

May 2019

## Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

Nearly 300 delegates representing 80 States and over 30 international and non-governmental organisations concluded three days of meetings under the leadership of Norway. The Intersessional Meetings sought to ascertain progress made since the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties in implementation of the provisions of the Convention. The First Preparatory Meeting and Thematic Discussions provided guidance for the upcoming Oslo Review Conference and *Oslo Action Plan*.



The 2019 Intersessional Meetings served as an important step on the road to the Oslo Review Conference. [Find more information on the Meetings here.](#)  
Reach the Convention's Presidency: [mineban@mfa.no](mailto:mineban@mfa.no)

#OsloRevCon

### Fourth Review Conference

On 24 May Norway held the First Preparatory Meeting for the *Oslo Review Conference on a Mine-Free World*.

The President presented his vision and plans for the three key substantive documents that will be adopted at the Conference: the *Review of the Operation and Status of the Convention 2014-2019*, the *Oslo Action Plan* and the *Oslo Political Declaration*.

The President recalled that eight new Committee members will need to be elected and reminded delegations to notify their interest by 21 June 2019.

The President also underlined the importance of States paying their assessed contributions so that the Review Conference can go ahead as planned. Find out what else happened at the Preparatory Meeting here.

#20YrsLandmineBan #20YrPartnership #MineBanTreaty20



## Ukraine



Ukraine announced that after a number of setbacks its stockpile destruction efforts are underway with nearly three million anti-personnel mines destroyed in a span of two years.

As of 1 May 2019, almost 2.5 million PFM-1 mines were destroyed, and 111,000 POM-2 anti-personnel mines are scheduled to be disposed of by the end of 2019.

## Angola



Angola reported that in 2018 it had addressed over 14,544,434 square metres, clearing 1,043,412 square metres destroying over 1,700 anti-personnel mines in the process.

## Chile



Chile indicated that in the upcoming months it will destroy the last of its anti-personnel mines retained for permitted purposes under Article 3.

Chile also indicated that it is on track to meet its 1 March 2020 deadline for implementation of its mine clearance commitments under Article 5. This is good news for the Americas where the last State Party declaring completion did so in 2013.

## Ecuador

Ecuador made use of the individualised approach and appealed to the international community to support its national programme – entirely financed by the government – during the last stretch so that it can meet its 2022 deadline. Ecuador is appealing for five (5) million dollars to finalise its operations.



## ICRC



During the Meetings, the ICRC presented a non-paper with its views and recommendations on Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) that fall within the scope of the Convention.

Find it at:

<http://bit.ly/IntersessionalDocs>.

### *Article 2.1 and 2.2 of the Convention state,*

*“(2.1) Anti-personnel mine means a mine designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person and that will incapacitate, injure or kill one or more persons. [...] (2.2) “Mine” means a munition designed to be placed under, on or near the ground or other surface area and to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person or a vehicle.”*

## Colombia



The Colombian Mine Action Programme Descontamina, kicked off the year with a national workshop on anti-personnel mines under auspices of the Office of the High Commissioner for Peace. The meeting included national and international partners. Find out [more here](#). Photo, Descontamina Colombia

## Democratic Republic of the Congo



The DRC reported that since 2018 and up to 31 March 2019, it had addressed 13 mined areas releasing 422,461 square metres. It also indicated that it has identified an additional nine mined areas measuring 169,356 square metres in Nord and Sud Ubangi, Tanganyika, Kasai, Maniema, Tshopo Provinces.

DRC's mine clearance deadline is 2021.

## Greece

Greece announced that between 2018 and the first quarter of 2019, it had demilitarised over 295,000 anti-personnel mines while 343,413 remaining to be destroyed. In addition, it eliminated an additional 1,600 anti-personnel mines retained for training.



## Cambodia



The Cambodia Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA) held a national workshop on victim assistance in Siem Reap, with support of UNDP Cambodia and the ISU's technical backing.

The purpose was to review CMAA's 2018-2020 victim assistance implementation plan and find ways to improve national coordination among victim assistance and disability rights actors. To strengthen coordination, workshop participants recommended that the Ministry of Health be included in the victim assistance technical group that operates under CMAA's leadership.

## Universalization



It was a first for the Convention as the Republic of Korea attended one of its meetings as an Observer.

While Korea indicated that it is not yet in a position to join, the Republic of Korea indicated that demining activities in the DMZ are ongoing and that it aligns itself with the Convention's humanitarian objectives.



In addition to sponsoring an ICRC universalization workshop in Lao PDR, as part of the President's mandate Norway has continued to carry out efforts to promote the Convention and its norms in particular meeting with Geneva-based Permanent Representatives of Bahrain, Marshall Islands, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, and Armenia (seen above left to right).



From 1996 when the Ottawa Process began, to the end of 1999 the year when the Convention entered into force, **Austria, Canada, France Germany, Hungary, Mali, Norway and Switzerland** destroyed their stocks of anti-personnel mines. Together these States Parties destroyed in excess of seven million mines.

## Expressions of interest for next presidencies

**Sudan** has presented its expression of interest to lead the work of the Convention in 2020 (the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties), beginning at the end of the *Oslo Review Conference*. The decision will be adopted during the Review Conference.

**Netherlands** has presented its expression of interest to lead the work of the Convention in 2021 (the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties) beginning at the end of the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties in 2020.

## European Union Council Decision Project Implementation Update



Invitations for the global conference on assistance to victims of anti-personnel mines and other explosive remnants of war and disability rights, *Fostering Partnerships* have been sent by His Royal Highness Prince Mired Raad Zeid Al-Hussein, President of the Jordanian Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Special Envoy of the Convention, and H.E. Andrea Matteo, Head of the European Union Delegation to Jordan.

The conference will take place 10-12 September 2019 in Amman, with participation of dozens of victim assistance and disability rights experts including the World Health Organization (WHO), International Labour Organization (ILO), ICRC, ICBL, HI, and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. It is expected that a number of States not party that also have significant numbers of mine and other ERW victims will attend the conference. Info,

<http://bit.ly/fostering-partnerships>



Picture above (l-r), Head of the EU Delegation to Jordan H.E. Andrea Matteo, and Deputy Head of Delegation Egidijus Navika.



Picture above (l-r), Frank Meeussen from the European External Action Service, with the South Sudan Mine Action Authority Director Jurkuch Barach and Henry Oryem. Above right, a team of the MGCSW led by Director for Social Protection Mary Kojo seen at left.



South Sudan

In July 2019, the **South Sudan** National Mine Action Programme together with the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare (MGCSW), will host a national stakeholder dialogue on victim assistance and disability rights.

The dialogue, sponsored through EU Council Decision 2017/1428, will see the various national actors, international and non-governmental organisations come together to start the process to develop the first national action plan on victim assistance and disability.