

29 Nov.

Republic of Sudan

States parties meeting

Cambodia

27th November – 2nd December 2011

Oral Statement on Victim Assistance

Sudan

Ladies and Gentlemen

over the past year, the VA program in Sudan has registered many progress with the technical and financial support from UNMAO, UNMAS and the involvement of relevant governmental bodies, National and international organizations.

The inter-ministerial / inter-sectoral coordination mechanism is in place and is actively led by the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs& NMAC which is chairing the VA working group. Ministry of social Affairs (MOSA) and the National Disability council are well presented on the monthly coordination VA/disability meetings which are taking place in Khartoum at NMAC. On the other side NMAC is an active member within the NDC coordination forum.

New government authorities and such as Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health joined the VA/disability coordination monthly meetings. All VA interventions are designed and coordinated with relevant governmental bodies such as DDR & NAPO.

Following the establishment of the national database which was designed in compliance with the IMSMA NMAC continue to register more victims. 1,732 have been registered till November 2011. P

National psychological support network for landmine/ERW survivors was established in Khartoum state. The project was implemented by Rufida, it was pilot project in Khartoum, and in the near future they will go to extend their activities in three other highly effected States in Sudan which are Blue Nile South Kordofan and eastern states .

Mine/ERW survivors, victims' families and other persons with disabilities are fully involved in all the VA activities and programs such as monthly coordination meetings, VA training workshops and special events such as international day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action and the International disability day.

During the year 2011 NMAC participated in different activities related to Mine Ban treaty and other international conventions such as CCM and CCW. For the CCM. High level delegation attended the second MSP for CCM in Beirut Sudan - joined the Regional African group which .will go to sign together the convention. NMAC representative attended the CCW meetings in Geneva,. Participation in the above –mentioned meetings enriched the experience of NMAC and created additional partnership between similar programs and hence enabling capacity

building and empowering the skills of NMAC staff. Participation of Mine survivors and persons with disabilities has been encouraged and supported

In 2011, MoSA, UNMAO, UNMAS-S, NMAC through a national NGO implemented serious of awareness workshop in support of the implementation of CRPD. The Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA), who is a member in the victim Assistance Working Group and is the focal point for the disability within the government, established recently the High National Disability Council (HNDC) as a national monitoring tool for the CRPD. The major mandate of this council is to ensure the implementation of the CRPD and to monitor and evaluate the national and international policies, plans related to disability and victim assistance. In light of CRPD, the ministry of Labor and human resource modified the law of labour and increased the percentage of disabled persons that should be employed in the governmental or private sector from 2%- 5% in Khartoum State. MOSA in collaboration with the HNDC, Ministry of Justice and other relevant authorities, established a technical committee which is working in developing Sudan first report on CRPD for the states parties meeting United Nations Disability committees. The NMAC /VA department is an active member of this council and the technical committee.

In June 2011, UNMAO officially handed over the VA program to NMAC. To guarantee the continuation and sustainability of the program, NMAC & UNMAO VA departments advocated strongly for the inclusion of the VA program within the financial and technical plans of the ministries, commission and institutions involved in this sector of work. As a result of the intensive awareness workshops on the CRPD which was funded UNMAO-UNMAS-S and technically supported by NMAC, UNMAO & UNMAS-S, implemented by national NGO in collaboration with the HNDC, the Governor of Khartoum established the first disability trust fund with a budget of two Billions Sudanese Pounds

NMAC is taking the responsibility of building the capacity of NGOs implementing VA projects. Through funding from CHF, NMAC is coordinating and facilitating three VA projects

The transition of responsibility of VA program from UNMAO to national authorities has completed effectively.

NMAC signed a MOA with Bank of Khartoum - micro finance unit for the purpose of providing support for the land mine/ ERW victims and persons with disabilities to achieve socio-economic reintegration and poverty reduction through small business micro credits that will enhance their economic independence. Regarding this issue, NMAC provided the Bank of Khartoum with the beneficiaries' information from the national Mine ERW victims' database.

The DDR commissioner declared that he will provide free air ticket to any person from the government or NGOs to attend any conference related to disability

All VA policy documents such as The National Strategic Framework for Victim Assistance, the National Victim Assistance Work plan and the VA transition plan are developed in compliance with the CAP.

All VA objectives are in line with the CAP VA objectives.

In light of national ownership, the program is progressing positively however, the program is facing many challenges. One major obstacle is the shortage of fund. This shortage decreased the VA activities in term of projects implementation and hence direct support and survivors, victims and other persons with disabilities the only source of the VA funding currently comes from the CHF.

We seize this opportunity to thank all donors who are contributing to the success of our program, and special thanks to the CHF and CIDA, and we look forward to continuing collaboration.

Thank You