



Thematic Panel

Aspirational deadlines for completion: looking back at “2025”

Wednesday - 19 June 2024

15:00 – 16:30

Background

At the 2014 Third Review Conference, the States Parties committed to “intensify our efforts to complete our respective time-bound obligations with the urgency that the completion work requires” and to “aspire to meet these goals to the fullest extent possible by 2025.” Likewise, the purpose of the Committees were better aligned to achieve the aims of the States Parties including “to intensify efforts to ensure that Article 5 is fully implemented as soon as possible, while acknowledging local, national and regional circumstances in its practical implementation” in the case of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation and “to assist the States Parties in the full implementation of Article 6 of the Convention, in line with their reaffirmation of ending the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines is a shared commitment” in the case of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance.

At the 2019 Fourth Review Conference, the States Parties reiterated this call to intensify efforts to make progress towards 2025 and committed to “do our utmost to strengthen partnerships and to sustain and, where necessary, increase resources, assistance, national and international funding”. The Oslo Review Conference further adopted the Oslo Action Plan as an “essential tool towards the fulfilment of this ambition”. The Oslo Action Plan included several measures that mine-affected States Parties would take at a national level and that States in a position to provide assistance would take to realize the 2025 ambition of the States Parties.

Despite these commitments, a number of States Parties implementing Article 5 have cited, the lack of national and international resources as key obstacles to meeting their deadlines. The panel discussion will be an opportunity to look back at the implementation of Article 5 since the Oslo Review Conference, the cooperation and assistance measures of the Oslo Action Plan, and explore how best States Parties can ensure that no state is left behind and that the new action plan responds to key challenges.

Objectives

In this regard, the discussion, will aim to:

- Explore the aspiration deadline of “2025”, the benefits and challenges of including such a date, and to explore the possible inclusion of a new “aspirational deadline” in the Political Declaration;
- Explore the national and international aspects of cooperation and assistance contained in the Oslo Action Plan and provide a basis for resource mobilisation to ensure the most effective implementation towards any aspirational deadline;

- Explore the challenges faced by mine affected countries and donors in implementing these commitments;
- Consider what additional actions can be considered in the Siem Reap Action Plan to strengthen cooperation and assistance.

Format

The Committees will start with a short discussion before the floor is open to States Parties and organisations to provide their feedback.

Speakers

Moderators:

Alvaro Alejandro Gomez Ocampo, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations at Geneva

Demi Bylon, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Sweden to the United Nations at Geneva

- **Larbi Benaouda**, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations at Geneva, Chair of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance
- **Cammy Quin**, Desk Officer, Humanitarian Arms Control, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, Counter Proliferation & Arms Control Centre of the United Kingdom
- **Ly Panharith**, Secretary General, Cambodia Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority
- **Kimberly Feldewerth**, Senior Policy & Advocacy Manager, The HALO Trust

Questions for consideration by participants

- *Reflecting on the introduction in 2014 of the aspirational date of 2025 what were some of the benefits and challenges that the inclusion of an aspirational date presented?*
- *Should the Siem Reap – Angkor Action Plan – consider the inclusion of a new date?*
- *What were the challenges that prevented States from implementing their time bound obligation, to the furthest extent possible, by 2025?*
- *What other actions and indicators apart from “completion” could be included to indicate progress towards completion/success?*
- *What new approaches to cooperation and assistance could accelerate progress in implementation?*
- *The Oslo Action Plan highlighted the importance of the Individualised Approach and the establishment of national mine action platforms as high-level forums to support implementation efforts at both national and international levels. What are the challenges in establishing such platforms and how can these be used to support States’ efforts more effectively towards completion?*
- *What were the main impediments in your efforts to mobilise resources and how could the next action plan address this challenge?*