

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

COMMITTEE ON ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION (Colombia (Chair), Sweden, Thailand and the United Kingdom)

Intersessional Meetings 18 – 20 June 2024

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 5 BY CYPRUS

I. Progress in implementation (OAP Action #22, #21, #20, #8)

1. Cyprus reported in 2012 that the sole circumstance that impeded its ability to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas reported to be under its jurisdiction or control – namely that it did not have effective control over the remaining areas in question – has not changed. Cyprus reported that in the period between entry into force of the Convention and its original 1 July 2013 deadline, Cyprus has addressed all 20 mined areas under its effective control.
2. The Committee recalled that Cyprus reported on its efforts to ensure the destruction of anti-personnel mines, including the submission of technical details of 28 mined areas to United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)¹ in 2015. The Committee further recalled that Cyprus reported that, according to information released by UNFICYP, three (3) mined areas required further technical survey. Cyprus further reported that according to the latest assessment from UNMAS, these minefields are free from explosive hazards.

II. Clarity regarding remaining challenge (OAP Action #18, 22)

3. The Committee observed that Cyprus had provided information on its remaining challenge (Action #18). Cyprus reported that, since July 2013, there are no anti-personnel mines on the territory under its effective control. Cyprus reported that the only known mined areas are located in the part of its territory outside of its effective control and that 21 mined areas are known not yet to be cleared, with one of these areas located within the buffer zone, in the vicinity of the village Deryneia.

III. Actions in accordance with plans in extension requests and decisions on them

4. The Committee recalled the ongoing importance, as noted in the decision of the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties on the request for extension submitted by Cyprus, of a State Party providing information on changes to the status of the control of mined areas when such a State Party has indicated that matters related to control affect the implementation of Article 5 during extension periods. The Committee concluded that Cyprus had acted upon its commitment.

IV. Mine risk education and reduction (OAP Actions #28-32)

5. Action #32 of the Oslo Action Plan (OAP) requests States to report on mine risk education and other risk reduction programmes in Article 7 reports, including the methodologies used, the challenges faced and the results achieved, with information disaggregated by gender and age. The Committee observed that Cyprus had not reported on the challenges faced and the results achieved, with

¹ United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.

information disaggregated by gender and age, and would welcome further information in this regard.

6. The OAP requests States to integrate mine risk education activities with wider humanitarian, development, protection and education 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. The Committee observed that Cyprus had not provided updated information in this regard and would welcome further information.
7. The OAP requests States to provide context-specific mine risk education and reduction programmes to all affected populations and groups at risk. Ensure that such programmes are developed on the basis of a needs assessment, that they are tailored to the threat encountered by the population, and that they are sensitive to gender, age, disability and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account. The Committee observed that Cyprus had not provided updated information in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #29)
8. The OAP requests States to prioritise people most at risk by linking mine risk education and reduction programmes and messages directly to an analysis of available casualty and contamination data, an understanding of the affected population's behaviour, risk pattern and coping mechanisms, and, wherever possible, anticipated population movements. The Committee observed that Cyprus had not provided updated information in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #30).
9. The OAP requests States to build national capacity to deliver mine risk education and reduction programmes with the ability to adapt to changing needs and contexts, including the delivery of such programmes to affected communities in the case that previously unknown mined areas are discovered. The Committee observed that Cyprus had not provided updated information in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #31)

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker

Article 5 Implementation

Cyprus

CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS

Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 28 July)
#1	# States Parties that report, having included Convention implementation activities in national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, humanitarian response plans and national strategies for the inclusion of persons with disabilities, where appropriate						
	% mine-affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention						
#2	% mine-affected States Parties that report having evidence-based, costed and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place						
#3	% affected States Parties whose national work plans and strategies integrate gender and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account						
	# women in States Parties' delegations attending Convention meetings						
#5	% States Parties that have updated their national standards to address new challenges and ensure the employment of best practices, taking into consideration the latest IMAS						
#6	# States Parties that report having included mine action related activities within their humanitarian response plans, peacebuilding, development or human rights plans, where relevant						
#8	# States Parties that prepare their Article 7 reports using the Guide to Reporting						
	# States Parties that report on progress and challenges during formal and informal meetings						

#9	% States Parties that report having a sustainable national information management system in place						
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SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OF MINED AREAS							
Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 28 July)
#18	% affected States Parties that have established an accurate and evidence-based contamination baseline no later than the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties in 2021 (and by each year thereafter if not all affected States Parties have done so by 19MSP)						
	% affected States Parties who report having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men						
#19	% affected States Parties presenting work plans for the implementation of Article 5 by the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties (and MSPs thereafter and by each year thereafter if not all affected States Parties have done so by 18MSP)						
#20	# affected States Parties that have reported annual updates and adjusted milestones to their national work plans in their 30 April transparency reports						
	# States Parties that have fulfilled their obligations under Article 5						
#21	# States Parties that apply the provisions of the Convention to anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature (for the purpose of this indicator: survey, clear and report)						
#22	% of affected States Parties reporting on the remaining challenge and progress made in accordance with IMAS						
	% of affected States Parties providing survey and clearance data in Article 5 extension requests and Article 7 reports that disaggregates by type of contamination						
#23	% extension requests that include detailed, costed and multi-year work plans for the extension period						
	% extension requests that are submitted in accordance with the process established by the States Parties						

#24	% extension requests that include appropriate plans for risk education and reduction activities						
#25	% States Parties that have completed their Article 5 obligations and that submit voluntary declarations of completion						
#26	% affected States Parties that include provisions for addressing previously unknown mined areas in their national strategies and/or completion plans						
	% affected States Parties that report having put in place sustainable national capacities to address the discovery of previously unknown mined areas						
	% States Parties that discover previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas, that apply the decision of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties						
#27	# States Parties that report promoting research, application and sharing of innovative technological means						
MINE RISK EDUCATION AND REDUCTION							
Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 28 July)
#28	% affected States Parties that report having included mine risk education and reduction programmes in their humanitarian response and protection plans and/or development plans, as well as in their mine action plans, where relevant						The Committee would welcome information on Cyprus' efforts to integrate mine risk education activities with wider humanitarian, development, protection and education 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.
#29	% affected States Parties that report having mine risk education and reduction programmes for all affected populations in place						The Committee would welcome information on Cyprus' efforts to provide context-specific mine risk education and reduction programmes to all affected populations and groups at risk.
	% States Parties that report carrying out mine risk education and reduction activities that collect, analyse and report data disaggregated by gender, age, disability and other diverse needs						The Committee would welcome information on Cyprus' efforts to ensure that such programmes are developed on the basis of a needs assessment, that they are tailored to the threat encountered by the population, and that they are sensitive to gender, age, disability and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account.
#30	# States Parties that report having established an evidence-based priority-setting mechanism for mine risk education and reduction programmes						The Committee would welcome information on Cyprus' efforts to prioritise people most at risk by linking mine risk education and reduction programmes and messages directly to an analysis of available casualty

								and contamination data, an understanding of the affected population's behaviour, risk pattern and coping mechanisms, and, wherever possible, anticipated population movements.
#31	# States Parties that provide risk education and reduction programmes to affected communities in the case that previously unknown mined areas are discovered							The Committee would welcome information on Cyprus' efforts to build national capacity to deliver mine risk education and reduction programmes with the ability to adapt to changing needs and contexts, including the delivery of such programmes to affected communities in the case that previously unknown mined areas are discovered.
#32	# States Parties reporting on their mine risk education and other risk reduction programmes and results							The Committee would welcome information on Cyprus' efforts to report on their mine risk education and other risk reduction programmes and results.