

## Oslo Action Plan

### Draft

Submitted by the President of the Fourth Review Conference

### Introduction

Ensuring the full universalisation and implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention is vital for protecting people from the risk of landmines and putting an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines. While recognising the progress made since the entry into force of the Convention, States Parties are deeply concerned by the rise in the number of casualties since 2014 resulting from increased use of anti-personnel mines, including those of an improvised nature, as well as landmine contamination from the past that continues to cause harm.

The States Parties reaffirm their unwavering commitment to ending the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines for all people for all time by intensifying their efforts to complete their time-bound obligations as soon as possible, and to the fullest extent possible by 2025. In doing so, the States Parties recognise that a mine-free world does not mean a world without victims, and continue to be guided by their desire to ensure sustainable, integrated support for victims.

Mine action is broadly recognised as a humanitarian protection activity and a key enabler for development, humanitarian action, peace and security. It contributes significantly to preventing human suffering and to advancing achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the commitment to *leave no one behind*.

While the Convention is the legally binding framework that guides the States Parties' actions in pursuit of their common goal of a mine-free world, the Oslo Action Plan details the actions States Parties will take in the period 2020–2024 to support implementation of the Convention. The Oslo Action Plan builds on the Nairobi, Cartagena and Maputo Action Plans.

### I. Guiding principles for implementing the Convention

The States Parties are committed to meeting their obligations in the traditional spirit of cooperation and transparency and will continue to foster strong partnerships between States, international organisations and civil society.

Since the entry into force of the Convention, the States Parties have identified best practices and cross-cutting measures that are key to the successful implementation of the Convention's obligations, including:

- strong national ownership;
- evidence-based national strategies and work plans;

- integration and mainstreaming of gender and diversity considerations into mine action programming;
- efficient use of available resources, including through the use of the latest methodologies in line with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS);
- partnership and regular dialogue between stakeholders;
- multi-year national and international resource commitments;
- transparency and the exchange of high quality and accurate information;
- the effective functioning of the Convention's implementation machinery.

Recognising these best practices, the States Parties will take the following cross-cutting actions which will contribute to the effective implementation of all areas of the Oslo Action Plan:

**Action#1:** Demonstrate high levels of national ownership<sup>1</sup>, including by integrating Convention implementation activities into national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, humanitarian response plans and national strategies for the inclusion of persons with disabilities, as appropriate and by making financial and other commitments to implementation.

**Action#2:** Develop evidence-based, budgeted and time-bound national strategies and work plans to fulfil and implement Convention obligations as soon as possible.

**Action#3:** Ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered and inform planning and prioritisation in all areas of Convention implementation. Adopt an intersectional approach to gender-sensitive programming, which also considers other diversity factors such as age and disability. Strive to ensure the equal and active participation of women in mine action and in Convention meetings.

**Action#4:** Take into consideration the needs of local communities, survivors and victims and ensure their meaningful participation in all aspects of the Convention, including its meetings.

**Action#5:** Keep their national mine action standards up to date in accordance with the latest International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), and follow best practices to ensure efficient and effective implementation.

**Action#6:** Strengthen partnerships and coordination between the mine action community and the wider humanitarian, development and human rights community.

**Action#7:** States Parties in a position to do so will provide assistance to other States Parties in implementing their national strategies and work plans to fulfil their respective Convention obligations. They will enter into multi-year partnerships and where possible provide multi-year funding.

**Action#8:** Provide information annually on implementation of the Convention, including on cooperation and assistance efforts, by 30 April each year, in line with Article 7. Use the *Guide to*

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<sup>1</sup> The States Parties have defined national ownership as entailing the following: 'maintaining interest at a high level in fulfilling Convention obligations; empowering and providing relevant State entities with the human, financial and material capacity to carry out their obligations under the Convention; articulating the measures its State entities will undertake to implement relevant aspects of Convention in the most inclusive, efficient and expedient manner possible and plans to overcome any challenges that need to be addressed; and making a regular significant national financial commitment to the State's programmes to implement the Convention'.

*Reporting*<sup>2</sup> and report on progress and challenges in implementation during formal and informal meetings.

**Action#9:** Pay their assessed contributions to the Convention in line with Article 14 as early in the year as possible, to ensure that meetings can take place as planned. States Parties in a position to do so will provide resources for the effective operation of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU).

Indicators:

- the number of States Parties that report having included mine action, victim assistance or other related activities in national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, humanitarian response plans and national strategies for the inclusion of persons with disabilities, as appropriate;
- the number of mine-affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention;
- the number of States Parties that have evidence-based, budgeted and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place;
- the number of States Parties whose national work plans and strategies integrate gender and diversity considerations;
- the percentage of women in States Parties' delegations to Convention meetings;
- the number of States Parties that report having developed their national strategies and work plans in an inclusive manner;
- the number of States Parties that include a mine victim in their delegations to Convention meetings;
- the number of States Parties that have adopted national standards in line with the most recently updated IMAS;
- the number of States Parties that report partnerships with other States Parties in support of fulfilment of Convention obligations;
- the number of States Parties that provide financial or other support to affected States Parties;
- the number of States Parties that submit their Article 7 reports in line with the *Guide to Reporting*.
- the number of States Parties that report on progress and challenges during formal and informal meetings;
- the number of States Parties that pay their assessed contributions no later than three months before the Meeting of States Parties;
- the number of States Parties that make financial contributions to the ISU.

## II. Universalisation

The Convention has established a strong norm against any use, production, stockpiling and transfer of anti-personnel mines. While this norm is widely adhered to even by States not Party to the Convention, efforts to promote universalisation of the Convention and the strengthening of its norms must continue. In order to do so, the States Parties will take the following actions:

**Action#10:** Use all available avenues to promote States' ratification of/accession to the Convention by States not Party.

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<sup>2</sup> APLC/MSP.14/2015/WP.2 [https://www.apminebanconvention.org/fileadmin/APMBC/transparency/art7-reporting/Guide\\_to\\_reporting\\_EN.pdf](https://www.apminebanconvention.org/fileadmin/APMBC/transparency/art7-reporting/Guide_to_reporting_EN.pdf)

**Action#11:** Promote observance of the Convention's norms among States not yet Party to it, as well as among non-State parties to armed conflict.

**Action#12:** Condemn any violation of the Convention's norms by any actor, including by non-State parties to armed conflict.

Indicators:

- the number of new States Parties to the Convention;
- the number of States not Party that report putting in place moratoria on activities prohibited by the Convention;
- the number of States not Party participating in meetings of the Convention;
- the number of States not Party submitting voluntary Article 7 reports;
- the number of votes in favour of the annual UN General Assembly resolution on the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

### III. Stockpile destruction and retention of anti-personnel mines

Great strides have been made in the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines since the entry into force of the Convention. Potentially, each mine destroyed represents a life or limb saved. To ensure that all stockpiled anti-personnel mines are expeditiously destroyed in line with Article 4 of the Convention and that anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3 do not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for permitted purposes, States Parties with obligations under Article 4 and/or who retain anti-personnel mines in line with Article 3 will take the following actions:

**Action#13:** Develop a time-bound plan for the fulfilment of Article 4 as soon as possible following the entry into force of the Convention and regularly inform States Parties on progress made and remaining challenges in implementation.

**Action#14:** Should a State Party be unable to meet its deadline and find itself in a situation of non-compliance, it will present a time-bound plan for completion and urgently proceed with implementation as soon as possible in a transparent manner. It will regularly inform States Parties on progress made and remaining challenges.

**Action#15:** Any State Party that discovers previously unknown stockpiles after stockpile destruction deadlines have passed will inform the other States Parties as soon as possible and destroy these anti-personnel mines as a matter of urgent priority and no later than six months after the report of their discovery.

**Action#16:** Any State Party that has retained anti-personnel mines for reasons permitted under Article 3 of the Convention will regularly review the number of mines of this kind to ensure that they do not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for the permitted purposes, and will destroy all that exceed that number. The State Parties will report annually on the use of retained mines and on their destruction.

**Action#17:** Explore available alternatives to using live anti-personnel mines for training and research purposes.

Indicators:

- the number of States Parties that have completed their Article 4 obligations;
- the number of stockpiled anti-personnel mines destroyed, including previously unknown mines (if applicable);
- the number of States Parties implementing Article 4 that have time-bound plans in place for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines;
- the percentage of States Parties that discover previously unknown stockpiles that destroy these mines within six months;
- the number of retained anti-personnel mines used for permitted purposes;
- the percentage of the States Parties with anti-personnel mines retained for permitted purposes that report on the current and planned uses of these mines;
- the number of States Parties that replace live anti-personnel mines with non-lethal training mines for training and research purposes.

#### IV. Survey and clearance of mined areas

Considerable progress has been made in addressing mined areas, but the States Parties reiterate the need to increase the pace of survey and clearance activities to meet Article 5 obligations as soon as possible and to ensure significant progress towards their ambition of a mine-free world by 2025. Accelerated survey and clearance will contribute greatly to reducing human suffering and to protecting people from the risk posed by anti-personnel mines. New use of anti-personnel mines in recent conflicts, including those of an improvised nature, has exacerbated the remaining challenge of fulfilling Article 5. In their efforts to address remaining anti-personnel mine contamination safely and swiftly, States Parties with obligations under Article 5 will take the following actions:

**Action#18:** Identify the precise perimeter of mined areas, to the extent possible, and establish accurate, evidence-based baselines of contamination as soon as possible and no later than the Nineteenth Meeting of States Parties in 2021.

**Action#19:** Develop or update evidence-based and budgeted national work plans, including targets and projections of the number of areas and the amount of mined area to be addressed annually to achieve completion as soon as possible, to be presented at the Eighteenth Meeting of States Parties in 2020.

**Action#20:** Annually update their national work plans based on new evidence and report on adjusted milestones in their Article 7 reports, including information on the number of areas and amount of mined area to be addressed annually and on how priorities have been set.

**Action#21:** States Parties affected by new use of anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature will ensure that they address this threat within the framework of the Convention, including surveying and clearing in fulfilment of Article 5 and reporting in fulfilment of Article 7 obligations. All obligations under the Convention apply equally to these mines.

**Action#22:** Report in a manner consistent with IMAS by providing information on the remaining challenges, disaggregating by 'suspected hazardous areas' and 'confirmed hazardous areas' and their relative size, as well as by the type of contamination. Report on progress in land release to reflect the method used (cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey, or cleared).

**Action#23:** States Parties submitting requests for extension will ensure that these requests contain detailed, budgeted and multi-year work plans for the extension period and are developed through an

inclusive process, in line with the process established by the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties<sup>3</sup>. They will give due consideration to the recommendations set out in the paper *Reflections on the Article 5 Extensions Process*<sup>4</sup>.

**Action#24:** States Parties submitting requests for extension will also ensure that the request include detailed, budgeted and multi-year plans for mine risk reduction and education in affected communities.

**Action#25:** States Parties who complete their clearance obligations will continue the best practice of submitting voluntary declarations of completion and give due consideration to the paper *Reflections and understandings on the implementation and completion of Article 5 mine clearance obligations*<sup>5</sup> in that regard.

**Action#26:** Ensure that national strategies and completion plans make provisions for a sustainable national capacity to address previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas discovered following completion. They will address these areas in accordance with the commitments made at the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties as contained in the paper *Proposed rational response to States Parties discovering previously unknown mined areas after deadlines have passed*<sup>6</sup>.

Indicators:

- the number of States Parties that have fulfilled their obligations under Article 5;
- the number of States Parties that have established an accurate and evidence-based contamination baseline;
- the number of States Parties presenting work plans for the implementation of Article 5 at the Eighteenth Meeting of States Parties (and MSPs thereafter);
- the number of States Parties that have reported annual updates and adjusted milestones to their national work plans;
- the number of States Parties that address anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature within the framework of the Convention (for the purpose of this action and indicator: survey, clear and report);
- the number of States Parties reporting in accordance with IMAS and the *Guide to Reporting*;
- the number of States Parties providing survey and clearance data in Article 5 extension requests and Article 7 reports that disaggregates by type of contamination, in line with IMAS;
- the percentage of extension requests that are submitted in accordance with the process established by the States Parties and adopted recommendations;
- the percentage of extension requests that include appropriate plans for risk education activities;
- the number of States Parties that include provisions for handling previously unknown mined areas in their national strategies;
- the percentage of States Parties that have completed their Article 5 obligations and that submit voluntary declarations of completion;

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<sup>3</sup> APLC/MSP.7/2006/L.3

[https://www.apminebanconvention.org/fileadmin/APMBC/MSP/7MSP/7MSP\\_Art5\\_Presidents\\_Paper\\_7Sept06\\_Final.pdf](https://www.apminebanconvention.org/fileadmin/APMBC/MSP/7MSP/7MSP_Art5_Presidents_Paper_7Sept06_Final.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> APLC/MSP.12/2012/4

<https://www.apminebanconvention.org/fileadmin/APMBC/MSP/12MSP/12MSP-Reflections-Art5-Extensions-Process-Sep2012.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> APLC/MSP.17/2018/10

<https://www.apminebanconvention.org/fileadmin/APMBC/MSP/17MSP/Reflections-Art.5-en.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> APLC/MSP.12/2012/7 <https://www.apminebanconvention.org/fileadmin/APMBC/MSP/12MSP/12MSP-Previously-Unknown-Mined-Areas-CoChairs-Proposal.pdf>

- the number of States Parties that report having put in place sustainable national capacities to address the discovery of previously unknown mined areas;
- the number of States Parties that discover previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas, and that apply the decision of the Twelfth Meeting of States Parties.

## V. Mine risk education

Mine risk education can help people protect themselves against explosive risks. In situations where clearance is not yet possible, providing risk education programmes to affected communities and those at risk is one of the primary means of preventing injuries and fatal accidents. Given the increased number of casualties resulting from the use of anti-personnel mines, mainly of an improvised nature, and the large numbers of displaced people and refugees, more needs to be done to prevent new mine accidents. In order to do so, effective, relevant risk education that is sensitive to gender, age and diversity needs to be delivered. In order to address this situation, the States Parties implementing Article 5 and other States Parties hosting refugees, as appropriate, will take the following actions:

**Action#27:** Provide context-specific mine risk education programmes to all affected populations, including to refugees and displaced people. Ensure that such programmes are developed on the basis of a risk assessment, that they are tailored to the threat encountered by the population, and that they are sensitive to gender, age and diversity.

**Action#28:** Prioritise people most at risk by linking mine risk education messages directly to an analysis of available casualty and contamination data, an understanding of the affected population's behaviour and coping mechanisms, and, wherever possible, anticipated population movements.

**Action#29:** Integrate mine risk education activities with wider humanitarian, development and protection efforts, as well as with ongoing survey, clearance and victim assistance activities to reduce the risk to the affected population and decrease their need for risk-taking.

**Action#30:** Build capacity to be able to adjust the risk education approach to match changing needs and context and ensure that basic risk education is in place to prevent injuries and casualties in previously unknown mined areas.

**Action#31:** Include reporting on risk education, including the methodologies used and the results achieved in their Article 7 reports, disaggregated by gender and age.

### Indicators:

- the number of States Parties that have mine risk education programmes for all affected populations in place;
- the percentage of States Parties with internally displaced populations or refugees that provide mine risk education activities to these populations;
- the number of States Parties that report having included mine risk education activities in their humanitarian response and protection plans and/or development plans, as well as in their mine action plans, where relevant;
- the number of States Parties that report carrying out mine risk education activities and collecting and reporting data disaggregated by gender, age and other diversity factors;
- the number of States Parties that provide basic risk education to prevent injuries in previously unknown mined areas;
- the number of States Parties reporting on their mine risk education activities and results.

## VI. Victim assistance

States Parties remain committed to ensuring the full, equal and effective participation of mine victims in society, based on respect for human rights, gender equality and non-discrimination. The States Parties have recognised that, in order to be effective and sustainable, victim assistance should be integrated into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks relating to the rights of persons with disabilities, and to health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction. In order to realise this commitment, States Parties that have declared responsibility for a significant number of victims will take the following actions:

**Action#32:** Designate a relevant government entity to coordinate victim assistance and develop, monitor and report on the implementation of a national action plan containing specific, measurable, realistic and time-bound objectives and indicators.

**Action#33:** Carry out cross-governmental efforts to ensure that the needs and rights of mine victims are effectively addressed through national policy and legal frameworks relating to disability, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction.

**Action#34:** Establish or strengthen a national-level, centralised database that includes information on persons killed by mines and persons injured by mines and their needs and challenges, disaggregated by gender, age and disability, and make this information available to relevant stakeholders to ensure a comprehensive response to addressing the needs of mine survivors.

**Action#35:** Provide effective and efficient first aid to casualties in mine-affected communities through broader frameworks, and ensure the provision of appropriate pre-hospital care.

**Action#36:** Ensure a national referral mechanism to facilitate access to services, including by creating and disseminating a comprehensive directory of services.

**Action#37:** Increase the availability and accessibility of comprehensive rehabilitation support services, including through the provision of assistive devices, physiotherapy and occupational therapy to survivors, provided by recognised professionals, including in rural and remote areas.

**Action#38:** Take steps to expand services to ensure that all mine victims, including in rural and remote areas, have access to the highest standard of healthcare on an equal basis with other members of their society. Healthcare to mine victims should be provided in accordance with the applicable ethical principles.

**Action#39:** Provide psychological and psychosocial support to mine survivors, affected families and community members, including by creating peer-to-peer support programmes as an integral part of the national healthcare system.

**Action#40:** Carry out efforts to ensure the social and economic inclusion of mine victims through access to education, capacity-building, and the removal of physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers in a gender-sensitive and age-appropriate manner.

**Action#41:** Ensure that relevant national humanitarian response and preparedness plans provide for the safety and protection of mine survivors and other persons with disabilities in situations of risk,



including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters, in line with relevant international humanitarian and human rights law and international guidelines.

**Action#42:** Ensure the full inclusion and effective participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in all matters that affect them, including in rural and remote areas.

Indicators:

- the number of States Parties that have designated a government entity to coordinate victim assistance activities;
- the number of States Parties that have national action plans in place containing specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound objectives and related indicators;
- the number of States Parties that have laws and policies in place that include victim assistance provisions;
- the number of States Parties that report that they include mine victims in relevant national legal and policy frameworks;
- the number of States Parties that include victims of anti-personnel mines in disability data systems;
- the number of States Parties that disaggregate victim data by gender and age;
- the number of States Parties reporting on efforts to ensure an efficient and effective emergency response to mine accidents;
- the number of States Parties that have a country-wide referral mechanism;
- the number of States Parties that have a directory of services in place;
- the number of States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability of psychological and psychosocial support services;
- the number of States Parties that have established peer-to-peer services within their national healthcare system;
- the number of States Parties reporting on efforts to remove barriers to the social and economic inclusion of mine victims;
- the number of States Parties that report that they include victim organisations in victim assistance planning at the national and local level;
- the number of States Parties that integrate protection of mine survivors and other persons with disabilities in their humanitarian response and preparedness plans.

## VII. International cooperation and assistance

While reaffirming that each State Party is responsible for implementing the provisions of the Convention in areas under its jurisdiction or control, the States Parties stress that enhanced cooperation can support implementation of the Convention as soon as possible and thereby contribute to minimising the risk of harm to civilians. With a view to enhancing cooperation in order to meet the Convention's obligations and aspirations as soon as possible, States Parties will take the following actions:

**Action#43:** Do their utmost to commit the resources needed to meet Convention obligations as swiftly as possible and work to explore alternative sources of funding.

**Action#44:** States Parties seeking assistance will develop resource mobilisation plans and use all mechanisms within the Convention to disseminate information on challenges and requirements for

assistance, including by taking advantage of the individualised approach. They will share the outcomes of the individualised approach with the wider mine action community in order to maximise its impact.

**Action#45:** States Parties implementing their obligations under the Convention will strengthen national coordination including by ensuring regular dialogue with national and international stakeholders on progress, challenges and support for implementation. They will consider establishing a national mine action coordination platform for this purpose.

**Action#46:** States Parties in a position to do so will provide assistance to other States Parties in the implementation of their obligations under the Convention in line with this Action Plan. In doing so, they will support the implementation of clear, evidence-based national strategies and work plans that respond to the needs of affected communities and are built on sound gender, age and diversity analysis.

**Action#47:** States Parties in a position to provide assistance will enter into sustained partnerships with States Parties seeking assistance, articulating specific and time-bound objectives for cooperation.

**Action#48:** States Parties in a position to provide assistance will where possible, coordinate their support for the effective implementation of Convention obligations by affected States Parties.

**Action#49:** States Parties will continuously explore opportunities for cooperation, including international, regional, cooperation between affected States Parties or south-to-south and bilateral cooperation, with a view to sharing best practices and lessons learned. Cooperation of this kind may for example include making mutually supporting clearance commitments in border areas, sharing experience of integrating gender and diversity into programming, and exchanging equipment, material and scientific and technological information in order to promote the implementation of the Convention.

Indicators:

- the number of States Parties that provide assistance or support to mine action in affected States Parties;
- the steps that have been taken to explore alternative sources of financing;
- the number of States Parties requiring support that provide information on progress, challenges and requirements for assistance;
- the number of States Parties that have completed the individualised approach and that report having received follow-up and/or increased support to meet the needs identified;
- the number of States Parties that have an in-country mine-action coordination platform that meets on a regular basis, or that report that there is regular dialogue between stakeholders.
- the number of States Parties that provide multiannual support to affected States Parties.
- the number of States Parties in a position to provide assistance that report engaging in coordination that supports the effective implementation of the Convention;
- the number of States Parties that report sharing best practices and lessons learnt through international, regional, south-to-south and/or bilateral cooperation.

## **VIII. Measures to ensure compliance**

Stressing the importance of complying with all the Convention's provisions, the States Parties remain committed to ensuring compliance with the obligations of the Convention in order to reach its

objectives. Reaffirming their commitment to promote compliance with the Convention in a cooperative spirit, the States Parties will take the following actions:

**Action#50:** In the event of alleged or known non-compliance with the Convention's prohibitions, the State Party concerned will provide information on the situation to all States Parties in the most expeditious, comprehensive and transparent manner possible. It will work together with other States Parties in a spirit of cooperation to resolve the matter in an expeditious and effective manner, in accordance with Article 8.

**Action#51:** Any State Party implementing obligations under Article 4 or 5, or retaining mines in line with Article 3.1, that has not submitted an Article 7 report detailing progress in implementing these obligations for the past two years will provide information on the status of implementation to all States Parties in the most expeditious, comprehensive and transparent manner possible.

**Action#52:** Any State Party that has not yet fulfilled its obligations under Article 9 of the Convention will urgently take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited by the Convention that is undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control and report on the measures taken.

Indicators:

- the number of States Parties with alleged or known non-compliance in relation to Article 1;
- the percentage of States Parties in a situation of alleged non-compliance with Article 1 that provide updates to all States Parties;
- the percentage of States Parties that are implementing obligations under Article 4 or 5, or retaining mines in line with Article 3.1, that have submitted an Article 7 report detailing progress in implementing these obligations in the last two years;
- the percentage of States Parties that are implementing obligations under Article 4 or 5, or retaining mines in line with Article 3.1, and that have not submitted an Article 7 report detailing progress in implementing these obligations in the last two years, that provide updates to all States Parties;
- the number of States Parties that have established and reported appropriate legal, administrative and other measures in place to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited by the Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control.