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Republic of Sudan

Meetings of the States Parties to APMBT

**GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
3rd – 7th December 2012**

Oral Statement on Victim Assistance

Sudan

Dear CO- chairs , Ladies and Gentlemen

Post to transition and following the national ownership of the Mine action program in Sudan, the Victim Assistance program in Sudan has registered progress at all different areas of interventions of Victim assistance and disability starting from data management and ending with complete reintegration of survivors and victims' families back to society. The National Strategic Framework for Victim Assistance, the National Victim Assistance Work plan and the VA transition plan ensure a compliance with the CAP. All VA objectives are in line with VA objectives the CAP.

To ensure the importance of the participatory and holistic approaches, the Landmine Victims Associations were empowered and involved in implementation of victim assistance/disability projects; actually all the social integration and economic empowerment projects are currently executed by the two landmine victims associations in Blue Nile and South Kordofan States. Mine/ERW victims and other persons with disabilities are fully involved in all the VA activities such as monthly coordination meetings, VA training courses and special events such as International day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, and other awareness campaigns on their rights.

In Sudan the inter-ministerial / inter-sectorial coordination mechanism is in place and is actively led by the National Mine Action Centre .The National Mine Action Centre in Khartoum chairs the VA working group and co- chair the VA/disability coordination working group (VACWG) in Elfasher, North Darfur. The VACWG in northern Darfur is co-chair by Ministry of Social Affairs. VA monthly coordination meetings are the main forum where all actors working in Victim Assistance/disability meet, share information, reports and experiences. We believe that this coordination mechanism was one of the main factors which led the successful Victim Assistance program in Sudan; it avoids duplication and allow the best use of the available funds. More over NMAC, VA department is an active member in the National Disability Council. To strengthen coordination, advocacy and information-sharing, Office of Disposal Ordnance (ODO) jointly with NMAC sub-office in

northern Darfur has formed the VA/disability Coordination Working Group in North Darfur.

The National Mine Action Centre classified mine victims using the IMSMA database, where 1,866 have been registered till October 2012. While 1200 casualties ,are registered within the National Mine / ERW victim database.

Initially, the office of disposal ordnance in close collaboration and coordination with NMAC sub –office in Darfur focused on establishing the data collection mechanisms relating to Victims of ERW in Darfur and to build the capacity of the existing Disabled People Organizations (DPOs) towards the integration of the ERW Victims in the community.

To realize these objectives, UNMAS provided a grant to two national organizations in North Darfur State. Through their collective efforts, 247 data collectors drawn from PWDs, ERW victims and health staff from government dispensaries/clinics in remote villages have been trained.

Considering the nature and duration of the current conflict in the region, we believe that there are still many accidents and victims unrecorded due to lack of monitoring mechanism, insecurity, lack of awareness on the importance of reporting such cases and poor communication infrastructure in the Region.

NDC on monthly basis conducted the information platform for PWDs in cooperation with National Center for information. NMAC VA department is an active member in this platform also provided NDC with information from IMSMA.VA department is still undergoing field visits in order to enrich the existing national data base. Additionally VA/Disability team within NMAC and ODO assisted in integrating relevant questions to VA program on the Knowledge, Attitudes, Practices and Believes (KAPB) form which was used during the recent KAPB survey in Darfur.KAPB findings could be shared with interested colleagues.

With respect to physical rehabilitation services, ICRC has continued the provision of these services through their Rehabilitation Center in collaboration with NAPO .Hope Medical City which is an active member with the VA working group in Khartoum and the second producer for mobility aids, prostheses and orthotics; participated in the Arab health conference which has been held in Dubai and won the award for best prostheses.

Capacity building of local organizations represented a very important area of work. This was done through meetings and discussion organized with organizations (mainly local NGOs), authorities and relevant partners such as International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC). The VA program empowered the government and local authorities, NGOs and communities, through technical and financial support. NMAC VA officer is currently attending the Development of Victim Assistance System for Victim of Wars and Conflicts training course which is currently going on in Tokyo from 1/11 to 12/12/2012.

We are also providing training sessions in various managerial skills towards supporting national partners to build their capacities on rights of persons with disabilities as well as launching an advocacy campaign on the rights of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) to minimize duplication of effort and achieve synergy among all stakeholders.

With regard to Advocacy ,in consultation with NMAC, VA department , ODO provided an updated report was provided to UN HQ with regard to progress towards resolution 65/186"Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond" and resolution 66/299 "Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto".

In collaboration with ministry of health NDC conducted forum about Health in disability area where NMAC VA team participated is a member in this forum. During the year 2012 Sudan delegation participated in the CRPD in USA .

Ongoing VA/disability projects

A total of 14 VA projects have been supported in Sudan during the period 2012 where 10 funded by CHF, two by DIEFT through UNMAS, two by UNMAS through ODO.

The government of Sudan offer 4,000,000,000SDG for supporting PWDs project through the NDC. The identification and selection process for those projects are ongoing

The two ongoing socio economic reintegration and psychological support projects funded by DIFT are implemented by the Mine ERW victim

associations in south Kordofan and blue Nile states the total of amount are 350 ,000 USD the number of beneficiaries are 275 mine ERW victims and PWDs 150 of them will provided with IGAs which are livestock / commercial and other psychological support the implementation of those projects by the land mine victims association Enhances the implementation of Ottawa & CRPD Conventions

Since June 2012, two national organizations which are Elfasher Association of the Disabled (FSD) and National Organization for Humanitarian Service and Women empowerment (NOHSWE) are carrying VA projects in Northern Darfur. The two projects, focusing on enhancing data on ERW related deaths and injuries, through the establishment of regional surveillance systems and data collection projects. Additionally those projects provided successful integration chances through socio-economic empowerment projects in collaboration and coordination with Bank of Khartoum and MTN mobile company and technical support from Edrak training and development center.

DDR which is an active member within the VA working group in Kharoum, utilized the balance of their allocated funds in achieving the followings:

- Rehabilitation of the orthopedic center in South Kordofan.
- Establishment of the information center.
- Establishment of psychological support unit in Kadugli hospital.
- Establishment of a cultural center in Fula for disable people.

NMAC VA department Submitted a mid-term review of the progress made since the 2009 Second Review Conference by affected States Parties to implement the victim assistance provisions of the Cartagena Action Plan 2010-2014 in order to understand what progress has been made to apply the victim assistance aims of the Cartagena Action Plan since the plan was adopted in 2009 until this mid-way point to the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) Geneva.

We seize this opportunity to thank all donors who are contributing to the success of our program, especially the government of Great Britain

I Thank You