
**Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention
on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling,
Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel
Mines and on Their Destruction**

9 October 2018

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Seventeenth Meeting

Geneva, 26–30 November 2018

Item 9 (a) of the provisional agenda

Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

**Assisting the victims: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate
of the Committee on Victim Assistance**

**Conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on
Victim Assistance**

**Submitted by the Committee on Victim Assistance (Belgium, Croatia,
Ecuador, Mozambique)**

Addendum

Tajikistan

1. The Committee welcomes the submission by Tajikistan of its Article 7 report for the calendar year 2017 containing updated information on its victim assistance activities. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following conclusions.

Mine casualties

2. Tajikistan had reported 4 mine casualties in 2017 and that between 2015 and 2017 a total of 34 mine casualties had been recorded including 18 men and 16 boys. In total 868 casualties were reported for the period between 1992 and 2017, of which 482 were injured and 367 killed with children making up 30 per cent of this total.

Assessment of needs, the availability and gaps in services (Action #12)

3. Tajikistan reported that Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) has conducted assessment of the needs of mine survivors until 31 December 2017, to date more than 98 per cent of accurate and reliable data collected on victims of antipersonnel mines / explosive remnants of war (ERW) and needs assessment study data (broken down by sex and age) have been entered into a database.

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Time-bound and measurable objectives (Action #13)

4. Tajikistan reported on results of pre-established objectives and targets, indicating the existence of a plan of action on victim assistance. The Committee concluded that it would welcome an electronic copy of the action plan.

Enhancement in the integration of victim assistance into broader frameworks, including allocation of budgets for their implementations (Actions #14)

5. The Committee concluded that Tajikistan made efforts to integrate victim assistance into broader programmes and policies, by reporting as follows:

(a) In 2017, the Victim Assistance Programme continued its successful integration into government programmes and programmes of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), including the "Rule of Law and Access to Justice" programme;

(b) Ministry of Health of Tajikistan has been increasingly taking the lead in implementing victim assistance;

(c) Relevant institutions have been engaged to improve services, such as accessibility of the environment.

6. The Committee concluded that it would welcome updates on these efforts.

Increase availability of and accessibility to rehabilitation services, economic inclusion opportunities and social protection measures for all mine victims, regardless of their gender and age (Action #15)

7. The Committee concluded that Tajikistan was acting upon its commitment under Action 15, by reporting as follows:

(a) The National Program for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled for 2017-2020 was approved in 2016;

(b) All persons who were injured by mines in 2017 have received the necessary emergency medical assistance;

(c) There are 6 boarding houses, 2 rehabilitation centres for disabled children, 40 social service home, 16 service centres for the elderly and disabled, 16 day centres residence for disabled children and 4 medical sanatoria for veterans of war, labour and persons with disabilities providing services to people with disabilities, including those affected by mine;

(d) State unitary enterprise, Prosthetic-orthopaedic plant of the city Dushanbe, provides prostheses, special orthopaedic shoes, belts, corsets, walking stick, crutches, wheelchairs and other necessary auxiliary means to all persons in need;

(e) The number of people in need of prosthetic and orthopaedic products is increasing. On average 20 victims of mines receive prosthetic and orthopaedic services annually, with 18 mine survivors (16 men and 2 boys) having received prosthesis in 2017;

(f) In 2017, 20 wheelchairs were purchased to be provided to mine victims;

(g) In 2017 a two-week summer camp rehabilitation workshop was organized for 69 mine / ERW victims, where they were able to rest, receive treatment and psychological

rehabilitation, and also participate in seminars and trainings organized by an international non-governmental organization "Polus Centre" and Tajik psychologists;

(h) In 2017, 265 mine / ERW victims and other persons with disabilities were provided preferential microcredits with the low-interest rate (1 per cent per month) with the purpose of generating income and increasing opportunities for self-employment in Rasht Valley.

Strengthen local capacities and enhance coordination (Action #15)

8. Tajikistan reported on its continued efforts to coordinate the victim assistance programme with the Ministry of Health taking the lead according to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and Protocol V of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. The Committee concluded that it would welcome information on efforts for local capacity building in relation to the implementation of victim assistance.

Inclusion and participation of mine victims (Actions #16)

9. The Committee concluded that Tajikistan is acting upon its commitments under action 16 by reporting that mine victims and other persons with disabilities have been included in the Technical Working Group on Victim Assistance. In 2017, the Working Group with the support of the UNDP organized four meetings on an integrated approach to assistance of people affected by mines / ERW and the rights of persons with disabilities in four regional centres, 39 out of 119 participants were represented by mine / ERW victims.

Removing barriers and raising awareness (Actions #15 and #17)

10. The Committee concluded that Tajikistan was acting upon its commitments under Actions 15 and 17, by reporting as follows:

(a) 43 local architects and designers were trained and gained knowledge in the field of standards and accessible environment in 2016;

(b) Tajikistan's Scientific Research Institute of Medico-Social Expertise and rehabilitation of disabled people (NII EVTIN) made efforts in improving standards for accessible toilets and other accessibility needs of persons with disabilities including mine survivors;

(c) More than 2,600 persons with disabilities, including mine survivors, have benefited from improved physical access to medical services.

Measurable improvements, challenges and priorities for assistance in advance of the next Review Conference (Action #18)

11. Tajikistan reported measurable improvements as well as challenges in the availability of resources for the implementation of victim assistance with 700 persons on the waiting list to receive mobility aids. The Committee encourages Tajikistan to increase efforts to achieve the objectives of Actions 12 to 18 of the Maputo Action Plan by the upcoming Review Conference of the Convention in 2019.