

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATION

EL SALVADOR

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION – VICTIM ASSISTANCE

COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE

(Burkina Faso, the Netherlands, Slovenia (Chair) and Zambia)

Intersessional Meetings

18-20 June 2024

1. The Committee welcomes the submission by El Salvador of updated information on its victim assistance activities.
2. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following preliminary observations.

Mine casualties

3. El Salvador reported that since 2008, no new casualty has been recorded. The Committee recalls that in 2019 El Salvador reported a total of 4,814 conflict-related casualties registered, including 378 women and 4,536 men, of which 708 persons died.
4. The Committee would welcome an update on casualties and further disaggregated information on age, gender, and disability all mine victims registered, including on indirect victims.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACTIONS:

Strengthen partnerships and integrate victim assistance into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks and designation of a government entity to oversee the integration (Action #33 and Actions #1 and #6)

5. El Salvador reported that the Institute for Administration of Veterans and Ex-Combatants Benefits (INABVE in Spanish) is the government entity responsible for assistance of armed conflicts including mine victims.
6. El Salvador reported that inter-ministerial and inter-agency coordination is conducted by the National Council for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (CONAIPD in Spanish).

Develop and implement measurable, realistic, and time-bound national action plan (Action#33 and also Action #2)

7. El Salvador reported that INABVE and other respective institutions involved in victim assistance develop and implement their own annual operational plans, in accordance with their relevant legal frameworks and their mandates.

Removing barriers including physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers to access such services (Action #33)

8. El Salvador reported that the Law on the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities recognises, protects, and guarantees the exercise and full enjoyment of the rights of persons with disabilities on equal basis with others, was enacted in 2020.

9. The Committee would welcome information on whether the new Ia includes mine victims in the framework of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

10. El Salvador reported that CONAIPD developed and launched in 2014 a technical standard on accessibility of physical environment and that the Law on the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities includes provisions on accessibility.

Applying multi-sectoral efforts to ensure that the needs and rights of mine victims are effectively addressed in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Action #34)

11. El Salvador reported that relevant ministries are aware of the victim assistance commitments under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and through the implementation of the Legislative Decree 631, relevant ministries contribute to victim assistance efforts.

12. El Salvador reported that INABVE coordination its activities with Ministry of Defense (MOD), Ministry of Health (MOH), Ministry of Interior (MOI), Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MOLSW) and others.

13. The Committee would welcome further information on alignment of victim assistance efforts with provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

Establish or strengthen of a centralised database / national information management system (Action #35 and Action #9)

14. El Salvador reported that data on all victims were collected since the end of civil war and that data were maintained (paper based) for all victims that have been assisted by INABVE and that since 2011 information on pensions granted to mine victims have been preserved by INABVE through a computer-based data base called SIABES, which also serves as a follow up tool to track assistance provided to victims, including social and economic support.

15. El Salvador reported that in accordance with national law INABVE records data on individual victims have been collected including by support of a panel of medical specialists called the Disability Evaluation Commission.

Access to first aid and ongoing emergency medical care (Action #36)

16. El Salvador reported that healthcare services is provided by the MOH through its integrated and comprehensive healthcare services network. El Salvador reported that majority of healthcare services are provided by hospitals in the capital and major cities, and that transportation is provided to assist people's access to the hospitals.

Developing national referral mechanism (Action #37)

17. El Salvador reported that information on available services is periodically published online and that information on services provided by INABVE and rehabilitation programme are shared with relevant institutions.

18. El Salvador reported that the MOH has referral system in place ensuring victims receive services all three healthcare levels.

Access to rehabilitation services including physiotherapy, assistive devices, and occupational therapy (Action #38)

19. El Salvador reported on availability of rehabilitation services including physiotherapy, orthoses, prosthetics, and occupational therapy, provided by INABVE, MOH as well as by the MOD.

Access to psychological and psychosocial services including peer-to-peer support (Action #38)

20. El Salvador reported psychological support is provided to mine victims through mental health department of INABVE as well as through the MOH, in accordance with National Mental Health Law of 2017. El Salvador reported that psychological support provided by INABVE includes the provision of peer-to-peer support.

Access to social and economic inclusion services, including in rural and remote areas (Action #39)

21. El Salvador reported that armed conflict victims, including mine victims are provided lifetime pensions as well as various kinds of socio-economic support, subsidised education, and scholarships to assist them with their social and economic inclusion.

22. The Committee would welcome information on progress in socio-economic inclusion of mine victims in 2023.

Taking measure for safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risks and emergencies (Action #40)

23. The Committee would welcome information on national measures in place or plans to ensure the safety and protection of mine victims in situations of risks and emergencies.

Strengthening inclusion and participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in all matters that affect them (Action #41 and also Action #4)

24. El Salvador reported that mine victims and their representative associations are included in relevant policies and programmes and that the law which created INABVE was developed in consultation with representatives of victims. El Salvador reported that the board of INABVE includes members from different associations of persons with disabilities.

CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS:

Demonstrate high levels of national ownership, including [...] by making financial and other commitments to implementation (Action #1)

25. El Salvador reported that the annual budget of the is INABVE is \$78 million which covers victim assistance activities including physical rehabilitation and socio-economic inclusion.

Ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys, and men are considered (Action #3)

26. The Committee would welcome information on progress made or measures in place to ensure gender equality and that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys, and men are taken into consideration, including the mine victims.

Challenges in implementation of Victim Assistance Commitments (Action #8)

27. The Committee would welcome information on challenges encountered in victim assistance in El Salvador and information on how the international community including the Committee on Victim Assistance can assist El Salvador to fulfil its victim assistance commitments under the Convention and the OAP.

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker
Victim Assistance
El Salvador

Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information request by the Committee
#33	# States Parties that have designated a government entity to coordinate victim assistance activities						
	# States Parties that have national action plans in place containing specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound objectives and related indicators						The Committee would welcome information on whether the new Ia includes mine victims in the framework of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.
#34	# States Parties that report that they include mine victims in relevant national policy and support frameworks						The Committee would welcome further information on alignment of victim assistance efforts with provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).
#35	# States Parties that include victims of anti-personnel mines in disability data systems						
	# States Parties that disaggregate victim data by gender, age, and disability						
#36	# States Parties reporting on efforts to ensure an efficient and effective emergency response to mine accidents						
#37	# States Parties that report having a national referral mechanism						
	# States Parties that report having a directory of services in place						
#38	# States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability and accessibility of comprehensive rehabilitation services						
	# States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability of psychological and psychosocial support services						
	# States Parties that have established peer-to-peer services within their national healthcare system						
#39	# States Parties reporting on efforts to remove barriers to the social and economic inclusion of mine victims						The Committee would welcome information on progress in socio-economic inclusion of mine victims in 2023.
#40	# States Parties that report integrating protection of mine survivors in their humanitarian response and preparedness plans						The Committee would welcome information on national measures in place or plans to ensure the safety and protection of mine victims in situations of risks and emergencies.
#41	# States Parties that report that they include victim representatives or their organizations in victim assistance planning at the national and local level						
CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS							
#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						
#3	# mine-affected States Parties that report having evidence-based, costed and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place						
	# women in States Parties' delegations attending Convention meetings						The Committee would welcome information on progress made or measures in place to ensure gender equality and that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys, and men are taken into consideration, including the mine victims.
#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						The Committee would welcome information on challenges encountered in victim assistance in El Salvador and information on how the international community including the Committee on Victim Assistance can assist El Salvador to fulfil its victim assistance commitments under the Convention and the OAP.

