



**THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**

**AP MINE BAN CONVENTION: STANDING COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND  
SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION**

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**Monitoring progress and evaluating  
the impact of victim assistance efforts**

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## **Co-Chairs, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen**

Thank you for the opportunity to report on our efforts to monitor progress and evaluate the impact of victim assistance efforts.

As I mentioned in my presentation to this Committee yesterday, we face a significant challenge in our efforts to monitor progress and evaluate the impact of our efforts. Effective monitoring is further complicated by the decentralisation of service provision and the lack of a system to collect victim assistance-related information on a regular basis from the district and sub-county level.

In 2009, a comprehensive monitoring tool for our plan of action was developed with assistance from the Implementation Support Unit. If utilised, my Ministry would have been in a very good position to monitor and report on the impact of our victim assistance efforts. However, Uganda continues to lack the human, technical and financial resources to utilise the tool or to establish a functional monitoring mechanism to track activities of the Comprehensive Plan on Victim Assistance or other disability-related policies and plans.

As regards establishing baselines, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development developed the Community Information System as part of the Community Based Rehabilitation programme. This system was used to conduct a baseline survey in Northern Uganda to establish the incidence and needs of survivors of landmines. Other surveys and needs assessments on landmine survivors have been conducted by Handicap International and the Uganda Landmine Survivors Association. However, there is no system in place to unify or update the data and we do not have a standardized disability data collection tool. Uganda needs to build its capacity to establish an effective disability information management system at all levels that includes information on the cause of disability, including landmines and other ERW.

The review of the status of implementation of the Comprehensive Plan on Victim Assistance last month has identified gaps and challenges that are limiting progress. If adequate resources are available we can take concrete steps to address these gaps and challenges.

The ultimate aim of Uganda's efforts is to make a positive difference in the lives of victims and survivors. However, without a comprehensive monitoring mechanism Uganda is not in a position to fully report on the impact of these efforts. In addition to visits by staff of my Ministry to check the results of projects in the field when resources are available, Government relies on the sharing information by our partners, including local authorities. The full sharing of information remains a challenge. Another challenge is that in some cases disability specific data is not collected to show how survivors and other persons with disabilities are integrated into mainstream programmes that would improve their well-being. With improved coordination and collaboration it is likely that the impact of the efforts of all relevant ministries and other partners would be evident.

With support from donors and other partners improved coordination and collaboration to effectively monitor progress and evaluate the impact of victim assistance efforts is possible.

Thank you for listening.