation.

Objectives and areas of cooperation

The cooperation will aim at supporting Mozambique's actions to realise the vision and main objectives put forward in the Government's National Mine Action Plan 2008 - 2014.

The key areas for long-term cooperation with Mozambique and its National Demining Institute will be:

- **Support to land release and clearance programmes**
The cooperation should contribute to efficient and effective implementation of the mine clearance activities described in Mozambique's National Mine Action Plan 2008 - 2014. Norway will provide direct financial support to mine clearance in

Mozambique, in accordance with IND's priorities and decisions. The funding will be marked for land release and mine-clearance activities, and will be channelled in the most cost-effective and appropriate manner.

▪ **Resource mobilisation**

The cooperation should support general and specific resource mobilisation, such as co-organising meetings of existing and potential supporters of mine action in Mozambique, both in-country and in other relevant locations, and support to other resource mobilisation activities.

▪ **Technical support**

The cooperation should assist IND in the identification, and possible commission of, specific expertise for limited time periods to increase efficiency and effectiveness in their work, such as certain data-processing needs.

▪ **Coordination support**

The cooperation should reinforce IND and its ability to function as an effective coordinator of national and international actors involved in the implementation of the mine action strategy.

▪ **Other areas of cooperation**

- The cooperation will also focus on promoting effective humanitarian actions for the protection of civilians, humanitarian disarmament, international law, human rights and good governance.
- Mozambique and Norway will consult regularly on policy issues related to the overall implementation of the Mine Ban Convention, with a view to develop common positions on issues of mutual interest, and in particular on issues related to Article 6, on international Cooperation and Assistance.
- Mozambique and Norway will consult and seek to develop a common understanding on issues related to the Mine Ban Convention, such as addressing Armed Violence and other threats from arms and explosives.
- All areas of cooperation under this MoU will take into account international and national gender policies and seek to accommodate the needs of women and men, boys and girls. This relates to all mine action activities, including equal access to mine risk education, to emergency support and services as well as to socio-economic reintegration of mine survivors.

Consultations and review

To facilitate the implementation of Mozambique's National Mine Action Plan, activities under this MoU should be decided based on needs identified by the parties. Mozambique and Norway will conduct annual meetings to review progress and needs, discuss priorities, based on relevant data for the work. The timing of these meetings will be agreed through diplomatic channels. Mozambique and Norway will also consult regularly both during the Intersessional Meetings and the Meetings of the States Parties to the Mine Ban Convention.

Both Governments agree that no corruption or fraudulent practice will be accepted in the cooperation.

The Norwegian assistance

Norway will support the implementation of the National Mine action plan financially for the four year period 2010 – 2013. Funds shall primarily support direct land release and mine clearance activities, subject to the agreement by Mozambique and Norway on concrete projects. Any amount will be subject to appropriations by the Norwegian parliament and to satisfactory performance with regard to Mozambique's commitments to implement the National Mine Action Plan.

Technical assistance will only be provided on the specific request of the Government of Mozambique.

Partnerships

Mozambique and Norway will include relevant partners in this work, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Implementation Support Unit of the Mine Ban Convention, and humanitarian and civil society organisations involved in the implementation of the Mine Action Strategy or with relevant expertise, and other states as relevant.

Validity

This Memorandum will be valid for the planned period of five years, from the date of its signature. It may be revised when deemed necessary by either of the parties, and the parties will agree upon mechanisms for such revision. It may be terminated by either party with six months notice.