

JANUARY 2019



Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

New Convention President

We begin 2019 thanking Afghanistan for its work in presiding over the Convention in 2018 and welcoming Norway as President of the Convention and the Fourth Review Conference.

H.E. Hans Brattskar Ambassador of Norway to the UN in Geneva currently leads the work of the States Parties towards the Review Conference to take place the week of 25 November 2019 in Oslo.

The Conference presents an opportunity to assess progress made since the last Review Conference and determine concrete actions for implementation for the next five years.

Find out more on Norway's key priorities during its presidency, initial ideas for the *Oslo Review Conference on a Mine-Free World*, and latest information at, bit.ly/OsloRevCon (case sensitive).

#OsloRevCon

Upcoming events

- **5-8 February:** Mine Action National Directors & UN Advisers meeting, Geneva
- **February:** Pledging Conference, Geneva (#PledgingConf)
- **1 March:** 20th anniversary of the Convention's entry into force #20YrsLandmineBan #LendYourLeg



The following States Parties have Article 5 deadlines in 2020; some of them will submit requests to extend their mine clearance deadlines by **31 March 2019**:

- [Argentina](#)
- [Cambodia](#)
- [Chad](#)
- [Chile](#)
- [Eritrea](#)
- [Ethiopia](#)
- [Tajikistan](#)
- [Yemen](#)

The Convention's Coordinating Committee has kicked-off activities for the year ahead. Meet the team!



COORDINATING COMMITTEE	<i>Article 5 Implementation</i>	<i>Cooperative Compliance</i>	<i>Cooperation & Assistance</i>	<i>Victim Assistance</i>
President and CC Chair 🇳🇴 Norway 2019		Chair		
🇦🇹 Austria 2019-2020	✓			
🇧🇪 Belgium 2018-2019				✓
🇨🇦 Canada 2019-2020	✓			
🇨🇱 Chile 2019-2020				✓
🇨🇴 Colombia 2018-2019	✓			
🇮🇶 Iraq 2019-2020		✓		
🇮🇹 Italy 2019-2020				✓
🇲🇵 Mozambique 2018-2019				Chair
🇳🇱 Netherlands 2018-2019	Chair			
🇵🇱 Poland 2018-2019		✓		
🇸🇪 Sweden 2018-2019			Chair	
🇨🇭 Switzerland 2019-2020		✓		
🇹🇭 Thailand 2018-2019			✓	
🇹🇷 Turkey 2019-2020			✓	
🇬🇧 United Kingdom 2019-20			✓	
🇵🇰 Zambia 2018-2019		✓		



Convention's preamble,

“Determined to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, that kill or maim [...] people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians and especially children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons, and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement”.

Convention community board

Chad

Through a collaborative effort, Chad has kick-started the process of preparing a request to extend its mine clearance deadline under Article 5, in discussion with partners including Humanity & Inclusion, the Mines Advisory Group (MAG), SECADEV, FSD France and the Convention's ISU.



Tajikistan

Tajikistan has also started a process to draft its Article 5 extension request together with partners including UNDP, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) and the Convention's ISU.



Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka, with support of the Convention's ISU, held its first inter-agency meeting on victim assistance with relevant ministries and civil society organisations including the ICBL. The meeting sought to harmonise understandings on victim assistance obligations and discuss stakeholder sharing of responsibility for victim assistance.

The Mine Action Authority announced during the meeting its intention to create a high-level inter-ministerial coordination body on victim assistance.

Photo, Landmine Monitor.

Upcoming deadline

- **30 April:** Article 7 transparency reports are due on this date. Thanks to those States Parties that have already submitted their reports! [Find more information here.](#)





European Union Council Decision Project Implementation



Through the Decision, four States Parties received support to host national stakeholder dialogues on either mine clearance or victim assistance. Hundreds of participants representing donor governments, national and international non-governmental organisations, relevant national and regional authorities, and organisations representing mine-affected communities and survivors participated in the workshops.

Outcome documents for these Dialogues will soon be posted on the Convention's website. Some salient results include,

- **Bosnia and Herzegovina:** Its new mine action strategy has been approved, and the national mine action authority has committed to hold regular coordination meetings with relevant parties.
- **Iraq:** The Directorate for Mine Action will soon publish conclusions from its national stakeholder dialogue, steps to follow and plans to develop its first National Action Plan on Victim Assistance.
- **Senegal:** The national mine action authority has scheduled for the first quarter of this year, its first follow up meeting with stakeholders in the Casamance region.
- **Uganda:** Uganda is seeking further international support to undertake a national exercise to draft a new National Action Plan on Disability to include provisions for victim assistance.

Save the Date!

- Global Conference on Assistance to Victims of Landmines and Other Explosive Remnants of War | Sep. 2019



[Click here to view the declaration made by Senegalese civil society leaders](#) undertaking to support the national authority in seeking solutions to accelerate mine clearance in Casamance.



This newsletter has been prepared by the Convention's ISU thanks to support provided by the European Union. Share your stories with the Convention community at: press@apminebanconvention.org. Find official information about the Convention on www.apminebanconvention.org and informally through,



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