

STANDING COMMITTEE ON MINE CLEARANCE, MINE RISK EDUCATION AND MINE ACTION TECHNOLOGIES

Questionnaire for States Parties which are in the process of fulfilling Article 5 obligations



'ending the suffering caused
by anti-personnel mines'
ap mine ban convention

Background:

The *Nairobi Action Plan* refers to the Intersessional Work Programme as being a mechanism to be used to “monitor and actively promote the achievement of mine clearance goals and the identification of assistance needs.”¹ To maximize the opportunity presented by this mechanism in 2007, the Co-Chairs invite the 45 States Parties which are in the process of fulfilling Article 5 mine clearance obligations to prepare 6-8 minute updates to be provided at the 24-25 April meeting of the Standing Committee.²

It is the Co-Chairs’ hope that if most if not all of the 45 relevant States Parties provide information as is suggested, at the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties we will have a high degree of clarity with respect to steps that are being taken to meet expectations in the implementation of Article 5.

States Parties are reminded that, in accordance with Article 5, each State Party must:

- make “every effort to identify all areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced.”
- “as soon as possible” ensure that these mined areas “are perimeter marked, monitored and protected by fencing or other means, to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians, until all anti-personnel mines contained therein have been destroyed.”
- “destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible but not later than 10 years after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party.”

Questions:

1. *What is your State’s plan to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State’s jurisdiction or control as soon as possible?*
2. *What progress has been made in the implementation of your State’s national demining programme since the last time that an update was provided to the Standing Committee?*
3. *What work remains in order for your State to be in compliance with its obligation to have destroyed or ensured the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State’s jurisdiction or control?*
4. *What, if any, circumstances may impede the ability of your State to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State’s jurisdiction or control within ten years after entry into force of the Convention for your State? What is the prospective end-date for your State to have fully implemented Article 5?*
5. *What financial and technical means has your State dedicated to ensuring the fulfillment of your State’s Article 5 obligations?*

6. *If mine action in your country is still conducted or partially managed by foreign organizations and / or international organizations, what are the steps that your State has taken to develop its national capacity?*³
7. *What, if any, are your priorities for external assistance to support your State's fulfillment of its Article 5 obligations?*

¹ See *Ending the suffering caused by anti-personnel mines: Nairobi Action Plan 2005-2009*, Action #28.

² Given that many States Parties have already provided comprehensive background presentations on the situations in their countries, we would request that only new information be provided to the Standing Committee.

³ See *Achieving the aims of the Nairobi Action Plan: The Zagreb Progress Report*, paragraph 55(vi).