

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 ETHIOPIA

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

1. Ethiopia reported that in 2023 that the HALO Trust was operating in Siti, Fafan, Jarar woredas (districts) of Somali region, and two national non-government organisations, Ethio-Professionals' Security Solutions (EPSS) and Rehabilitation and Development Organization (RADO) continued to operate in Afar and Tigray.
2. Ethiopia also reported that four international non-government organisations; Danish Church Aid, Danish Refugee Council, Humanity and Inclusion, and BBC Media Action submitted applications for organisational accreditation that would allow approved organisations to conduct clearance and explosive ordnance disposal activities in the country. Ethiopia further reported that the Mines Advisory Group had started the registration process.
3. The Oslo Action Plan (OAP) requests States to provide quality information on progress and challenges in implementing the Convention, employing the guide to reporting. The Committee observed that while Ethiopia reported by employing the guide to reporting, it had not included in quality information on progress and challenges in implementing the Convention and would welcome further information in this regard. (Action #8)
4. The OAP requests States to report in a manner consistent with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) by providing information on progress in accordance with the land release methodology employed, (i.e. cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey, or cleared through clearance. The Committee observed that Ethiopia had not provided information on its efforts in this regard and would welcome additional information in this regard. (Action #22)

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

5. The Committee observed that Ethiopia reported some clarity¹ on its remaining challenge (Action #18). Ethiopia reported a total of 152 hazardous areas measuring 726,008,475 square metres remaining to be addressed, including 29 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) measuring 3,519,538 square metres and 123 suspect hazardous areas (SHAs) measuring 722,548,937 square metres. (Action #22).
6. The OAP requests States that have not yet done so to identify the precise perimeter of mined areas, to the extent possible, and establish evidence based, accurate baselines of contamination based on information collected from all relevant sources. The Committee observed that while Ethiopia

¹“Some clarity” has been used when a State Party has provided a summary table listing some information related to the number of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in each region / province / district within the State.

reported that it is currently preparing plans to conduct a nationwide survey aimed at assessing the extent and severity of contamination across the country, including the Northern region. The Committee observed that Ethiopia was still in the process of identifying the precise perimeter of mined areas and would welcome continued updated information from Ethiopia on the proposed timeline and process of approval of the survey. (Action #18)

7. Action #18 of the OAP requests States to report on having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men. The Committee observed that Ethiopia had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #18)

III. National plans for clearance and survey (OAP Actions #1, #2, #3, #6, #19, #20, #26)

8. The Committee recalled that Ethiopia's 2019 request for extension contained a national evidence based and costed plan for clearance and survey. (Action #2, #19)

9. The OAP requests States to annually update their national work plans based on new evidence and report on adjusted milestones in their Article 7 reports by 30 April each year, including information on the number of areas and amount of mined area to be addressed annually and on how priorities have been established. The Committee observed that while Ethiopia reported that it with support from donors, the Ethiopian Mine Action Office (EMAO) was currently reorganising itself to strengthen its structure and capacity, including the updating national mine action standards, and ensuring that operational procedures, prioritisation strategies, and quality management systems are adequately established. The Committee observed that Ethiopia had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #20)

10. The OAP requests States to report making national financial commitments to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention. The Committee observed that Ethiopia had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #1)

11. Ethiopia reported that the Mine Action Area of Responsibility in Ethiopia ensures an effective, sustainable, and people-centred mine action response at national level and is implementing a mine action program involving different national and international partners, including activities; for the coordination of needs assessments and operations, sharing analyses, establishing links with key stakeholders, and jointly advocate for increased access to resources. (Action #1, Action #6)

12. The OAP requests States to ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered and inform all areas of Convention implementation and mine action programmes, in order to deliver an inclusive approach. Strive to remove barriers to full, equal and gender balanced participation in mine action and in Convention meetings. The Committee observed that Ethiopia had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #3).

13. The OAP requests States to ensure that national strategies and work plans for completion make provisions for a sustainable national capacity to address previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas discovered following completion. In addressing these areas, they will consider 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». The Committee observed that Ethiopia had not provided updated

information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #26)

IV. Efficient and expedient implementation (OAP Actions #5, #9, #27)

14. Ethiopia reported that the Ethiopian Mine Action Office (EMAO) was currently updating national mine action standards (NMAS). The Committee welcomes the update from Ethiopia and would welcome further information on the proposed timeline process of approval of the NMAS. (Action #5)
15. The OAP requests States to establish and maintain a national information management system containing accurate and up-to-date data at the national level on the status of implementation. The Committee observed that Ethiopia had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #9)
16. Ethiopia reported on its efforts to take appropriate steps to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of survey and clearance, including by promoting the research, application and sharing of innovative technological means to this effect, including that with support from donors, the Ethiopian Mine Action Office (EMAO) is currently reorganising itself to strengthen its structure and capacity to effectively address this task. Ethiopia also reported its efforts to update national mine action standards, and ensuring that operational procedures, prioritization strategies, and quality management systems are adequately established. (Action #27)

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

13. In considering Ethiopia's 2019 extension request, the Fourth Review Conference of the States Parties (4RCP) requested Ethiopia to submit updated information on several matters. The Committee would welcome updated information from Ethiopia on the following decisions of the 4RC:
 - Progress made relative to the commitments contained in Ethiopia's annual survey and clearance plan during the extension period, disaggregated by area cancelled, reduced and cleared, and their impact on annual targets as given in Ethiopia's work plan;
 - Updated information on the full range of practical methods used to release land, including the use of mechanical assets and animal detection systems. Together with relevant information on the training of national mine personnel, operators in new methodologies and quality control;
 - Progress on the agreement of Ethiopia and Eritrea regarding plans to address antipersonnel contamination in border areas, including national institutions involved in the effort, process of the work, and annual milestones;
 - Updates regarding resource mobilization efforts and external financing received, and resources made available by the government of Ethiopia to support implementation efforts;
 - Updates regarding efforts to collaborate with international and non-governmental organisations to support implementation of the plan within the extension request;
 - Efforts to mitigate the impact of anti-personnel mines to the population through mine risk education and reduction efforts as well as information on injuries and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, ensuring that these activities are age-appropriate and gender-sensitive taking into account the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities.

14. The Committee recalled that in granting Ethiopia's request the 4RC noted that the Convention would benefit from Ethiopia submitting to the States Parties an updated detailed work plan containing annual milestones by 30 April 2021 and 30 April 2023 covering the remaining period covered by the extension. The Committee observed that Ethiopia had not provided an updated work plan as requested by the States Parties.

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

15. Ethiopia reported on its efforts to implement mine risk education in Tigray, Afar, Amhara, and Somali region through face-to-face risk education, remote sessions, radio and television, with beneficiaries disaggregated by gender and age. (Action #32)

16. 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 Ethiopia had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #28)

17. 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 Ethiopia had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #29)

18. 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 Ethiopia had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #30)

19. 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 Ethiopia had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #31)

VII. Challenges in implementation (OAP Action #8)

20. The Committee observed that Ethiopia had not provided information on the challenges in implementing the Convention and would encourage Ethiopia to provide further information on in this regard. (Action #8)

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker
Article 5 Implementation
Ethiopia
CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS

Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 9 August)
#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						The Committee would welcome additional information from Ethiopia on its efforts to demonstrate high levels of national ownership, including by making financial and other commitments to implementation.
#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						The Committee would welcome additional information from Ethiopia on its efforts ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered and inform all areas of Convention implementation and mine action programmes.
	# 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							The Committee would welcome additional information from Ethiopia on its efforts to establish and maintain a national information management system containing accurate and up-to-date data at the national level on the status of implementation.

SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OF MINED AREAS								
Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 9 August)	
#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							The Committee would welcome additional information from Ethiopia on its efforts to establish its 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							The Committee would welcome additional information from Ethiopia on its efforts to annually update their national work plans based on new evidence and report on adjusted

								milestones in their Article 7 reports by 30 April each year, including information on the number of areas and amount of mined area to be addressed annually and on how priorities have been established.
	# 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							
#22	% 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							
#23	% 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							The Committee would welcome additional information from Ethiopia on its efforts to ensure that national strategies and work plans for completion make provisions for a sustainable national capacity to address previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas discovered following completion.
#26	% affected States Parties that report having put in place sustainable national capacities to address the discovery of previously unknown mined areas							
#26	% 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 9 August)	
#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 additional information from Ethiopia on its 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 additional information from Ethiopia on its 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 additional information from Ethiopia on its 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 additional information from Ethiopia on its 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 additional information from Ethiopia on its 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					

