

## 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 MALI

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

1. The Committee recalled that Mali, in its initial transparency report submitted on 17 May 2001, reported that there are no mined areas under its jurisdiction or control.
2. The Committee observed that Mali, in its transparency report submitted on 27 May 2024 reported that in the context of Mali, terrorism is rampant in North, South, West and Central regions, and that while Mali does not have information on the number of mined areas and their size, nor the exact number of mines present, it is aware that explosive devices are located in the areas of Menaka, Bankass, Mopti, Bandiagara, Koro, Nara, and Sikasso.
3. The Committee welcomed Mali acting in accordance with the commitments made at the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties as contained in the paper “Proposed rationale response to States Parties discovering previously unknown mined areas after deadlines have passed,” to immediately inform all States Parties of such a discovery and shall undertake to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in the mined area as soon as possible.”
4. Mali reported that it has several military deminers and explosive ordnance disposal teams who are constantly called upon for the removal and destruction of improvised explosive devices, mines and explosive remnants of war in certain areas of the country.
5. The Committee observed that Mali reported to be affected by anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature and welcomes Mali’s efforts to apply all provisions and obligations under the Convention to such contamination, including, to the extent possible, the disaggregation of anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature from other types of improvised explosive devices. (Action #21)
6. The Committee welcomes the updated information from Mali and encourages Mali to provide further information on progress and challenges in implementing the Convention, employing the guide and also encourages Mali to report progress in implementation in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards, in accordance with the land release methodology employed (i.e. cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey, or cleared through clearance). (Action #8, Action #22)
7. The Committee recalled the importance for Mali, in the case that they will be unable to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in the mined area before the next Meeting of the States Parties or Review Conference (whichever falls earlier), should submit a request for an extended deadline, which should be as short as possible and no more than ten years, either to that Meeting or Review Conference if the timing of the discovery permits or to the next Meeting of the States Parties or Review Conference if the timing of the discovery does not permit, in accordance

with the obligations enshrined in Article 5 and the process for submission of requests for extensions agreed to at the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties.

8. The Committee also recalled the importance of States Parties concerned by this decision to continue to fulfil their reporting obligations under Article 7 of the Convention, including the obligation to report on the location of all mined areas that contain or are suspected to contain anti-personnel mines under their jurisdiction or control and on the status of programs for their destruction, and that each State Party should also continue to provide updates relative to these and other commitments at meetings of the Standing Committees, Meetings of the States Parties and Review Conferences.

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

9. The Committee encourages Mali to provide additional information on its efforts 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, including through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men. (Action #18)
10. The Oslo Plan (OAP) requests States to report on having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men. The Committee encourages Mali to provide updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts to establish its baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men. (Action #18)
11. The Committee noted the importance of Mali reporting 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. (Action #22)

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

12. The Committee welcomed Mali reporting that a national Mine Action Authority will be established in the future and noted the importance of Mali ensuring 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». (Action #2, Action #19)
13. The OAP requests States to report making national financial commitments to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention. The Committee observed that Mali 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)
14. The OAP requests States to demonstrate high levels of national ownership, including by integrating Convention implementation activities into national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, humanitarian response plans. The Committee observed that Mali had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #1)
15. The OAP requests States to strengthen partnerships and integrate responses between the mine action community and relevant humanitarian, peacebuilding, development and human rights communities, bearing in mind the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Committee

observed that Mali had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #6)

16.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. The Committee observed that Mali had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #3).

17.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. The Committee observed that Mali had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #26)

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

18.The OAP requests States to keep national mine action standards up to date in accordance with the latest International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), adapt them to new challenges and employ best practices to ensure efficient and effective implementation. The Committee observed that the State of Palestine had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #5)

19.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 design and implementation of information management systems will ensure that they are nationally owned, sustainable and take into account the need for data that can be accessed, managed and analysed post-completion. The Committee observed that the State of Palestine had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #9)

20.The OAP requests States 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. The Committee observed that the State of Palestine had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #27)

#### **V. Mine risk education and reduction (OAP Actions #18-32)**

21.The Committee observed that Mali had reported on its efforts to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians, and its efforts to raise awareness among vulnerable communities, including the methodologies used, the challenges faced and the results achieved, including 100,329 persons of a targeted population of 822,948 received mine risk education sessions. The Committee encourages Mali to provide additional information on the result of its mine risk education activities disaggregated by gender and age. (Action #32)

22.In this regard, Mali reported on its efforts to strengthen the capacities of populations to identify and recognise the indicators of hazardous areas, explosive devices, their effects, risk behaviours, as well as safe behaviours to adopt when faced with explosive devices and what to do in case of an incident involving an explosive device.

23. Mali reported on its efforts to integrate mine risk education into other security sectors, including the training of teachers, community health workers to increase the beneficiaries of mine risk education programmes. (Action #28).
24. 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 Mali had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #29)
25. 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 Mali had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #30)
26. Mali also reported that mine risk education and reduction is implemented by non-governmental organisations, through trainings at the community level and mass awareness campaigns. (Action #31)

#### **Challenges in implementation (Action #8)**

27. The Committee observed that Mali had provided quality information on challenges in implementation, including, difficult access, lack of telephone and internet networks in remote areas, destruction of telecommunications infrastructure by armed groups, low literacy levels in certain targeted areas, significant numbers of local languages and different dialects. Mali also reported challenges in terms of training explosive ordnance disposal teams, and the need for equipment to better respond to the continually evolving threats present in improvised explosive devices and explosive remnants of war. Mali further reported on the presence of different humanitarian actors and the challenge to coordinate actors. (Action #8)

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker

Article 5 Implementation

Mali

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						The Committee would welcome information on Mali's efforts to demonstrate high levels of national ownership, including by integrating Convention implementation activities into national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, humanitarian response plans.
	% mine-affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention						The Committee would welcome information on Mali's efforts to 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						The Committee would welcome information on Mali's efforts to 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 information on Mali's efforts 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.
	# 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						Committee would welcome information on Mali's efforts to 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						The Committee would welcome information on Mali's efforts to strengthen partnerships and integrate responses between the mine action community and relevant humanitarian, peacebuilding, development and human rights communities, bearing in mind the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
#8	# States Parties that prepare their Article 7 reports using the Guide to Reporting						The Committee would welcome information on Mali's efforts to provide quality information on progress and challenges in implementing the Convention, employing 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 information on Mali's 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.
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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)							The Committee would welcome information on Mali's efforts to establish to the extent possible, and establish evidence based, accurate baselines of contamination based on information collected from all relevant sources, no later than by the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties in 2021.
	% affected States Parties who report having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men							The Committee would welcome information on Mali's efforts on 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)							The Committee would welcome information on Mali's efforts to present 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 information on Mali's efforts to report 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							The Committee would welcome further information on Mali's efforts to report 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						The Committee would welcome further information on Mali's efforts to 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						The Committee would welcome further information on Mali's efforts to 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 Mali's 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 Mali's 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 Mali's 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 Mali's 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 Mali's 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						



