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## Twelfth Meeting of the states Parties

3-7 December 2012

### Victim Assistance – Agenda Item 10.a

#### Statement by the Republic of South Sudan

Mr President, distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

South Sudan has identified itself as one of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention that is responsible for significant numbers of survivors.

South Sudan is making efforts to assist its survivors in the broader context of healthcare and disability generally across the country. In order to share progress being made in assisting survivors, we have made use of voluntary form J of the initial article 7 report, which was submitted to the UN ODA this week, to outline some baseline information on the following areas:

- Data collection with respect to landmine survivors and other persons with disabilities
- The legal and policy framework concerning landmine survivors and other persons with disabilities
- Access to services for landmine and other ERW survivors on a basis equal with others; and
- The national coordination of disability efforts that take into account the needs and rights of landmine survivors.

In addition, South Sudan has included specific objectives in the report that it plans to achieve in each of these areas such as:

To ensure the establishment of a disability information system to provide reliable, systematic and comprehensive information on persons with disability including landmine and other ERW survivors; to accede to the CRPD by 2013; to enact national legislation that protects the rights of all landmine and other ERW survivors and other persons with disabilities; as well as to enhance access to rehabilitation, psycho-social and socio-economic inclusion services for all landmine and ERW victims as well as women, girls, boys and men with disabilities on a basis equal with others.

This information articulated in our Article 7 report provides a baseline against which implementation can be measured in the coming years.

Efforts to assist the survivors are integrated into broader healthcare and disability efforts in South Sudan and are led by the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare.

The Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare are supported in their efforts by the National Mine Action Authority of South Sudan, <sup>of H.I.</sup> which have together undertaken a number of commendable initiatives such as supporting a disability prevalence survey in three localities of South Sudan; ensuring the collection of casualty data disaggregated by sex and age; and coordinating relevant actors in the development of a national disability policy.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH  
MURIEL BAJO

Finally, in closing, I wish to thank the ISU for its valuable advice and support on the fulfilment of South Sudan's obligations to mine victims in the broader contexts of healthcare, social services and disabilities.

*R.S.S.*  
Our country is committed to achieve its national vision for victim assistance, as articulated in the National Mine Action Strategic Plan, to "ensure that all landmine and other ERW victims have equal and full access to adequate, affordable, gender and age-sensitive emergency and continued medical care; physical rehabilitation; psychosocial support; social and economic inclusion services and legal assistance" on a basis equal with others.

Thank you.

*Mwci Bakari*

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