

Oslo declaration

(as adopted at the final plenary meeting on 29 November 2019)

1. We, the 164 States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, having met at the Fourth Review Conference in Oslo in November 2019, express our firm commitment to end the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines. We are proud of the tremendous progress we have made in protecting women, girls, boys and men from the threat and use of anti-personnel mines to date. We now commit to strengthening our efforts in order to achieve our common goals of a mine-free world and the full and equal inclusion of survivors and victims.
2. The norms established by the Convention are strong and we pledge to promote and defend them. We condemn the use of anti-personnel mines by any actor and will continue to spare no effort to universalise the Convention. We base our efforts on the respect for our obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law.
3. Since the entry into force of the Convention 20 years ago, we have destroyed more than 52 million stockpiled anti-personnel mines and 31 of us have completed our mine clearance obligations. We have reduced the risk of further humanitarian harm, we have released vast areas of land to communities for productive use, and we have made progress in ensuring victims and survivors lead dignified lives.
4. The successful implementation of the Convention has been underpinned by a unique spirit of cooperation and transparency, including strong partnerships with international organisations and civil society. We remain committed to continue fostering and strengthening these partnerships to achieve our common goals.
5. While we are proud of our joint achievements, many challenges remain. Contamination by anti-personnel mines, including those of an improvised nature, continues to pose a threat to human life and impede sustainable development.
6. We, the States Parties, are deeply concerned by the rise in the number of casualties caused by anti-personnel mines in recent years. The high number of injuries and deaths is a stark reminder of the continued relevance of the Convention. We will continue and strengthen our efforts to stigmatise and end the use of these weapons banned under the Convention, including new use of anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature, for which all the Convention's provisions apply. We will do our utmost to ensure full and timely implementation of all the Convention's provisions.
7. We are committed to meeting our Convention obligations and clearing all mined areas as soon as possible and will make every effort within our power to increase the speed of survey and clearance over the next five years, taking into consideration the need for innovation in clearance methodology.
8. We will destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines as soon as possible and in line with the deadlines set under the Convention; mindful that each anti-personnel mine destroyed potentially represents a life or limb saved.
9. We will intensify our efforts to prevent new casualties in affected areas. We will strive towards providing effective, relevant and targeted mine risk education and other risk reduction measures to all groups at risk to increase protection until the threat of anti-personnel mines can be removed.
10. We will take practical steps to take into account the different needs, vulnerabilities and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men as we implement the obligations of the Convention. We recognize that integrating a gender perspective and taking the diverse needs

and experiences of people in affected communities into account in all aspects of mine action programming and Convention implementation is important to effectively protect all people from anti-personnel mines. We will strive to remove barriers to full, equal and gender-balanced participation in mine action and in Convention meetings.

11. We recognise that a mine-free world will not immediately mean a world without mine victims and survivors. We are committed to ensuring the full, equal and effective participation of mine survivors and victims in society, based on respect for human rights, gender equality, diverse needs and non-discrimination.

12. We recognise the need to integrate assistance to victims and survivors into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks relating to the rights of persons with disabilities, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction.

13. We believe that strong national ownership and international cooperation and assistance are essential for the continued success of the Convention. We will do our utmost to strengthen partnerships and to sustain and, where necessary, increase resources, assistance, national and international funding. We will explore options for new and alternative sources of funding with a view to increasing the resources available to realise the Convention's aims.

14. We emphasize that the effective implementation of the Convention directly contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the commitment to leaving no one behind. We will continue to develop synergies between the Convention and the sustainable development agenda to ensure the greatest benefits possible for communities affected by anti-personnel mines.

15. Through the realisation of the Convention's aims, States Parties are saving lives, protecting people, assisting victims and enabling sustainable development in affected areas. We, the States Parties, commit to intensifying our efforts to complete our respective time-bound obligations with the urgency that the completion work requires. We aspire to meet these goals to the fullest extent possible by 2025. The Oslo Action Plan 2019-2024 will be an essential tool towards the fulfilment of this ambition.