

**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**

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Item 11(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  
Committee on Victim Assistance  
(Belgium, Colombia, Croatia, Ecuador)**

**Addendum**

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## Colombia

1. The Committee welcomes the submission by Colombia of its Article 7 report for the calendar year 2016 containing updated information on its victim assistance activities. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following conclusions:

2. Colombia reported that in 2016 a total of 84 people were injured or killed by anti-personnel mines (1 girl, 2 women, 6 boys and 75 men). The Committee concluded that the information provided by Colombia was gender and age disaggregated.

3. The Committee concluded that Colombia was acting upon its commitment to assess the needs of mine victims, the availability and gaps in services and support, and existing or new requirements for disability, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction activities needed to meet the needs of mine victims, and to refer victims to existing services where possible in accordance with Action 12 by reporting the following:

(a) A thorough data collection system is in place disaggregating victim-related information across several parameters such as age, gender, occupation, location of incident, activity at the moment of incident, and family surrounding;

(b) Colombia reported 846 mine casualties in 2016 and provided data disaggregated by age, gender, role and social situation. 85% of the reported victims were men and 30% were in the age group 26-35.

(c) Colombia reported that one of its main aims is to continue with the identification of needs of mine victims for the formulation of clear and precise guidelines for care and repair, for the review and verification of cases of inclusion and non-inclusion in the established Single Registry of Victims.

4. The Committee concluded that Colombia is acting upon its commitment under Action 14 of the Maputo Action Plan by reporting on the following enhancements that have been made or will be made to disability, health, social welfare, education, employment, development and poverty reduction plans, policies and legal frameworks needed to meet the needs of mine victims, and on budgets allocated for their implementation:

Colombia has developed a large policy and institutional framework which provides comprehensive support to victims ranging from pre-hospital time to effective socioeconomic inclusion. This framework was developed with the aim of materialising five types of reparative measures: i) restitution; ii) Compensation; iii) Rehabilitation; iv) Satisfaction; and v) guarantees of non-repetition. The government of Colombia also coordinates with other government institutions through its “Directorate for the integral action against antipersonnel mines” (DAICMA) in providing access to measures of attention, assistance and integral reparation to victims.

5. The Committee concluded that Colombia is acting upon its commitment under Action 15 of the Maputo Action Plan by reporting on the following activities to increase availability of and accessibility to appropriate comprehensive rehabilitation services, economic inclusion opportunities and social protection measures for all mine victims, regardless of their gender and age:

(a) Colombia reported that its legislation foresees equal access to services for persons with disability in various sectors, such as labour, health, and education. With regard to mine/munition/IED victims specifically, the Ministry of Defence is developing and articulating actions that implement legislative and other measures to guarantee that survivors and their families have access to services on equal terms;

(b) Colombia reported efforts to generate inter-sectoral linkages between victim organisations, social organisations and municipal, district and departmental administrations for the construction and implementation of strategies, programs and/or actions that allow the social integration of mine/munition/IED victims, and people with disabilities.

6. The Committee concluded that Colombia is acting upon its commitment under Action 16 of the Maputo Action Plan by reporting the following effort to enhance the capacity to ensure the inclusion and active participation of mine victims and their

representative organisations in national action plans, legal frameworks, policies, implementation mechanisms and monitoring and evaluation:

Colombia adopted a “Protocol for the Effective Participation of Victims of Armed Conflict” which allows effective participation of victims of antipersonnel mines, unexploded munitions and IEDs through the establishment and guarantee of two places for the municipalities, two places for the Departments and places quotas for the National Bureau. The Committee concluded that it would welcome additional information on these matters.

7. The Committee concluded that Colombia reported the following challenges in the implementation of its victim assistance commitments:

- (a) identification of effective routes for inclusion;
- (b) articulation of the “National System for Assistance, Care and Integral Reparation for Victims” (SNARIV) in the identification of the regions with the greatest number of disabled victims
- (c) lack of knowledge of the community and public officials
- (d) lack of awareness among victims on the services available.
- (e) concentration of services in the major cities and in the capital
- (f) a prevailing culture in certain communities that persons with vulnerabilities cannot learn and do not need education and skill development.

8. The Committee concluded that it would welcome information on efforts to implement Action 13 of the Maputo Action Plan.

9. The Committee concluded that it would welcome information from Colombia on measurable improvements made in the well-being and the guarantee of rights of mine victims, challenges that remain and priorities for assistance.

## **El Salvador**

10. The Committee welcomes the submission by El Salvador of information on its victim assistance activities. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following conclusions:

11. The Committee concluded that El Salvador was acting upon its commitment to assess the needs of mine victims, the availability and gaps in services and support, and existing or new requirements for disability, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction activities needed to meet the needs of mine victims, and to refer victims to existing services where possible in accordance with Action 12 by reporting the following:

- (a) In 2017, the National Policy for Integral Assistance to Persons with Disabilities was launched, through which government institutions update their census information concerning victims of landmines, cluster munitions and explosive remnants of war;
- (b) The National Council for Integral Assistance to Persons with Disabilities (CONAIPD) maintains a national census of persons with disabilities;
- (c) The CONAIPD, FOPROLYD and UCADFA, are in charge of general assistance and are responsible for materialising the objectives related to assistance to victims.

12. The Committee concluded that El Salvador is acting upon its commitment under Action 14 of the Maputo Action Plan by reporting on the following enhancements that have been made or will be made to disability, health, social welfare, education, employment, development and poverty reduction plans, policies and legal frameworks needed to meet the needs of mine victims, and on budgets allocated for their implementation:

(a) In order to contribute in a tangible way to the full, equal and effective participation of victims in society, El Salvador, through its corresponding bodies, has signed international conventions, in addition to adopting laws and policies aimed at objectives. The principles instruments that are implemented are:

- i. Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities.
- ii. Inter-American Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities.
- iii. Law on benefits for the protection of the disabled and disabled as a result of the armed conflict
- iv. Opportunity equalisation law.
- v. National Policy of attention to people with disabilities
- vi. El Salvadoran technical standard for accessibility to the physical environment of people with disabilities

(b) Comprehensive care is provided, based on the National Policy of Integral Assistance to Persons with Disabilities;

(c) Actions to improve health, social welfare, education, employment, development and poverty reduction, are carried out through UCADFA, FOPROLYD, CONAIPD, among other governmental and non-governmental bodies, the following activities are carried out:

- i. Medical campaigns at the national level, with which medical services are approached for people with disabilities;
- ii. Campaigns on physical rehabilitation, support in orthosis and prosthesis for victims of the conflict;
- iii. Granting of productive credits for economic development support;
- iv. Through FOPROLYD and the Survivors Network Foundation, productive modules and agricultural tools are granted, such as: Breeding of chickens, shops, mills, bakery equipment, pupuserias establishment and techniques and instruments for beekeeping;
- v. Coordination for the granting of scholarships for persons with disabilities and members of their family to enable them to obtain employment that generates income for subsistence and family development.

13. The Committee concluded that El Salvador was acting upon its commitment under Action 15 of the Maputo Action Plan by reporting on the following activities to increase availability of and accessibility to appropriate comprehensive rehabilitation services, economic inclusion opportunities and social protection measures for all mine victims, regardless of their gender and age:

(a) Subnational coordination is carried by UCADFA, FOPROLYD, CONAIPD, ISRI, Survivors Network and people with disabilities, among others, as well as international efforts to develop plans or programs that promote the care of people with disabilities and eliminate barriers of all kinds;

(b) In order to raise awareness of the need of victims of mines and persons with disabilities, awareness-raising workshops are held at the national level.

14. The Committee concluded that El Salvador reported the following challenges in the implementation of its victim assistance commitments:

- (a) Incorporation and setting of physical spaces;
- (b) Increasing work opportunities and the physical environment of spaces;
- (c) Reaching all sectors of society, private enterprise, government, non-governmental organizations, among others;
- (d) Challenges in sensitisation.

15. The Committee concluded that it would welcome information on efforts to implement Action 16 of the Maputo Action Plan.

16. The Committee concluded that it would welcome information from El Salvador on measurable improvements made in the well-being and the guarantee of rights of mine victims, challenges that remain and priorities for assistance.

## Nicaragua

17. The Committee welcomes the submission by Nicaragua of its Article 7 report for the calendar year 2016 containing updated information on its victim assistance activities. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following conclusions:

18. The Committee noted that Nicaragua reported that since 2010 it has declared being a “Mine Free Country” but recognises its responsibility to mine victims and for this reason includes mine victims in a national programme known as “Todos con Voz” which reinstates their right to have a voice and express themselves for the respect and fulfilment of their rights. The Committee concluded that it would welcome information on how these efforts address the actions of the Maputo Action Plan.

19. The Committee concluded that it would welcome information on efforts to implement Actions 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of the Maputo Action Plan.

20. The Committee concluded that it would welcome information from Nicaragua on measurable improvements made in the well-being and the guarantee of rights of mine victims, challenges that remain and priorities for assistance.

## Peru

21. The Committee welcomes the submission by Peru of its Article 7 report for the calendar year 2016 containing updated information on its victim assistance activities. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following conclusions:

22. The Committee concluded that Peru is acting upon its commitment under Action 14 of the Maputo Action Plan by reporting on the following enhancements that have been made or will be made to disability, health, social welfare, education, employment, development and poverty reduction plans, policies and legal frameworks needed to meet the needs of victims, and on budgets allocated for their implementation:

(a) Victims registered in the database of the Mine Action Centre (CONTRAMINAS) do not belong to the armed forces and do not have health insurance. These victims are associated with the Comprehensive Health Insurance (SISI), which offers free assistance in the health centres of the Ministry of Health;

(b) Victims receive preferential rates in services from the national rehabilitation institute;

(c) Article 27 of Law 29973, “General Law on Persons with Disabilities” indicated that the Ministry of Health guarantees and promotes the registry of persons with disabilities within a universal insurance system that guarantees health and rehabilitation benefits and quality support;

(d) Article 45 of Law number 29973 establishes that public entities are obliged to hire persons with disabilities in a proportion not less than 5% of the totality of their personnel, and private employers with more than 50 workers in a proportion not less than 3%;

(e) Article 61 of Law number 29973 establishes that persons with disabilities are beneficiaries of adequate social programs, health, food, clothing and housing and access to public services provided by the State, without the requirement of a limit of age;

(f) A Pension Programme is available with the objective of improving the quality of life of people with severe disabilities.

23. The Committee concluded that Peru was acting upon its commitment under Action 15 of the Maputo Action Plan by reporting on the following activities to increase availability of and accessibility to appropriate comprehensive rehabilitation services, economic inclusion opportunities and social protection measures for all victims, regardless of their gender and age:

The severe disability programme is being progressively implemented in the regions of Cajamarca, Ayacucho, Amazonas, Huancavelica, Tumbes, Apurimac, Loreto and Pasco.

24. The Committee welcomed the information provided by Peru on Action 15. The Committee concluded that it would welcome additional information of the disability programme and information on how the strategy addresses matters concerning the objectives of the Maputo Action Plan.

25. The Committee concluded that it would welcome information on efforts to implement Action 12, 13 and 16 of the Maputo Action Plan.

26. The Committee concluded that it would welcome information from Peru on measurable improvements made in the well-being and the guarantee of rights of victims, challenges that remain and priorities for assistance.

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