

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATION

YEMEN

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 Yemen of updated information on its victim assistance activities.
2. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following preliminary observations.

Mine casualties

3. Yemen reported 499 new casualties in 2023 including 49 killed and 450 injured, which shows a significant increase to 305 casualties reported for the year before.
4. The Committee appreciates Yemen providing disaggregated data by gender and age and it encourages Yemen to include information on indirect victims such as affected families.

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 (Actions #1, #6 and #33)

5. Yemen reported that the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs is responsible for pursuing the integration of victim assistance into broader frameworks.

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

6. Yemen reported that there was limited cooperation in issues related to the development of action plan, but within the framework of the National Programme for Mine Action, a process was underway by Yemen Mine Action Coordination Centre (YMACC) to document the considerations of victim assistance.
7. The Committee would welcome further information on process and activities carried out by YMACC in relation to victim assistance planning.

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

8. The Committee would welcome information on efforts made to lift the barriers that hinder assistance to mine victims.

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)

9. The Committee recalls that in 2023 Yemen reported on the creation of a joint committee with participation of the Ministry of Health (MOH) and the National Mine Action Programme to oversee victim assistance, including by guiding implementing partners on the importance of data collection.
10. Yemen reported that a joint committee and working group between MOH and the National Mine Action Programme decide the process of issues related to victim assistance from several aspects, such as data collection related to accidents and victims and any relevant information.
11. Yemen reported that national legislations and policy include assistance and inclusion of all persons with disabilities.

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

12. Yemen reported that the YMACC worked with MOH on data collection, among other efforts to coordinate assistance to mine victims. Yemen also reported the National Mine Action Programme runs the IMSMA system, which maintains mine victims' data and in 2024, the programme will look at unifying the data.
13. Yemen reported that the National Mine Action Program supports the integration of gender and social diversity into the planning and implementation of mine action.

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

14. Yemen reported that 20 members of medical support staff, affiliated with the YEMAC were provided with an advance first-aid or life support training and first-aid kit were provided to them, with support of the ICRC's experts. Yemen also reported that the Yemeni Red Crescent Society conducted regular courses to train volunteers in first aid, including care for victims.
15. Yemen reported that first aid/ emergency response for victims of mines and ERW is integrated into the policies and plans of relevant public institutions, such as the MOH. YEMAC coordinated efforts on emergency and first aid training plans for paramedics working in mine action, with the MOH.
16. Yemen reported that healthcare is provide to everyone including mine survivors and that healthcare services are mostly find at governorates and district levels.

Developing national referral mechanism (Action #37)

17. Yemen reported that no referral mechanism has been developed.
18. The Committee would welcome information from Yemen on its efforts to develop a referral system and a national directory of services.

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

19. Yemen reported on availability of rehabilitation centres in the governorates of Aden, Hadramout, Taiz and Marib, meeting the needs of survivors to some extent by providing physiotherapy and

prosthetics, with the assistance some agencies such as the King Salman Humanitarian and Relief Centre and UNICEF.

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

20. Yemen reported on the availability of limited forms of psychological and mental health support in capitals and cities of some of the governorates.

21. The Committee would welcome further information on progress made in the provision of psychosocial support and peer to peer support to mine victims.

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

22. Yemen reported that the Disability Law guarantees provision of social services to all persons with disabilities regardless of causes of impairments, and that some socio-economic services are provided to persons with disabilities by various agencies and organisations.

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

23. Yemen reported that affected communities are prioritised by mine action activities to reduce accidents and casualties.

24. The Committee would welcome information on plans and policies in place / or efforts to develop plans and policies, to ensure the safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risks and emergencies.

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

25. The Committee would welcome information on efforts made to improve the inclusion and participation of mine survivors and their representative organisations in relevant activities.

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

26. Yemen reported that efforts have been made to enhance coordination on victim assistance, particularly between mine action programme and MOH.

27. The Committee would welcome information on allocation of national financial resources on victim assistance activities, and its integration into broader frameworks.

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

28. Yemen reported that mine action programme diligently perform a humanitarian duty, regardless of victims' location, political or ideological affiliation and gender and diversity are fully considered in mine action activities, including by taking the following steps to integrate gender and diversity into mine action planning and implementation at the national level:

- Encouraging cooperation and promoting gender participation and social diversity.
- Provide training and education.

- Promoting equality in employment opportunities.
- Collaboration with local communities.
- Providing health care and psychological rehabilitation.
- Providing financial support.

29. Yemen provided information on casualties disaggregated by gender and age.

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

30. Yemen reported that due to widespread use of anti-personnel mines including alongside roads, without any marking, causing the growing casualties including when internally displaced people return to their communities. Yemen also reported that resources is lacking for victim assistance.

31. The Committee would welcome further information on how the international community can assist Yemen in fulfilling its Victim Assistance commitments under the Convention and the OAP.

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker
Victim Assistance
Yemen

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	█	█	█	█	█	The Committee would welcome further information on process and activities carried out by YMACC in relation to victim assistance planning.
	# 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 efforts made to lift barriers that hinders assistance to mine victims.
#34	# States Parties that report that they include mine victims in relevant national policy and support frameworks				█	█	
#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						The Committee would welcome information from Yemen on its efforts to develop a referral system and a national directory of services.
	# 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				█	█	
#38	# States Parties that have established peer-to-peer services within their national healthcare system						The Committee would welcome further information on progress made in the provision of psychosocial support and peer to peer support to mine victims.
#39	# States Parties reporting on efforts to remove barriers to the social and economic inclusion of mine victims				█	█	
#40	# States Parties that report integrating protection of mine survivors in their humanitarian response and preparedness plans				█	█	The Committee welcomes Yemen to provide information, including plan or policy that Yemen may have put into place or aim to do so, to ensure the safety and protection of mine survivors during the conflicts and other situations of crisis.

#41	# States Parties that report that they include victim representatives or their organizations in victim assistance planning at the national and local level						The Committee would welcome information on efforts made to improve the inclusion and participation of mine survivors and their representative organisations in relevant activities.
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						The Committee would welcome information on allocation of national financial resources on victim assistance activities, and its integration into broader frameworks.
#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						
#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 further information on how the international community can assist Yemen in fulfilling its Victim Assistance commitments under the Convention and the OAP.