Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

28 November – 1 December 2016, Santiago, Chile

150MSP
SANTIAGO - CHILE 2016

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
Convention on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines and on their destruction
www.apminebanconvention.org

The 15MSP will give the opportunity to States Parties to review progress in implementing the Maputo Action Plan and take stock of efforts to meet the Convention’s commitments to the fullest extent possible by 2025.
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WHAT IS THE ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION?

The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention is a short reference to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, also known as the Ottawa Convention.

The Convention was born from the human tragedy caused by mines in a number of countries. In the early 1990s, non-governmental organisations working in war-torn countries brought the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines to the world’s attention.

The Convention is the international community’s comprehensive response to the humanitarian problems caused by anti-personnel mines, weapons that are indiscriminate and that last for decades after conflicts have ended. The Convention was adopted in Oslo on 18 September 1997 and opened for signature in Ottawa on 3 and 4 December 1997 at a ceremony that featured the participation of dozens of world leaders.

The Convention entered into force on 1 March 1999. For their determination in calling for the Convention, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and its coordinator Jody Williams were awarded the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE CONVENTION?

The purpose of the Convention is “to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel (AP) mines” through the pursuit of four core aims:

- universal acceptance of a ban on AP mines
- destruction of stockpiled AP mines
- clearance of areas containing AP mines
- providing assistance to mine victims.
HOW MANY COUNTRIES HAVE JOINED?

162 States have ratified or acceded to the Convention. They include:

- most of the States that at one time used, stockpiled, produced or transferred AP mines
- the vast majority of States that are or have been affected by AP mines
- every State in the Americas, except Cuba and the United States
- every State in Sub-Saharan Africa
- the majority of ASEAN Member States.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE IMPACT OF THE CONVENTION?

Use of anti-personnel mines has decreased dramatically – 162 countries have agreed to not use AP mines by ratifying or acceding to the Convention. Most States not party adhere to the Convention’s norms.

Production has decreased significantly – most States that previously manufactured AP mines are now bound by the Convention’s ban on production. Most States not party have placed moratoria on production and/or transfers of mines.

Destruction of stockpiled mines is one of the Convention’s great success stories – more than 48 million mines have been destroyed by the States Parties. 157 States Parties now no longer hold stocks.

Demining has resulted in millions of square metres of once dangerous land being released for normal human activity. 29 of 61 States Parties that reported mined areas have completed the task of clearing all such areas. Annual casualty rates have fallen in many countries.

Survivors’ needs are being taken seriously. The Convention is the first arms control/disarmament convention that takes their needs into account.
WHAT IS THE FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES?

The 15MSP is a formal, diplomatic meeting of the 162 States which have accepted the Convention. They include most of the States that at one time used, stockpiled, produced or transferred AP mines and the vast majority of States that are or have been affected by AP mines. Several States that are not party to the Convention are expected to attend as Observers.

The 15MSP is a springboard to further action and an opportunity to reemphasize the commitment made by States Parties in the Maputo Declaration to implement the Convention to the fullest extent possible, by 2025.

The 15MSP is the first time Chile hosts and presides over a Meeting of the States Parties. H.E. Heraldo Muñoz, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile is presiding over the Conference.

Chile ratified the Convention in 2001, and it entered into force for Chile on 1 March 2002. In 2003, Chile reported that it had completed the destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines. Chile’s extended mine clearance deadline has been set for 1 March 2020.
WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT THE FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES?

SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER, 07:00 – 18:30

Chile is staging a field visit to mined areas and post-clearance sites to Arica and Parinacota. The XV region is located approximately 2,000 kilometres north of Santiago. Participating delegates leave by 07:00 from the meeting point at the Sheraton Hotel and return around 18:30. Pre-registration required.

MONDAY 28 NOVEMBER, 10:00 – 11:30

1 Opening ceremony
   In keeping with past practice, an opening ceremony will take place involving the President of the Conference, representatives of the UN Secretary-General, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize Co-Laureate the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, the President of the Council of Foundation of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and the Convention’s Special Envoy and former President of the Eight Meeting of the States Parties, HRH Prince Mired of Jordan. The opening ceremony will start promptly at 10:00.

2 Official opening of the meeting
   The meeting will be opened by the President of the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties, H.E. Heraldo Muñoz, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile.

3 Adoption of the agenda
   The meeting will be asked to adopt its agenda.

4 Election of the Vice-Presidents of the meeting and of other officers
   The meeting will be asked to elect the eight outgoing members of the Committees as Vice-Presidents of the 15MSP: Algeria, Canada, Ecuador, Ireland, Mexico, Senegal, Switzerland and Thailand.

5 Confirmation of the Secretary-General of the meeting
   The meeting will be asked to confirm Julio Bravo, Director of International and Human Security at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile as 15MSP Secretary-General.

6 Organisation of work
   The meeting will be asked to adopt its programme, which was presented to delegations on 28 October 2016.
MONDAY 28 NOVEMBER, 11:30 – 13:00

7 Panel, “Comprehensive Mine Action and Peace: Cooperating towards a mine-free world”

The Maputo Action Plan indicates that while each State Party is responsible for implementing the Convention in areas under its jurisdiction or control, the Convention’s shared goals can be advanced through enhanced cooperation between those seeking assistance and those in a position to provide assistance.

An important part of the peace process in Colombia has been implementing a comprehensive mine action strategy. The strategy was designed to guide Colombia’s efforts towards meeting the obligations it acquired under the Convention. In implementing the strategy, Colombia has put forward efforts to increase its humanitarian demining capacity including through securing international cooperation.

The Global Demining Initiative co-led by Norway and the United States, is an effort to expand international support to Colombia for meeting its mine clearance obligation by 2021. Panellists, which include representatives from Colombia, Norway and the United States will discuss progress made, and how this initiative could be replicated by other States Parties.

MONDAY 28 NOVEMBER, 15:00 – 18:00

8 General exchange of views

Delegations are welcome to deliver brief general statements. Interested delegations should contact the Implementation Support Unit to be inscribed in the speakers list. Those delegations not wishing to deliver oral statements, can submit written statements to be made available on the Convention’s website.

9 Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analysis of these requests

The 15MSP will need to consider requests for extension on mine clearance deadlines that have been or may be submitted by Niger, Peru and Ukraine. In keeping with practices successfully employed since 2008, there will be an opportunity for informal presentations of, and discussions on, extension requests with the States Parties returning to formal consideration of these requests later on in the week.

MONDAY 28 NOVEMBER, 18:45

The President’s Reception for all delegates takes place at the Sheraton following the closure of the first day.
TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER, 10:00 – 13:00

10 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

a  Assisting the victims: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Victim Assistance

States Parties responsible for significant numbers of mine victims¹ are invited to provide brief updates on their efforts to fulfil their obligations and the steps that they have taken to implement the victim assistance actions (Actions #12 through #18) of the Maputo Action Plan. In addition, these States Parties are welcome to comment on the conclusions of the Committee on Victim Assistance. Other delegations are welcome to remark on these updates and to share their views on victim assistance.

TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER, 15:00 – 18:00

10 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

a  Assisting the victims: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Victim Assistance (continued)

b  Clearing mined areas: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation

States Parties which have recently completed or are still in the process of clearing mined areas² are invited to provide brief updates on their efforts to fulfil their obligations, and on steps they have taken to implement the mine clearance actions of the Maputo Action Plan (Actions #8 through #11). In addition, these States Parties are welcome to comment on the conclusions of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation. Other delegations are welcome to remark on these updates and to share their views on Article 5.

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¹: The following 29 States Parties have reported significant numbers of landmine survivors: Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

²: The following 32 States Parties are still in the process of clearing mined areas in accordance with Article 5: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Mauritania, Niger, Oman, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Yemen and Zimbabwe.
### SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>07:00 – 18:30</td>
<td><strong>Field visit</strong>&lt;br&gt;A field visit to mined areas and post-clearance fields in Arica y Parinacota (XV Region) is hosted pre-conference, by the Government of Chile. Pre-registration required.</td>
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<td>10:00 – 11:30</td>
<td><strong>15MSP Opening ceremony</strong> Official opening of the meeting&lt;br&gt;* Adoption of the Agenda&lt;br&gt;* Election of the Vice-Presidents, Secretary-General and other officers&lt;br&gt;* Organisation of work</td>
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<td>11:30 – 13:00</td>
<td><strong>Panel, Comprehensive Mine Action and Peace:</strong> Cooperating towards a mine-free world</td>
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<td>13:00</td>
<td><strong>Landmine Monitor 2016 briefing</strong>&lt;br&gt;Hosted by the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL).&lt;br&gt;<strong>ROOM:</strong> Pedro De Valdivia (B)&lt;br&gt;<strong>CONTACT:</strong> <a href="mailto:elea@icblmc.org">elea@icblmc.org</a></td>
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<td>15:00 – 18:00</td>
<td><strong>15MSP continues</strong>&lt;br&gt;* General exchange of views&lt;br&gt;* Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analysis of these requests</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td><strong>Minas Antipersonal: La Mirada Humana / Anti-Personnel Mines: The Human perspective</strong>&lt;br&gt;Hosted by the Seguridad Humana en Latinoamérica y el Caribe, SEHLAC.&lt;br&gt;<strong>ROOM:</strong> El Quixote&lt;br&gt;<strong>CONTACT:</strong> <a href="mailto:piadevoto@gmail.com">piadevoto@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>10:00 – 13:00</td>
<td><strong>15MSP continues</strong>&lt;br&gt;* Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention&lt;br&gt;* Assisting the victims: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Victim Assistance</td>
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<td>13:00</td>
<td><strong>Launch of the 2016 Clearing the Mines Report</strong>&lt;br&gt;Hosted by Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA).&lt;br&gt;<strong>ROOM:</strong> Pedro De Valdivia (B)&lt;br&gt;<strong>CONTACT:</strong> <a href="mailto:lucyp@npaid.org">lucyp@npaid.org</a></td>
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<td>13:00</td>
<td><strong>Guidance for States on an Integrated Approach to Victim Assistance, and Victim Assistance Reporting</strong>&lt;br&gt;Hosted by the Coordinators on Victim Assistance, and Cooperation and Assistance of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, together with the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Victim Assistance Committee.&lt;br&gt;<strong>ROOM:</strong> Pedro De Valdivia (C)&lt;br&gt;<strong>CONTACT:</strong> <a href="mailto:hugh.watson@dfat.gov.au">hugh.watson@dfat.gov.au</a></td>
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<td>15:00 – 18:00</td>
<td><strong>15MSP continues</strong>&lt;br&gt;* Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention&lt;br&gt;* Assisting the victims: (continued)&lt;br&gt;* Clearing mined areas: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation</td>
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<td>18:45</td>
<td><strong>Colombia: An example of peacebuilding in the territory (photo exhibit and reception)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Hosted by the Colombian National Authority on Mine Action and Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA).&lt;br&gt;<strong>ROOM:</strong> Sheraton Hotel Lobby&lt;br&gt;<strong>CONTACT:</strong> <a href="mailto:jorger@unops.org">jorger@unops.org</a> or <a href="mailto:vanessaf@npaid.org">vanessaf@npaid.org</a></td>
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<td>Panel on Gender and Mine Action</td>
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<td>12:00 – 13:00</td>
<td>Transparency and the exchange of information</td>
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<td><strong>Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and improvised landmines</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Cambodia’s Mine Action Program: Let’s finish the job</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mine Action Innovation in the Middle East</strong></td>
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<td><strong>SENADIS: Human Rights and the CRPD</strong></td>
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WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER, 10:00 – 13:00

10  Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

b  Clearing mined areas: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation (continued)

WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER, 15:00 – 18:00

10  Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

c  Cooperation and Assistance: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance

Delegations are welcome to provide updates and share their views on cooperation and assistance and on the conclusions of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance.

d  Preventing and suppressing prohibited activities and facilitating compliance: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance

States Parties which have been mentioned in the conclusions of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance are invited to provide an update on ongoing investigations or activities undertaken to ensure compliance in accordance with Article 9 of the Convention and Action #29 of the Maputo Action Plan. In addition, these States Parties are welcome to comment on the conclusions of the Committee. Other delegations are welcome to remark on these updates and to share their views on compliance issues.

e  Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines

States Parties responsible for destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines as well as States Parties that have discovered previously unknown stockpiles are invited to provide brief updates on their efforts to fulfill their obligations. These updates should contain only new information with efforts made to avoid duplication with respect to updates provided in May at the intersessional meetings. Other delegations are welcome to remark on these updates and to share their views on stockpile destruction.
THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER, 10:00 – 11:00

10 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

f Universalizing the Convention
States not party to the Convention are invited to share views on the Convention and to provide updates on steps that are being taken or considered to accede to the Convention. Other delegations are welcome to provide updates on their efforts to encourage universal acceptance of the Convention and to share their views on universalization.

g Transparency and the exchange of information
Delegations are welcome to provide updates and share views on transparency and the exchange of information, including transparency as concerns mines retained for permitted purposes. Delegations may also want to remark on the use of the Guide to Reporting adopted at the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties.

THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER, 11:00 – 12:00

11 Panel on Gender and Mine Action
The Maputo Action Plan states in its introductory section that States Parties will implement the Actions “in a cooperative, inclusive, age-appropriate and gender-sensitive manner and, in doing so, endeavour for a high degree of coherence, coordination and cost effectiveness”.

It is clear that the inclusion of a gender perspective in mine action reduces the risk of exacerbating injustice and inequality based on gender. The integration of gender in demining policies, programmes and operations not only guarantees equality in the contributions, interests, needs, and effects of the mine clearance process for all sectors of society but also guarantees a more coherent, comprehensive, and multidimensional response to the different needs of those affected by mines.

The integration of gender in mine action is not only about equality, but also about quality of government action and the level of fulfilment of its international
obligations, in particular, the Maputo Action Plan. In this sense, the effects of gender on the Convention’s implementation (demining, assistance for victims, international cooperation, risk education) is one of the aspects that should be considered by States Parties in order to reach 2025 with a world free of anti-personnel mines.

During this panel, participants will have the opportunity to learn about key aspects of gender considerations in mine action and will have the opportunity to learn from States on how integrating gender consideration into their mine action activities has had positive effects on their programmes. Representatives from affected and donor states will lead discussions on this issue.

THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER, 12:00 – 13:00

10 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continues)

g Transparency and the exchange of information
Delegations are welcome to provide updates and share views on transparency and the exchange of information, including transparency as concerns mines retained for permitted purposes. Delegations may also want to remark on the use of the Guide to Reporting adopted at the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties (14MSP).  

THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER, 15:00 – 18:00

10 Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

h Implementation Support

(i) Report on the activities, functioning and finances of the ISU and presentation of a work plan and a budget for the 2017 activities of the ISU
Further to the “Directive from the States Parties to the ISU” adopted by the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties (10MSP) and further to decisions of the 14MSP on strengthening financial governance and transparency, the ISU is to propose and present every year to the Coordinating Committee for endorsement and subsequently to the Meeting of the States Parties for approval, a detailed yearly budget and work plan for the ensuing year within the range and limits of the applicable multi-year work plan, both in terms of expenditures related to core support and expenditures related to enhanced support contained therein.

The 15MSP will be asked to approve the work plan and the budget for the activities of the ISU in 2017.

In addition, the ISU is tasked to report in written form as well as orally on the activities, functioning and finances of the ISU to each Meeting of the States Parties and to submit an audited annual financial report for the previous year and a preliminary financial report for the present year to the Coordinating Committee and subsequently to the Meeting of the States Parties for approval.

The 15MSP will be asked to approve the report on the activities and finances of the ISU and the ISU’s 2015 audited financial statement.
(ii) Other matters concerning implementation support
The 15MSP will be asked to agree that the 2017 Intersessional Meetings take place on 8–9 June 2017.

In keeping with its mandate, the 15MSP President undertook the task in 2016 of consulting with States Parties to identify a list of nominees to serve as new Committee members following the 15MSP. On 8 June 2016, the President wrote to all States Parties to indicate that it was seeking two new States Parties for each of the four Committees for two-year terms. On the basis of interest expressed, the President will develop a proposal listing States Parties to serve as new Committee members from the end of the 15MSP for a two-year term. If this proposal is agreed to by the 15MSP, eight new States Parties would join the following committee members completing their second year term:

- Victim Assistance: Colombia and Belgium;
- Article 5 Implementation: Costa Rica and Zambia;
- Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance: Uganda and the Netherlands;
- Cooperative Compliance: Sweden and Peru.

12 Consideration of requests submitted under Article 5
The meeting will be asked to take decisions on the request for extended mine clearance deadlines which have been or may be submitted by Niger, Peru and Ukraine.

13 Consideration of matters arising from/in the context of reports submitted under Article 7

14 Consideration of requests submitted under Article 8

15 Date, duration, location and Presidency of the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties, and matters pertaining to the preparations for the Sixteenth Meeting
The 15MSP will be asked to agree that the Convention’s Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties take place on 18 to 22 December 2017 in Vienna, Austria and that H.E. Thomas Hajnoczi, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations in Geneva, be designated to preside over the 16MSP.

16 Any other business

17 Consideration and adoption of the final document
The meeting will be asked to adopt its final report.

18 Closure of the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties
SIDE EVENTS

SUNDAY 27 NOV 2016

07:00 | Field visit to Arica and Parinacota (XV Region)
HOSTED BY: the Government of Chile — Meeting point at the Sheraton Hotel — Pre-registration required.
Chile will stage a field visit to mined areas and post-clearance sites in Arica and Parinacota. The region is located approximately 2,000 kilometres north of Santiago. Participating delegates will depart from the meeting point at 07:00 and return around 18:30.

11:00 | “Una explosión sorda y grave, no muy lejos” — the landmine project exhibition
CONTACT: borderagency.collective@gmail.com
A group of Chilean artists explore the relation between new media and contemporary landscapes. For this art installation, created by the Border Agency collective, photographers explore the view beyond the San Pedro de Atacama minefields. The collective is a multidisciplinary art group researching the notion of landscape, territory and identity, and their limits. Free to get in. Museum opens Tuesday through Sunday from 11:00 to 19:00 and to 18:00 on Sundays.

18:45 | 15MSP Opening Reception
HOSTED BY: H.E. Heraldo Muñoz, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile
ROOM: Carpa Bohío, Sheraton Hotel
CONTACT: diproconfirmacion@minrel.gob.cl
The 15MSP President is hosting a welcome reception for delegates attending the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties in Santiago.

TUESDAY 29 NOV 2016

09:00 | Minas Antipersonal: La Mirada Humana/ Anti-Personnel Mines: The Human perspective
HOSTED BY: Seguridad Humana en Latinoamérica y el Caribe, SEHLAC
ROOM: El Quixote
CONTACT: piadevoto@gmail.com
Representatives from El Salvador, Colombia and Chile will provide a reflective look on the daily life challenges faced by landmine victims.

13:00 | Launch of the 2016 Clearing the Mines Report
HOSTED BY: Norwegian People’s Aid
ROOM: Pedro De Valdivia (B)
CONTACT: lucyp@npaid.org
This event will feature HALO Trust, the Mines Advisory Group (MAG), and Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA) as they launch the ‘Clearing the Mines Report’. With a discussion on the progress in landmine survey, clearance and implementation of Article 5 of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

13:00 | Guidance for States on an Integrated Approach to Victim Assistance, and Victim Assistance Reporting
HOSTED BY: the Coordinators on Victim Assistance, and Cooperation and Assistance of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, together with the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Victim Assistance Committee
ROOM: Pedro De Valdivia (B)
CONTACT: hugh.watson@dfat.gov.au
This event will launch two new publications with the aim to provide cross-cutting guidance to States in the implementation of victim assistance obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Convention on Cluster Munitions and Protocol V of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW).

MONDAY 28 NOV 2016

13:00 | Landmine Monitor 2016 briefing
HOSTED BY: the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL)
ROOM: Pedro De Valdivia (B)
CONTACT: elea@icblcmc.org
Leading civil society experts will share the major findings of Landmine Monitor 2016. The event will detail global and national developments in landmine ban policy, survey, and clearance of landmines and other explosive remnants of war, support for mine action, casualties and victim assistance.

18:45 | 15MSP Opening Reception
18:00 | Colombia:
An example of peacebuilding in the territory
HOSTED BY: the Colombian National Authority on Mine Action (DAICMA) and Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA) — ROOM: Sheraton Hotel Lobby
CONTACT: jorger@unops.org or vanessaf@npaid.org
Inauguration of the photography exhibition by award-winner photographer Giovanni Diffidenti featuring demining pilot projects and peace initiatives taking place in the Orejón and Santa Helena areas of Colombia; followed by a reception.

WEDNESDAY 30 NOV 2016

13:00 | Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and improvised landmines
HOSTED BY: the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)
ROOM: Pedro De Valdivia (B)
CONTACT: p.rapillard@gichd.org or chris.loughran@maginternational.org
The mine action community has been addressing threats from improvised landmines since the early days of humanitarian demining. This event will explore current operational and policy challenges and will provide an opportunity for discussion on various solutions in relation to improvised landmines.

13:00 | Cambodia’s Mine Action Program: Let’s finish the job
HOSTED BY: the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA)
ROOM: Pedro De Valdivia (C)
CONTACT: touch.pheap@cmaa.gov.kh
This event will provide an update on Cambodia’s mine action program, key achievements, remaining challenges and what is required to finish the job by 2025.

THURSDAY 1 DEC 2016

13:00 | Presentation of the study, ‘Land Mines and Spatial Development’
HOSTED BY: Handicap International
ROOM: El Quixote
CONTACT: gchiovelli@london.edu
‘Land Mines and Spatial Development’, is a study conducted by The London Business School and Brown University with a specific focus on Mozambique. The authors explore the economic consequences of demining for both the affected districts and to the Mozambican economy as a whole. Results reveal positive impacts of land mine removal on aggregate economic development.

13:00 | Mine Action Innovation in the Middle East
HOSTED BY: the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)
ROOM: Pedro De Valdivia (B)
CONTACT: g.rhodes@gichd.org
This side event draws on the experience of actors in the Middle East region in dealing with multiple challenges for the implementation of mine action activities and poor security environments. These challenges test the ability to maintain recognised standards, stretch opportunities to deliver quality training of field staff, and restrict traditional monitoring and evaluation of projects. This event will present a series of innovative tools and approaches that are in use today, or under development, to deliver solutions for mine action activities under these conditions.

13:00 | SENADIS: Human Rights and the CRPD
HOSTED BY: the Chilean National Service of Persons with Disabilities (SENADIS) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile
ROOM: Pedro De Valdivia (C)
CONTACT: cpinto@senadis.cl or sdelpino@sedanis.cl
This side event will feature Professor Maria Soledad Cisternas, President of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities who will discuss the relationship between international human rights law and the work of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).
IMPORTANT DATES | 2017

1 March
Eighteenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention.

DATE TO BE CONFIRMED

31 March
Deadline for States Parties with Article 5 deadlines in 2018 to submit requests for extensions.

1 April
Deadline for Algeria to complete implementation of Article 5 mine clearance obligations.

30 April
Deadline for States Parties to submit Article 7 transparency reports covering calendar year 2016.

8–9 June
2017 Intersessional Meetings, Geneva⁴.

18 September
Twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention.

1 October
Deadline for Ecuador to complete implementation of Article 5 mine clearance obligations.

3 December
International Day for Persons with Disabilities.

3–4 December
Twentieth anniversary of the signing of the Convention.

18–22 December
Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties, Vienna⁵, Austria.

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⁴ and ⁵: Subject to approval of the 15MSP.
The Implementation Support Unit (ISU) is the secretariat to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. The ISU is mandated to support the States Parties to the Convention, in particular by doing the following:

- Providing support to all States Parties through support to the Convention’s implementation machinery and office holders,
- Providing support to individual States Parties, including by providing advice and technical support on implementation and universalization,
- Communicating and providing information about the Convention,
- Keeping records of formal and informal meetings under the Convention, and
- Liaising and coordinating with relevant international organisations that participate in the work of the Convention.

The ISU is directly accountable to the States Parties while being hosted by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining. The ISU is funded on a voluntary basis by States Parties to the Convention.