

**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**

12 October 2017

English
Original: English
English and Russian only

Sixteenth Meeting

Vienna, 18-21 December 2017

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

Tajikistan

1. The Committee welcomes the submission by Tajikistan of its Article 7 report for the calendar year 2016 containing updated information on its victim assistance (VA) activities. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following conclusions:
2. Tajikistan reported that despite efforts to prevent accidents there were still 6 accidents in 2016 including 2 boys and 4 men with one of these victims being killed.
3. The Committee concluded that Tajikistan 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) The National Mine Action Centre (TNMAC) is responsible for the coordination and monitoring of all mine action activities, including coordination of VA in Tajikistan as well as the database for mine victims which since 1992 has registered 864 mine victims with a total of 489 having been wounded and 375 having been killed with 30% of which were children;
 - (b) Training on the collection of data was carried out by UNDP and ICRC volunteers of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST). Tajikistan reported that RCST volunteers completed the collection of data and assessment on needs of mine victims projected in 2016 (disaggregated by sex and age) with nearly;
 - (c) More than 90% of the results of data collection effort have been entered into the TNMAC's data base.
4. The Committee concluded that it would welcome information on the data collection efforts results of these efforts.



5. The Committee concluded that Tajikistan 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 2016, by Decree of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (#455) the National Programme for the Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities 2017-2020 was approved;

(b) In 2016 the National Strategy for Development of the Republic of Tajikistan was adopted with the medium-term programme including the rights of persons with disabilities in accordance with the CRPD;

(c) In 2016, based on the assessment of needs, 192 families of survivors were supported through the programme of the ICRC “Microeconomic initiatives”;

(d) In November 2016, two grant agreements on microfinance were extended between the UNDP and two micro-credit funds “Rushdi Sughd” and “Fayzi Surkhob” until May 2017. Persons with disabilities living in three districts of Sogd oblast and three districts of Rasht Valley continue to enjoy preferential low-interest micro-loans with the aim of creating income and increase the opportunities for self-employment.

6. The Committee concluded that Tajikistan 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) In 2016 the VA programme continued its successful integration into government programmes and the UNDP programme, including in the rule of law and access to justice, and a joint project of the United Nations country team entitled “Building and Strengthening Alliances for Inclusive Policies and Communities for Persons with Disabilities in Tajikistan”;

(b) The UNDP provided technical support to the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in publications of the revised text of the CRPD in Tajik language and analysis of the legal, economic and functional consequences of accession to the CRPD as well as holding a round table on the accession of Tajikistan to the KPI;

(c) In the framework of the UNDP project “the rule of law and access to justice” legal advice is provided for free to persons with disabilities, including mine/ERW affected families;

(d) Measures to increase physical accessibility to landmine survivors were advanced including by training architects and designers in accessibility and adapting toilets and bathrooms in two pilot areas (the Dushanbe Circus and the Scientific Research Institute for medico-social assessment and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities).

7. The Committee welcomes the information provided by Tajikistan on this matter. In particular, the Committee concluded that Tajikistan had adopted a National Plan for the Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities 2017-2020. The Committee concluded that it would welcome a copy of the National Plan.

8. The Committee concluded that Tajikistan acting upon its commitment under Action 16 of the Maputo Action Plan by reporting on the following activities to enhance 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:

In 2016, mine and ERW affected persons with disabilities and their representative organisations, as members of the technical working group on VA, participated regularly in meetings and took decisions on matters relating to survivors and other persons with disabilities.

9. The Committee noted the following challenges faced by Tajikistan in the implementation of its victim assistance commitments:

(a) Unavailability of specialised medical centres and institutions, insufficient number of treatment and prophylactic establishments and the lack of qualified professionals working with persons with disabilities in rural areas;

(b) There remains a shortage of experienced professionals and of modern medical-diagnostic equipment as well as a delay in refresher courses and retraining;

(c) Advisory psychological services are available only in the capital and there is a lack of more intensive programs of psychotherapy;

(d) The number of people in need of prosthetic and orthopaedic products increases annually and the prosthetic and orthopaedic plant in Dushanbe is currently experiencing logistical difficulties and budgetary difficulties and does not have the ability of purchasing semi-finished products to meet the demands. Tajikistan also reported that the ICRC, since 1998 has a prosthetic and orthopaedic plan in Dushanbe and while it does provide support it does not have been able to fully meet the needs of all of those in need;

(e) The number of disabled persons waiting to receive different types of services (wheelchair, prosthetic and orthopaedic services and other) is approximately 700.

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

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