

**ICBL Statement on Transparency
18MSP Mine Ban Treaty, 16-20 November 2020**

The Transparency Report!..... Oops!, forgot *again!*

This must be the reason more than half of you (54%) didn't get your Article 7 report in so far this year!

OK! We get it! But remember all States Parties have at least one legal obligation. For states which don't have any **further** obligations, or for those lucky states which never had any **other** obligations to begin with, we might have more understanding. You may wonder: '*Why file it year after year?*'

Well, you file to support the **norm** of transparency.

And, as we have regularly reminded in our statements of previous years, this is not optional – it is your **legal obligation** under the Treaty to report annually.

For states with no **other** obligations, *it's easy!* One page. Check '*NO*' aaalllllll the way down the page. Send it in. Done! Mark the calendar for 30 April next year.

For states *with* key obligations, it is not only legally required but also **vital** that you send in that annual Article 7 report, meticulously filled out. It allows all states parties to monitor status and progress of our good convention.

For instance, this year we are (greatly) missing the annual transparency report from 4 States Parties with Article 5 obligations, (DRC, Eritrea, Niger, Nigeria), and from 9 States Parties responsible for significant number of victims (Albania, Burundi, DRC, El Salvador, Eritrea, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Uganda). The Committee on Cooperative Compliance should urgently knock on the doors of these states to ensure rapid submission of these vital updates though their pending art. 7 reports!

The objective of the Article 7 transparency report is not only to deliver information but to build confidence, the corner stone of multilateralism. States need to also start reporting now against the commitments they adopted in the Oslo Action Plan last year so we can actually see whether it is making an impact.

So, to all you delinquents out there. Please get the job done!

Thank you.