



The European Union's support to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention



Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

Convention on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production
and transfer of anti-personnel mines and on their destruction

www.apminebanconvention.org

From the beginning,

[THE EUROPEAN UNION HAS BEEN A LEADER
IN PROVIDING ASSISTANCE]

for the implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
and in supporting efforts to universalize the Convention.



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EU COUNCIL DECISION IN SUPPORT OF THE CARTAGENA ACTION PLAN

A. BACKGROUND

The European Union's 13 November 2012 Council Decision (2012/700/CFSP) aims to enhance the pursuit of the aims of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention by supporting the implementation of the Cartagena Action Plan 2010-2014, in particular by:

- Promoting the universalization of the Convention and its norms,
- Supporting efforts on the part of States Parties to the Convention to implement the victim assistance aspects of the Cartagena Action Plan,
- Supporting efforts on the part of States Parties to the Convention to implement the mine clearance aspects of the Cartagena Action Plan, and
- Demonstrating the on-going commitment of the EU and its Member States to the Convention and by communicating widely about the Convention.

The Implementation Support Unit (ISU) has been entrusted to serve as the technical implementer for the Council Decision. In taking on this role, the ISU has been committed to implement the Council Decision in such a way that efforts reinforce the Convention's historic culture of partnership and collaboration between States, non-governmental and other organisations, particularly by working closely with the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and others.

B. MINE CLEARANCE

The Council Decision has provided resources to enable the ISU to support five States Parties in carrying out a comprehensive national mid-term appraisal of their efforts to implement the mine clearance aspects of the Cartagena Action Plan.

The ISU has considered that this support may be most valuable for States Parties which have been granted extensions of their mine clearance deadlines, particularly those which were granted extensions in 2008 and 2009. Time has now passed since some of these States Parties spelled out the remaining task and their plan to address it. Circumstances change over time, with factors such as resource levels, climatic conditions, improved information, and unforeseen circumstances affecting what is now understood about the remaining task and what the plan should be to address it.

PERU

Peru was well situated to benefit from the Council Decision's support as it was approximately at the mid-way point in its extended period of implementation of the Convention's Article 5 obligations. On 4–7 February 2013, the ISU conducted a preparatory mission to Lima in advance of a comprehensive national mid-term appraisal workshop. Due to the unique nature of demining activities of Peru, which features close cooperation with Ecuador along the two countries' shared border, it was agreed that the workshop could maximise pre-existing synergies between the two states. As a result, Peru and Ecuador agreed to co-host the workshop, which took place on 26-27 March 2013.

The workshop was successful in encouraging Peru and Ecuador to revisit their national demining strategies, updating them where appropriate and facilitating cooperation between the two States. Peru and Ecuador reaffirmed their commitment to using all

available resources to meet their Article 5 obligations as soon as possible. Moreover, Ecuador and Peru developed areas for increased cooperation, and committed to exploring increased joint demining operations, increasing the sharing of information and equipment. Peru and Ecuador also identified areas in which further work was needed.

A follow up action is currently being planned, whereby His Royal Highness Prince Mired will travel to Peru in July to raise the profile of Peru's efforts to fulfil its Convention obligations and to encourage it to remain on track to do so.

TAJIKISTAN

Tajikistan, like Peru and Ecuador, was well situated to benefit from the Council Decision given that it too was at the mid-way point in the period leading to an extended mine clearance deadline. The particular opportunity for Tajikistan was to revisit its national strategy, account for new developments, and revise its plan. After an initial preparatory visit from 29 May to 6 June 2013, a workshop took place on 17–18 September in Dushanbe. This workshop gathered all stakeholders of Tajikistan's Mine Action Programme to discuss its mine clearance plan, and contribute to the creation of a common vision on how Tajikistan could implement its Article 5 obligations, particularly taking into account commitments made under the Cartagena Action Plan 2010–2014.

The workshop reviewed activities that have taken place in Tajikistan since it was granted an extended deadline the granting of its request for extension, took note of challenges Tajikistan currently faces in implementing its Article 5 obligations, explored avenues for technical and financial cooperation, and identified priorities and made recommendations for addressing and enhancing Tajikistan's capacity to address the remaining challenge.

The workshop assisted Tajikistan in identifying several areas where its strategy could be revised and made more efficient, particularly with regards to improving survey and land release methodologies, capacity building, and quality control and assurance. In addition, several recommendations were made related to resource mobilisation and enhancing national capacity and ownership.

COLOMBIA

Colombia was well placed to benefit from the Council Decision because, in submitting its request for an extension in 2010, Colombia provided a demining plan that only extended as far as the end of 2013. In granting an extended deadline, the States Parties "requested Colombia to present to the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties (13MSP) in 2013 a revised implementation plan that contains and takes into account a clearer and more substantiated understanding of the location and nature of contamination and that includes revised annual projections of which areas would be addressed when and how." The purpose of the Council Decision's support was to assist Colombia in developing a new plan for the period 2014–2016.

The ISU conducted a technical mission on 21–25 May 2013 to assist Colombia in developing a background paper and otherwise assist in the planning for a national workshop, which was held on 5–6 November 2013. As was the case with Peru and Tajikistan, the workshop brought together all governmental and non-governmental stakeholders to review Colombia's progress since being granted an extension, identify challenges faced, and examine developments since that could inform a new action plan. As a result, Colombia is now on track to fulfill its commitment to present an updated work plan.



In September 2013, the EU supported Tajikistan's national stakeholders' dialogue on victim assistance and disability rights.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

In 2011, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) requested a 26 month extension of its deadline for completing implementation of its Article 5 obligations, in large part to gain greater clarity regarding the remaining challenge before submitting another extension request. With efforts to regain such clarity coming to an end and with the DRC required to submit a request for consideration at the Third Review Conference, the DRC was a good candidate for the Council Decision's support in order to review preliminary survey results and achieve a national consensus on the way forward.

On 16–19 September 2013, the ISU conducted a preparatory mission to the DRC to meet with relevant stakeholders. This was followed by the DRC convening a workshop on 20–21 November 2013 in Kinshasa. The workshop succeeded in assisting the DRC in developing a new work plan, which was contained in the DRC's extension request, with this including a detailed description of activities to be undertaken, a list of remaining areas, a description of the methods that will be used, an outline of the challenges and barriers faced, as well as an estimated budget to accomplish the task.

ANGOLA



General Santana André Pitra "Petroff" is leading demining efforts in Angola.

Angola also received assistance in the form of a national mid-term appraisal workshop to assist in implementing the mine clearance aspects of the Cartagena Action Plan. Angola, like all of the other recipients of such support, found itself at a seminal point in implementing its Article 5 obligations. Angola was granted a five year extension in 2012 to take stock of its remaining challenges. It was determined that a comprehensive national appraisal would be of considerable utility to Angola, as it would bring together all stakeholders to examine progress to date in ascertaining what remains to be done.

On 29–30 April 2014, representatives from numerous government ministries, local provinces, NGOs, demining organisations and international organisations gathered in Luanda to take stock of progress in developing a new strategy to ascertain a clear idea of the magnitude of Angola's remaining challenge and a clear plan to deal with it. After many detailed presentations and lively discussions, the workshop concluded with a number of observations and recommendations on how Angola could improve its work plan, for example by improving information sharing between the national authority and operators, making land release procedures more efficient, and ultimately presenting an updated work plan at the Third Review Conference.

C. VICTIM ASSISTANCE

The Council Decision has provided resources to the ISU to support up to three States Parties in taking stock of the fulfilment of their victim assistance commitments under the Cartagena Action Plan. The ISU has placed a priority on States Parties that have established a national disability plan or are well on the way to doing so and therefore would have some implementation history to assess. In addition, the ISU has sought to assist States Parties in complying with their Cartagena Action Plan understanding that "victim assistance should be integrated into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks related to disability, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction, while placing particular emphasis on ensuring that mine victims have access to specialised services when needed and can access on an equal basis services available to the wider population."

PERU

From 13 to 18 February 2013, the ISU undertook an initial victim assistance technical mission to conduct an initial review of Peru's efforts to apply the victim assistance provisions of the Cartagena Action Plan, to gain greater clarity regarding achievements made to-date, to take stock of remaining challenges, and to determine whether the conditions are right for the conduct of a more ambitious, multi-stakeholder, comprehensive national mid-term appraisal. This technical mission pointed to the value of Peru initiating a national process to revise Peru's national action plan for the equalisation of opportunities for persons with disabilities to update it and bring it in line with its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its commitments to mine victims.

A national workshop was held in Lima on 24–25 April 2013, which was extremely well attended by stakeholders from various levels of government in Peru, as well as from non-governmental and international organizations. The Council Decision's support was particularly important addressing observations made by the UN's Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities that more needed to be done to involve persons with disabilities in matters that concern them in Peru. As such, the intervention also was a clear manifestation of action taken by Peru to in the context of its Cartagena Action Plan commitment to "ensure the inclusion and full and active participation of mine victims and their representative organisations as well as other relevant stakeholders in victim assistance related activities, in particular as regards the national action plan, legal frameworks and policies, implementation mechanisms, monitoring and evaluation."

One particularly positive outcome was the identification by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR) of its ability to provide follow-up support to Peru as concerns work and employment. Since the national workshop, the UNOHCHR has been working with the ISU and Peru to share best practices on work and employment issues. Furthermore, the UNOHCHR has added Peru to its work plan for continued support beyond 2014. Another notable outcome of the workshop was that local stakeholders have carried out at, at the regional level, similar consultations on thematic issues discussed at the national level.

Peru was also a beneficiary of follow-up support in further implementing its national plan of action for persons with disabilities. On 22–23 April, the ISU assisted Peru in convening a second workshop. This was very helpful in maintaining the momentum and examining ways to more effectively implement Peru's national plan of action, particularly by drawing upon information gathered during regional consultations.



Carlos Gil de Montes of Peru participated in the opening of Peru's EU-supported national workshop on the equalisation of opportunities for persons with disabilities.

ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia was well situated to receive the support of the Council Decision as it has embraced victim assistance in the broader contexts of disability and social services, particularly through a national disability plan which encompasses victim assistance. As well, like Peru, Ethiopia is a party to both the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The ISU conducted a technical support mission to Ethiopia on 10–14 June 2013, meeting with all the relevant stakeholders involved in implementing Ethiopia's victim assistance obligations. This series of meetings provided an opportunity for the ISU to assess the current state of progress in implementing the victim assistance aspects of the Cartagena Action Plan and to understand the extent to which national stakeholders are applying the Ethiopian National Disability Plan, which encompasses victim assistance. The technical visit concluded that there is a low level of awareness of the Ethiopia national disability

plan and that there was a need to enhance coordination on matters concerning disability amongst various actors operating across the country.

A national workshop took place on 13–14 November 2013 in Addis Ababa. This brought together all stakeholders, including disabled persons' organizations and landmine survivors and their advocates. Of particular importance was the participation of Ethiopia's Bureaus of Labour and Social Affairs, which are the key implementers of the national disability plan. The workshop highlighted that awareness of the national plan was low and succeeded in part by ensuring that relevant national stakeholders gained enhanced understanding about specific aspects of the plan. Moreover, the workshop generated considerable discussion and sharing of best-practices both between the regional officials and representatives at the national level, as well as with civil society organizations. This is a dialogue that likely would not have taken place without the Council Decision's support.

TAJIKISTAN

Tajikistan was a good candidate for an appraisal of its victim assistance efforts and an initial technical support mission was conducted on 10–14 February 2014. During this mission, the ISU met with key stakeholders to assess the state of progress in implementing the victim assistance aspects of the Cartagena Action Plan. The mission concluded with the observation that Tajikistan could benefit from a national stakeholders' dialogue to enhance its victim assistance efforts.

A national workshop was held on 17–18 March 2014 in Dushanbe. At the workshop, participants examined four key areas: First, understanding the situation of persons with disabilities including landmine survivors in Tajikistan. Second, exploring current activities through a "who is doing what and where" session which provided the opportunity for national and international organisations and DPOs to share information on their efforts. The third session focused on the Convention on the rights of Persons with Disabilities and the final session on the draft State Programme on Social Protection of Persons with Disabilities 2014–2015.

The workshop concluded with a number of observations and proposed future steps. The ISU also provided Tajikistan with a number of recommendations on how to continue to implement the victim assistance aspects of the Cartagena Action Plan, as well as more generally implement policies protecting the rights of persons with disabilities.

BRIDGES BETWEEN WORLDS

The Council Decision provided resources to the ISU to support the staging of a global conference on assistance to the victims of landmines and other explosive remnants of war. On 3–4 April 2014, the Implementation Support Unit joined forces with Colombia in organizing the conference, *Bridges between Worlds* in Medellin on 3-4 April of this year. This conference was held further to the States Parties' understanding, as expressed in the *Cartagena Action Plan*, that victim assistance should be integrated into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks, including those related to the rights of persons with disabilities.



Colombian Vice President Angelino Garzón (right) chaired the global conference *Bridges between Worlds*.

Bridges between Worlds recalled how the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention established as a norm that multilateral weapons-related instruments should contain solemn commitments to those whom have fallen victim to and survived the weapons in question. In addition, *Bridges between Worlds* sought to identify how this promise might be fulfilled by integrating efforts into broader policies, plans and legal frameworks.

Initiating a conversation on building, or perhaps strengthening, *Bridges between Worlds* was particularly timely given that the States Parties, in 2014, find themselves 15 years after the entry into force of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and on in the year of the Convention's third five-year review. This conversation was enriched by the participation of many leading actors in the domain of disability rights, as well as those with expertise in other fields, such as health care, labour and international development.

While the international community met in Medellin on 3–4 April 2014 to discuss bridges between worlds, an outcome of the conference was the understanding there are not in fact different worlds. Rather, there is one world with physical, attitudinal and other barriers preventing the full participation of women, girls, boys and men living with a disability, including landmine survivors, in all spheres of their societies on a basis equal to others.

Bridges between Worlds also highlighted that individuals, organizations and States concerned about the well-being and the guarantee of the rights of landmine survivors largely share the same agenda as those concerned about the well-being and the guarantee of the rights of persons with disability more generally, as well as those concerned about individuals injured and left living with disabilities as a result of other causes, such as gun violence. It was well understood that clearly more and better can be done for all concerned individuals and their family members by all actors who share such an agenda working together.

Bridges between Worlds in Medellin was just the beginning. On 22 May, the Implementation Support Unit, again with the financial assistance of the European Union and thanks to the initiative of Austria and Costa Rica, organized Bridges between Worlds: the Geneva Edition.

D. UNIVERSALIZATION

High-Level Task Force

The Council Decision had provided support for a High Level Task Force on the universalization of the Convention to be supported by the ISU, including support for high-level personalities to engage with the leaders of up to six States not party to the Convention at ministerial or a higher level regarding adherence to the Convention and to participate other events to draw attention to on-going efforts to universalise and implement the Convention.

The first high level mission to support the universalization of the Convention was conducted on 16-19 October 2013. His Royal Highness, Prince Mired of Jordan, travelled to Beijing and Nanjing, China. While in China, Prince Mired stressed to Chinese officials the importance of the aims of the Convention and the need to remain closely engaged on Convention-related activities.

The second high level mission to support the universalization of the Convention was conducted on 19 March 2014. Her Royal Highness Princess Astrid of Belgium travelled to Muscat, Oman. During her meetings with Oman's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Oman announced its intention to accede to the Convention.

The Council Decision also provides support for other activities involving High Level Task Force members to draw attention to ongoing efforts to universalize and implement the Convention. The first of these activities was held on 19–22 May 2014 in Geneva. Entitled *Maputo +15*, the ISU organized a series of four events over the course of a week to draw



With EU support, HRH Prince Mired of Jordan (left) engaged China at a high level in discussions on the Convention.



**The EU Council Decision
was launched on 1 March
2013 in Geneva.**

attention to various aspects of the Convention, and to raise the profile of the Convention and inform discussions in the immediate lead up to the Third Review Conference. Prince Mired of Jordan participated as a panellist in discussions concerning the current state of universalization efforts and on the future of cooperation and assistance under the Convention. Maputo +15 served as an important complement to the formal preparations for the Maputo Review Conference.

Border Security Study

The Council Decision calls for a study on border security without anti-personnel mines to be produced by the ISU, thus addressing one of the most frequently raised perceived barrier to accession to the Convention. With respect to this project, ISU sought the advice of the two leading organisations specialising in border security, the OSCE and DCAF, to assist in identifying experts to assist in producing such a study. The ISU has also commissioned an introductory chapter on border security, as well as two national case studies, on Chile and Tajikistan's approaches to border control and management without anti-personnel mines. These cases studies, once they are finalised, will illustrate how each state secures its borders, particularly as it is currently in the process of removing its border minefields.

Universalization Workshops

The Council Decision calls for up to three universalization workshops to promote the Convention amongst States and to assist States not party to the Convention in addressing real or perceived barriers to accession. Given the United States' long on-going landmines policy review, the ISU collaborated with the United States Campaign to Ban Landmines in staging a symposium in Washington on 19 February 2014. The event raised the profile of the Convention in the United States at a time when the government is still reviewing its current policy with regards to landmines.

The symposium was opened by François Rivasseau, Deputy Head of the European Union Delegation to the United States and featured the participation of the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize co-Laureate, Jody Williams, and His Royal Highness Prince Mired. Panelists from Human Rights Watch, Roots for Peace, the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery, and the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation discussed different aspects pertaining to the United States and the Convention.

EU SUPPORT FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE

2

Victim assistance is a core component of the European Union's mine action strategy. The EU is committed to strengthening care, rehabilitation, and socio-economic reintegration of women, girls, boys and men whom have fallen victim to anti-personnel mines and other explosive remnants of war.

The EU's institutions and its Member States have regularly provided significant contributions that have been specifically labelled as *victim assistance*. Moreover, the European Union contributes even more to efforts that should benefit mine victims, but in ways that are not explicitly called *victim assistance*. This includes support provided by EU institutions for the development of health care services, personnel and infrastructure and for human rights machinery in countries where there are significant numbers of mine victims.

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FLOW FROM EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS TO 27 STATES PARTIES FOR ENHANCING HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN RIGHTS ¹

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Health care ²	\$76'596'643	\$61'569'238	\$105'685'879	\$87'341'418	\$104'747'294
Human rights	\$33'985'176	\$31'743'662	\$37'481'821	\$36'490'447	\$28'295'791

The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention's ultimate promise to victims is and remains to ensure their full participation in all spheres of one's society on an equal basis to others. This goal cannot be achieved by the Convention alone. The EU, therefore, understands the need to take advantage of synergies with other instruments and to integrate efforts into broader domains.

The EU highlights, in particular, the important linkage between the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The CRPD represents a strong and a comprehensive framework to address the needs of survivors, to realize their human rights and to ensure respect for their dignity.

1. Data have been obtained by the Implementation Support Unit from the OECD DAC's database of development assistance flows.

The 27 States Parties in question are:

Afghanistan
Albania
Angola
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Burundi
Cambodia
Chad
Colombia
Croatia
Democratic Republic of the Congo
El Salvador
Eritrea
Ethiopia
Guinea-Bissau
Iraq
Jordan
Mozambique
Nicaragua
Peru
Senegal
Serbia
Somalia
Sudan
Tajikistan
Thailand
Uganda
Yemen

2. "Health care" includes development assistance flows for medical education / training, medical services, basic health care, basic health infrastructure and health personnel development.



In May 2014, officials opened the EU-funded anti-personnel mine destruction facility in Rechitsa, Belarus.

3

EU SUPPORT FOR STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION

The European Union has been a leader in providing assistance for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines. This has been particularly important in supporting States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention in destroying the Soviet-era PFM-1 type mine. This mine is particularly complex and costly to destroy. As well, the destruction of this mine can be hazardous to human health and the environment.

With European Union support, Belarus made a major step towards complying with the Convention's stockpile destruction obligations when in May it opened a new destruction facility in Rechitsa. The European Union has provided € 4 million to support Belarus' stockpile destruction effort. Over 3.3 million anti-personnel mines are to be destroyed, with the facility capable of destroying 8,000 mines per day.

The destruction facility in Rechitsa was constructed by the Spanish company Expal. According to Expal, this facility is unique, with great efforts having been taken to make the project both efficient and safe for the environment at the same time. In fact, the facility will comply with both applicable Belarussian and EU environmental requirements.

The European Union is also engaged in a project to assist Ukraine in complying with its stockpile destruction obligations. In total, the EU's project is intended to destroy 3.0 million stockpiled PFM-1 type anti-personnel mines at a cost of € 1.8 million.

EU SUPPORT FOR MINE ACTION

4

When support provided by the European institutions is combined with that provided by EU Member States, the European Union is the world's largest supporter of mine action. In 2013, the European institutions provided € 29,833,931 in mine action funding. In addition, 18 Member States reported having provided an additional € 88,540,387.

EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS' SUPPORT FOR MINE ACTION, 2013

Sector	Beneficiary Country	Recipient Organization	Name of project	Amount, donor currency	EU Institution
Mine-clearance	Bosnia and Herzegovina	UNDP and OSCE	Explosive Ordnance and Remnants of War Destruction in Bosnia and Herzegovina	€ 3,900,000	IFS
Mine clearance	Bosnia and Herzegovina	BH-MAC	Land Release project	€ 1,200,000	IPA
Victim Assistance	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund Deutschland e. V. (ASB)	Socio-economic empowerment of mine victims	€ 1,000,000	IPA
Risk Education	Bosnia and Herzegovina	NGO Posavina Bez Mina Brcko UG	Mine Action Strategy Support (education on mines)	€ 300,000	IPA
Mine Clearance	Bosnia and Herzegovina	DEMIRA Deutsche Minenräumer e. V.	Support to Mine Action and socio-economic development in Bosnia and Herzegovina	€ 915,312	IPA
Mine Clearance	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Humanitarian NGO Doking Deminiranje Pale Udruzenja	Support to Mine Action (and socio-economic development in Bosnia and Herzegovina)	€ 1,125,000	IPA
Mine Clearance	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Udruzenje Za Eliminaciju Mina	Mine Action Strategy Support (and socio-economic development in Bosnia and Herzegovina)	€ 1,050,000	IPA
Mine Clearance	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Stop Minama – Stop Mines UG	Mine Action Strategy Support (and socio-economic development in Bosnia and Herzegovina)	€ 1,125,000	IPA
Mine Clearance	Chad	FAYE	Support to PADMIN project	€ 9,870	FED
Capacity building, Technical surveys	Colombia	United Nations Organisation	Humanitarian Demining Technical Expertise and Non-Technical Survey operations in support of Land Release and Land Restitution in Colombia"	€ 1,000,000	IFS
Mine awareness, mine risk education, capacity building on mine action	Colombia	SI-ES	Humanitarian aid for Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities affected by the conflict in the departments of Nariño, Cauca and Valle del Cauca.	€ 13,741	ECHO
Mine Clearance	Colombia	Metodo Estudios Consultores	Diseño e implementación de la estrategia de gestion territorial	€ 872,490	DCI-ALA
Mine Clearance	Guinea (Conakry)	CIVI POL CONSEIL (FR)	Project of destruction of old and dangerous ammunitions in the Republic of Guinea	€ 500,000	IFS
Mine Clearance	Lebanon	MAG	Battle Area Clearance to support Socio-Economic Development in Southern Lebanon	€ 1,805,861	ENPI

Mine Clearance	Lebanon	NKF	NPA Cluster Munition Clearance in South Lebanon	€ 2,090,000	ENPI
Mine Clearance	Lebanon	Handicap International	Landmines and UXO clearance operations in the north Lebanon province	€ 1,710,000	ENPI
Mine Clearance	Lebanon	Folkekirkens nodhjelp fond	DanChurchAid Landmines and UXO Clearance Operations in Central Lebanon	€ 1,700,200	ENPI
Mine Clearance	Lebanon	Landell Mills LTD	Mid-term and ex-post evaluations of Lebanon Mine Action Programme 2013–2015	€ 57,000	ENPI
Mine Risk Education and Victim Assistance	Lebanon	Balamand University	Providing Mine Risk Education and Mine Victims Assistance in Lebanon	€ 732,000	ENPI
Mine-clearance, capacity building, risk education	Libya	Mines Advisory Group (MAG)	Battle Area Clearance, Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Risk Education to support post conflict recovery	€ 1,200,000	IFS
Mine education & mine risk reduction, Demining, Stockpile destruction, Local capacity-building on mine action, Development of procedures as per International Mine Action Standards (IMAS)	Mali	Federation Handicap – FR	Urgency and Risk Reduction for Conventional Weapons	€ 850,000	ECHO
Mine Education and Mine Risk Reduction	Myanmar	FSD-CH	Assistance to IDPs and returnees in Conflict Affected Ethnic Areas	€ 279,523	ECHO
Mine-clearance, Capacity building, Surveying	Myanmar	Norwegian People's Aid (Norsk Folkehjelp Forening – NKF)	Promoting peace processes in ethnic areas through mine action	€ 3,500,000	IFS
Mine Clearance	Philippines	Association FSD France	Mine Action Support to the Peace Process in Mindanao	€ 875,000	IFS
Demining, Mine education & mine risk reduction, Quality Assurance and coordination (as per IMAS)	South-Sudan Republic	UNMAS-US	Humanitarian Mine Action Operations in South Sudan	€ 1,500,000	ECHO
Demining	Sri-Lanka	Fédération Suisse de Déminage	Demining Operations	€ 420,000	ECHO
Demining	Turkey	Social Awareness and Anti-Violence Association (Sözleşmeyi Toplumsal Duyarlılık ve Şiddet Karşıtları Derneği/ Duy-Der)	Project of training of mine and wastes of conflict for children – Villages of Sirnak	€ 102,934	EIDHR
TOTAL				€ 29,833,931	



EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER STATES' SUPPORT FOR MINE ACTION, 2013

Austria	893,225
Belgium	6,205,060
Croatia	65,000
Czech Republic	50,454
Denmark	7,023,425
Finland	5,800,000
France	1,668,050
Germany	16,046,000
Ireland	3,100,000
Italy	1,235,544
Lithuania	10,000
Luxembourg	1,426,928
Netherlands	17,715,605
Portugal	23,635
Slovenia	1,001,775
Spain	1,100,000
Sweden	9,256,390
United Kingdom	15,479,680
TOTAL	€ 88,540,387

Left: Representatives of civil society at the EU-funded mine clearance workshop in Kinshasa.

Right: Sudi Alimasi Kimputu of the CCLAM and Sophie Delfolie of the ISU in Kinshasa.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ON THE THIRD REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION (“OTTAWA CONVENTION”)

16 AND 17 JUNE 2014

1. The Council recalls that the EU is united in pursuing the objectives of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, with all 28 EU Member States now States Parties, and that the EU and its Member States have a long history of support for mine clearance and the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines, as well as for assistance to victims of anti-personnel mines.
2. The Council welcomes the upcoming Third Review Conference of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention which will take place from 23–27 June 2014 in Maputo, Mozambique. The Council expresses its hope that this conference will be a success and will further reaffirm our shared commitment to end the suffering caused by the use of anti-personnel mines across the world.
3. The Council recalls that States Parties to the Convention have undertaken never under any circumstances to use anti-personnel mines. In that context, the EU appeals to all State and non-State actors to refrain from the use of anti-personnel mines.
4. The Council considers that the Third Review Conference equally presents an opportunity to agree on concrete plans as well as on a realistic set of activities to ensure further progress in the next phase of the implementation of the Convention’s provisions and objectives, taking into account both its accomplishments and new challenges.
5. The Council reiterates the European Union’s unwavering support to States Parties in their full and effective implementation of the Convention, and its commitment to promote universalisation of the Convention, to provide resources to fund mine action, and concrete and sustainable assistance to anti-personnel mine victims, their families and communities. In this context it recalls Council Decision 2012/700/CFSP adopted on 13th November 2012 in support of the implementation of the Cartagena Action Plan.

6. The EU and its Member States have contributed more than € 500 million since the last Review Conference in Cartagena, Colombia, representing more than one third of the world's financial assistance to mine action, and thus making the EU and its Member States the leading donor in this area. EU support has been decisive in reversing difficult situations in several countries. The Council recalls that, for example in Afghanistan, € 89 million have been spent by EU institutions over the last ten years, contributing in addition to the funds provided by individual Member States and other members of the international community, to clearing 78% of Afghanistan's minefields and building the capacity of the government of Afghanistan to deal with the devastating effects of anti-personnel mines.

7. The Council underlines the strong linkage with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which provides a wider framework to comprehensively address the needs of survivors of anti-personnel mine explosions, the realisation of their political as well as social and economic rights and to ensure respect for their inherent dignity.

8. The Council encourages all States Parties to continue to work in a spirit of cooperation during the Third Review Conference, keeping in mind the Convention's vision of a conclusive end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines. The implementation of the Maputo Action Plan to be adopted at the Third Review Conference will depend on the efficiency of the Convention's working structures as well as on transparency and reporting by States Parties and on their full engagement. The EU and its Member States will aim at making these structures function well. Their performance will depend on the willingness and efficiency of their members. Efficiency also means that the costs of the various meetings related to the implementation of the Convention be optimised, and their schedule rationalised.

9. The Council reaffirms the commitment of the EU to continue its support to States Parties in their implementation of the Convention to ensure that we can work effectively in order to reach the Convention's objectives. This should be done in a way which reinforces the Convention's historic culture of partnership and collaboration between States Parties, the United Nations, other relevant international organisations or institutions, regional organisations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and relevant nongovernmental organisations. The European Union will continue to support efforts towards full universalisation of the Convention, while also promoting adherence to individual norms of the Convention by non-States Parties. The European Union will continue to cooperate with and, where possible, extend assistance to those States Parties that most need support in meeting their commitments under the Convention, and to non-States Parties that significantly support mine action; this will continue to be carried out in coordination with other donors, and in close cooperation with the countries concerned.



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The Implementation Support Unit (ISU) is the secretariat to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction.

The ISU is mandated to support the States Parties to the Convention, in particular by doing the following:

- Providing support to all States Parties through support to the Convention's implementation machinery and office holders,
- Providing support to individual States Parties, including by providing advice and technical support on implementation and universalization,
- Communicating and providing information about the Convention,
- Keeping records of formal and informal meetings under the Convention, and
- Liaising and coordinating with relevant international organisations that participate in the work of the Convention.

The ISU is directly accountable to the States Parties while being hosted by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining. The ISU is funded on a voluntary basis by States Parties to the Convention.

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