

2nd International Pledging Conference on the Implementation of the APMBC
Geneva, 28 February 2017 - Palais de Nations, Room XII

- *UNDP would like to express its gratitude to the President, Ambassador Hajnoczi for organizing this 2nd important International Pledging Conference and for providing UNDP the opportunity to provide a brief update on UNDP's efforts to support States Parties in their goal in meeting Convention obligations.*
- *UNDP is a stark supporter of Member States insistent efforts to advance multilateral discourse and agreements and the subsequent implementation of the normative frameworks this brings, not least as demonstrated by the APMBC and the many accomplishments this instrument has brought. UNDP would like to re-emphasize its commitment to being a long-term global partner in working with affected states in reaching convention obligations.*
- *UNDP encourages Member States to stay the course and ensure the work they have committed to is brought to an end, as expressed by the goal of a world free of landmines and the Maputo Declaration remains a beacon towards this end, and the efforts to finish the work by 2025.*
- *Within this framework, UNDP strives to ensure the most effective use of resources that whilst clearing suspected land, can also bring development dividends to affected communities. To this end, UNDP brings its mine action efforts within the broader framework of sustainable development goals, set to be achieved only 5 years later.*
- *UNDP would like to reconfirm its view that meeting **APMBC obligations also contributes directly** to poverty eradication, peace-building, and conflict prevention and **achieving the 2030 Agenda** by increasing livelihood opportunities, particularly for landmine survivors. Specifically, based on preliminary findings of a joint UNDP-GICHD study, **mine action contributions to the SDGs are seen to be catalytic** in relation to achieving:*
 - SDG1 on ending poverty,
 - SDG2 on ending hunger and achieving food security
 - SDG8 on inclusive economic growth.
 - SDG10 on reducing inequality by providing more opportunities to marginalized populations in mine-affected communities
 - SDG16 (promoting just, inclusive and peaceful societies) will come from removing landmines and reducing the number of new landmine accidents/victims.

As such investments made towards mine action, are also investments that serves **to ensure and expedite, SDG implementation** and the 2030 Agenda in communities affected by explosive remnants of war. "*Leaving no one behind*" also frames with advantage the efforts in victim assistance as the Agenda effectively would rule out any exclusion of affected communities, landmine victims and survivors.

- *UNDP has increased efforts* by to ensure its mine action programme works across the various pillars of mine action, humanitarian action and development to better capture synergies and maximize the impact of mine action in the immediate aftermath of conflict or early recovery period while providing the room for sustainable development to take root.
- In 2016 UNDP launched its 2016-2019 '*Development and Mine Action Support Framework*', which highlights mine action as a critical factor in restoring livelihood capacities and building resilience to shocks and stresses. A brief outline of the Development and Mine Action Support Framework' overarching strategy is built on **three** core principles:
 1. Supporting local and **national partners** in the prioritization of geographical and technical focus areas that are both conflict sensitive and developmental in nature
 2. Adopting a **sharper focus on development** results to ensure measurable contributions to the changes in people's lives and livelihoods, particularly those of women and youth
 3. Strengthening the operational **nexus** between **peace, humanitarian action** and the Sustainable Development Goals
- The *Mine Action Support Framework* is designed to support 20 countries and will require a budget of **\$37 million** divided across **three** interconnected areas:
 1. Translating mine action into sustainable development dividends, particularly jobs, livelihoods, food security, health, education and water and sanitation;
 2. Strengthening national institutions that accelerate development benefits for the country and people affected by landmines and other explosive remnants of war;
 3. Supporting supporting international normative frameworks related to the APMBC, CCM, and CRPD.

Examples of on-going support for the implementation of international normative frameworks, including the APMBC, that **UNDP**, with support from the **Government of Switzerland** is undertaking include the project, entitled **Policy and Planning Support for Achieving Mine Ban and Cluster Convention Obligations**, which provide strategic advice to States Parties to the MBC who are facing completion deadlines within the **next 3 years** and have requested, assistance from UNDP. Presently, UNDP is working closely with the ISU, GICHD, and member states in coordinating support in Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovinian, and Zimbabwe.

UNDP would like to reaffirm its willingness to continue to partner with national governments, donors, civil society, and mine action practitioners and that UNDP's *Development and Mine Action Support Framework* provides a clear structure in which do so.