

## 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 MAURITANIA

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

1. Mauritania reported that in 2023 it identified 6 mined areas measuring 6,846,894 square metres.
2. The Committee observed that the information provided by Mauritania on progress in implementation allowed for some comparability with that provided in its 2021 extension request.
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 noted the importance of Mauritania reporting by employing the guide to reporting. (Action #8)
4. The Committee observed that Mauritania had provided disaggregated information on progress in accordance with land release methodology employed. (Action #22)

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

5. The Committee observed that Mauritania had provided some clarity<sup>1</sup> on its remaining challenge (Action #18). Mauritania reported a remaining challenge of 22 known or suspected mined areas measuring 22,369,724 square metres. (Action #22)
6. The OAP requests States that have not yet done so will 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, no later than by the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties in 2021. The Committee observed that Mauritania was still in the process of identifying the precise perimeter of mined areas and would welcome updated information from Mauritania on these efforts. (Action #18)
7. The OAP requests States to report on having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men. The Committee observed that Mauritania 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, #19, #20, #26)

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<sup>1</sup> "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.

8. The Committee observed that Mauritania in its 2021 extension request had included a plan to survey and more accurately determine the presence of mined areas under its jurisdiction and control. The Committee would welcome further information from Mauritania in this regard. (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 Mauritania 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 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 Mauritania 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. The OAP requests States to Demonstrate high levels of national ownership, including by making financial and other commitments to implementation. The Committee observed that Mauritania 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)
12. 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 Mauritania had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation of Action #6 and would welcome further information in this regard. (Action #6)
13. 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 Mauritania had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation of Action #3 and would welcome further information in this regard (Action #3).
14. 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 Mauritania 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)**

15. 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 Mauritania had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation in this regard and would welcome further information. (Action #5)
16. Mauritania reported on its efforts to establish and maintain an accurate and up-to-date information management system, including training of staff in IMSMA - Core. (Action #9)

17. Mauritania reported on its efforts 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 implementation of information management system. (Action #27)

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

18. The 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 while Mauritania reported on methodologies used. The Committee observed that Mauritania had not reported on the challenges faced and the results achieved, with information disaggregated by gender and age and would welcome further information in this regard. (Action #32)

19. 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 while Mauritania had provided information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts to integrate mine risk education through organised theme meetings with teachers. The Committee observed that Mauritania had not provided updates on its efforts to integrate MRE/R into wider humanitarian, development, protection and education efforts, and would welcome further information in this regard. (Action #28)

20. 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 while Mauritania had provided information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts to provide risk education to all affected populations and groups at risk. The Committee observed that Mauritania had not provided information 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 and would welcome further information in this regard. (Action #29)

21. 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 while Mauritania had provided information on its efforts to prioritise people most at risk, including shepherds, nomads, fisher, and breeders. The Committee observed that Mauritania had not provided information on its efforts to link 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 and would welcome further information in this regard. (Action #30)

22. 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 while Mauritania had provided information on its efforts to build national capacity to deliver mine risk education and reduction programmes. The Committee observed that Mauritania had not provided updated information on its efforts to ensure that

national capacity has 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 in its Article 7 Report and would welcome further information in this regard. (Action #31)

#### **VII. Challenges in implementation (OAP Action #8)**

23. The Committee observed that Mauritania had not provided information on challenges in implementing the Convention and would welcome further information in this regard. (Action #8)

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker

Article 5 Implementation

Mauritania

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						The Committee would welcome information on Mauritania'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 Mauritania'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						
#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 Mauritania'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						The Committee would welcome information on Mauritania's efforts to update 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 Mauritania'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 Mauritania'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						

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)						The Committee would welcome information on Mauritania'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 Mauritania'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)						
#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 Mauritania's efforts to establish 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						
	% 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 information on Mauritania'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						
<b>MINE RISK EDUCATION AND REDUCTION</b>							
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 information on Mauritania'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 Mauritania'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 Mauritania's efforts to develop mine risk education programmes 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 Mauritania's efforts to link 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 Mauritania's efforts to ensure that national capacity has 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 Mauritania's efforts to report on the challenges faced and the results achieved, with information disaggregated by gender and age and would welcome further information in this regard.