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

19 October 2026

Original: English

Twenty-Third Meeting
Geneva, 30 November–4 December 2026
Items 9 (b) (i) and 9 (b) (ii) of the provisional agenda
Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention,
Destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas,
Clearing mined areas: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation,
Mine risk education and risk reduction: Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation

Activities and Priorities for Implementation 2026-2027 Committee on Cooperative Compliance[*,**]

Submitted by Algeria (Chair), Norway, Bulgaria, and Burkina Faso

I. Activities of the Committee

1. The Committee first met on 19 January 2026 to discuss its work plan towards the Twenty-Third Meeting of the States Parties (23MSP). During this meeting, the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) provided the Committee with an overview of the Committee's mandate as amended by the Fifth Review Conference and presented a calendar of key dates to inform the Committee's work plan for 2026. The Committee also selected from among its members a gender focal point (Norway) and a focal point for mine risk education (Bulgaria).

2. On 10 February 2026, the Committee distributed communications to six States Parties - Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Guinea-Bissau, Türkiye, Ukraine, and Yemen - that were due to submit updated work plans in 2026 in accordance with previously granted extension requests and to provide additional information as requested by decisions taken by the States Parties on their requests for extension.

3. On 17–18 February 2026, the Committee opened and participated in a dialogue in Bosnia and Herzegovina, bringing together demining programme stakeholders and partners to strengthen collaboration and present feedback from national stakeholders on the draft extension request submitted by Bosnia and Herzegovina for consideration by the States Parties. This dialogue was led by the national authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with support from the Implementation Support Unit, and financial backing from the European Union.

4. On 27 February 2026, the Committee distributed communications to eight States Parties with Article 5 deadlines in 2027/2028 that will be obliged to submit a request for extension by 31 March 2027—Cyprus, Ecuador, Eritrea, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, and Yemen—to recall the Article 5 extension request process established

[*] The present document was submitted after the deadline in order to reflect the most recent information.
[**] The present document is being issued without formal editing.

by the States Parties and to encourage them to begin the process of drafting their request as soon as possible.

5. From February to April 2026, the Committee participated in nine bilateral meetings with the following States Parties: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Serbia, Somalia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, and Türkiye, to discuss their progress and challenges in implementing their Article 5 commitments and respective obligations under thematic areas of the Convention. The Committee used this opportunity to remind States Parties of their obligations under the Convention and the importance of their adherence to the decisions on their respective extension requests, where relevant.

6. On 26 March 2026, the Committee, together with the President and representatives of the Coordinating Committee, participated in a workshop encouraging States Parties to comply with their obligation to submit Article 7 reports by 30 April 2026 and to include detailed quantitative and qualitative information on the implementation of their Convention commitments, in line with the Guide to Reporting and the commitments of the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan 2025–2029 (SRAAP). The workshop also encouraged States Parties to increase reporting on the methodologies employed in land release and mine risk education and risk reduction activities, and to ensure that considerations of gender, age, disability, and the diverse needs and experiences of people in mine-affected communities, including mine survivors, are taken into account and inform all areas of Convention implementation.

7. On 27 April 2026, the Committee met with the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance to discuss "strengthening synergies between the Committee on Article 5 Implementation and the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance" and to explore the possibility of "establishing a more formalized and recurrent dialogue between the Committee on Article 5 and the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance in relation to each extension request", pursuant to *Recommendation 5* of the report entitled "Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention - Extension Request Process", presented by the Committee to the Twenty-First Meeting of the States Parties (21MSP).

8. During the meeting, the Committee discussed current synergies in support of States Parties implementing obligations under Article 5, including joint bilateral meetings between the Committees and affected States Parties; collaboration in identifying mine-affected States Parties that may benefit from taking part in Individualised Approach meetings; participation of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation in Individualised Approach meetings organised by the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance; and joint panel discussions organised by the two Committees, among other activities. In addition, the Committees discussed the importance of greater information-sharing between them, in particular sharing information on States Parties with upcoming Article 5 deadlines that may require cooperation and assistance to achieve completion by their deadlines; the importance of mine-affected States applying lessons learned and best practices, including participation in the Individualised Approach and, importantly, establishing national mine action platforms that can support regular dialogue between stakeholders and the mobilization of resources; the benefits that could be derived from the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance supporting the Article 5 extension request process by analysing the budgets and requirements for assistance submitted by States Parties in requests for extension, with the aim of ensuring that States Parties clearly highlight their needs for assistance; and increasing the level of engagement between the Committees through more regular meetings and dialogue, when necessary.

9. On 30 April 2026, the Committee met with representatives of the Fondation Suisse de Déminage (FSD), Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), The HALO Trust, International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), and Mine Action Review (MAR), to discuss matters related to the extension request process and the focus of the Committee in 2026.

10. In preparation for the 15–18 June 2026 Intersessional Meetings, the Committee, in accordance with its mandate, developed preliminary observations based on information provided through Article 7 transparency reports, updated work plans, and extension requests. In doing so, the Committee reviewed progress in the implementation of Article 5 obligations,

as well as information submitted by States Parties on the implementation of commitments under the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan, including gender-related considerations and the diverse needs of affected communities. Based on the Article 7 reports submitted prior to the Intersessional Meetings, the Committee presented observations on the following twenty-four States Parties: Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Mauritania, Nigeria, Peru, Serbia, South Sudan, State of Palestine, Sudan, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Yemen, and Zimbabwe.

11. During the Intersessional Meetings, the Chair of the Committee, as well as the gender and mine risk education and risk reduction focal points, presented their observations on implementation. These observations included State-specific observations as well as general observations on implementation based on the information submitted by the States Parties in their Article 7 reports. These observations are available on the Convention's website.[1]

12. On the margins of the Intersessional Meetings, the Committee engaged with States Parties that had submitted or were due to submit extension requests to remind them of the process and next steps. The Committee used the opportunity to encourage States Parties to continue their cooperative dialogue with the Committee and the ISU to ensure a successful extension request process.

13. On 19 June 2026, on the margins of the Intersessional Meetings, the Committee invited States Parties with Article 5 deadlines in 2027/2028 to a breakfast discussion on the extension request process and presented the support available from the Committee and the ISU. The discussion sought to continue the cooperative dialogue on the implementation of Article 5 obligations, with a focus on how States Parties can take full advantage of the process to enhance national coordination through the inclusive development of an extension request. On 4 August 2026, the Committee sent a follow-up letter to these States to further encourage them to begin drafting their requests as soon as possible and to cooperate with the Committee and the ISU.

14. The Committee organised a panel discussion for the plenary of the Intersessional Meetings entitled “Thematic Panel: Strengthening Sustainable Capacities for Safer Communities”. The panel aimed to explore how States Parties currently implementing Article 5, and those that have completed implementation, are addressing or planning to address residual contamination following implementation of their Article 5 obligations. Panellists included Croatia, which recently completed its Article 5 obligations; Nicaragua, which completed implementation over a decade ago; and Burkina Faso, which is currently building its capacity to address contamination.

15. The Committee carried out several efforts to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of the Article 5 extension request process established by the States Parties, as follows:

(a) Following receipt of extension requests from Bosnia and Herzegovina (20 April 2026), Mali (21 July 2026), Mauritania (14 April 2026), Senegal (23 March 2026), Serbia (31 March 2026), Somalia (16 June 2026), Sudan (31 March 2026), Tajikistan (31 March 2026), and Thailand (12 June 2026), the Committee requested the ISU to make the requests available on the Convention’s website and sent a letter to all States Parties informing them of the receipt of the requests and where they could be accessed on the Convention’s website;

(b) The Committee, in adhering to the process established by the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties[2] and the recommendations of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties[3], in order to ensure that the collaborative approach envisaged by the process can take place,

[1] https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/intersessional-meetings/im26/documents-1

[2] APLC/MSP.9/2008/4 Page 69, Appendix I to Annex II, Conclusions on working methods drawn by the States Parties mandated to analyse Article 5 Extension requests, 11 March 2008.

[3] APLC/MSP.7/2006/L.3, Towards the full implementation of Article five, 8 September 2006 APLC/MSP.12/2012/4, Reflections on the Article 5 Extensions Process, 27 September 2012.

resulting in the continued submission of high-quality extension requests, carried out pre-analysis and entered into cooperative dialogue on extension requests received;

(c) Following receipt of the requests for extension and the Committee's pre-analysis process, the Committee reached out to expert organisations to request input on the requests submitted in accordance with the process established by the States Parties. The Committee takes this opportunity to thank the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), The HALO Trust, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Mine Action Review, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) for their input into some of the requests submitted by States Parties;

(d) Based on the Committee's pre-analysis of the requests and expert input provided by organisations, the Committee entered into a cooperative dialogue with the requesting States Parties and invited them to provide additional information or clarification on the information provided in their request. As part of the cooperative dialogue, the Committee met with representatives of these States on the margins of the Intersessional Meetings to discuss the additional information or clarification requested and the next steps in the extension process.

16. In the lead-up to the Twenty-Third Meeting of the States Parties, the Committee drafted analyses of requests submitted in line with its mandate to "prepare and submit to the States Parties in advance of Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences an analysis of each request for an Article 5 extended deadline."

17. The Committee noted that delays in submitting requests and additional information impeded its efforts by limiting opportunities for interaction between the group and requesting States Parties. This also resulted in some analyses being completed much later than they normally should have, thus affecting the ability of all States Parties to take informed decisions on requests.

18. The Committee welcomed Croatia's completion of its Article 5 obligations as well as its commitment to submit a Voluntary Declaration of Completion of its Article 5 obligations. The declaration was shared with the Committee in line with the decision of the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties (17MSP) and the "Reflections and understandings on the implementation and completion of Article 5 mine clearance obligations[4]"

19. In the lead-up to the 23MSP, the Committee worked with other Committees on a joint document in light of the recommendation of the Fifth Review Conference that "the Committees should continue their efforts of increasing and strengthening their coordination, including by examining implementation by States Parties in a more holistic manner and submitting joint conclusions on the status of implementation."

II. Priorities for implementation

20. The Committee welcomes the continued cooperative interaction with States Parties regarding the implementation of Article 5 commitments throughout the year, through exchanges of letters, bilateral meetings, individualised approach events, and informal discussions. The Committee recognises that this dialogue is fundamental and is committed to continuing to prioritise cooperative dialogue in 2027 to support States Parties with Article 5 obligations in the submission of high-quality Article 7 reports, updated work plans, and extension requests.

21. The Committee will prioritise efforts to strengthen implementation of its mandate as amended by the Fifth Review Conference, in particular efforts to continue raising awareness of the importance of mine risk education and reduction as a primary means of preventing injuries and fatalities and as one of the few interventions feasible in emergencies, armed conflict, and other scenarios where access is restricted, making it a vital component of frontline mine action responses. This includes engagement through a designated focal point.

[4] APLC/MSP.17/2018/10

In this regard, the focal point will work with States Parties to ensure that all relevant documents (e.g., extension requests, Article 7 reports, and analyses of extension requests) contain information on mine risk education and risk reduction, including costs, targeted populations, and integration into survey activities.

22. Concerning the Committee's mandate to prepare and submit to the States Parties, in advance of Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences, an analysis of each request for an Article 5 extended deadline, the Committee will continue to prioritise its work to support States Parties in adhering to the process established by the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties and the recommendations of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties, in order to ensure that the collaborative approach envisaged by the process can take place, resulting in the continued submission of high-quality extension requests. The Committee calls on all States Parties submitting requests for consideration by the Twenty-Fourth Meeting of the States Parties to submit them no later than 31 March 2027 and, where possible, ahead of this date, and to work closely with the Committee on Article 5 Implementation throughout the Article 5 extension request process.

23. The Committee will support States Parties in ensuring that requests for extension of Article 5 deadlines contain updates on efforts to establish sustainable national capacities to implement the Convention and address previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas discovered following completion, taking into account the commitments made at the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties as contained in the paper "Proposed rational response to States Parties discovering previously unknown mined areas after deadlines have passed".

24. The Committee will also support States Parties in ensuring that requests for extension of Article 5 deadlines contain detailed, evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and multi-year work plans for survey, clearance, and mine risk education for the extension period, in line with the decisions of States Parties concerning the extension request process, and ensure consideration of gender, age, disability, the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities, including mine survivors, as well as climate and the environment.

25. The Committee will continue to strengthen collaboration with the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance throughout the extension period, in line with the mandate of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance, as amended by the Fifth Review Conference. This collaboration will support "the Committee on Article 5 in their analysis of submitted requests for extension as concerns matters related to expressed requirements for assistance (e.g. budgets, resource mobilization plans)."

26. The Committee will follow-up on the decisions of Meetings of the States Parties/Review Conferences on requests for extension, including by providing support to States Parties due to submit updated work plans in 2027. The Committee will also pay particular attention to States Parties with outstanding commitments stemming from these decisions.

27. The Committee will continue its work with States Parties to ensure that their Article 7 reports, extension requests, and work plans continue to reflect the commitments made in the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan. In this regard, the Committee, in the lead-up to the Twenty-Fourth Meeting of the States Parties, will continue to support States Parties in providing as much relevant information as possible on progress in implementing the actions of the SRAAP and to encourage those States Parties that have not submitted Article 7 reports in 2027 to provide updated information as soon as possible, but no later than 30 April 2027. The Committee will work together with the President and other Committees of the Convention to send reminders concerning the submission of Article 7 reports by the deadline early in the year and host an to host an Article 7 workshop in February 2027.

28. The Committee will also prioritise continued engagement with States Parties that are reported to be contaminated by anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature to continue building awareness of the need to address this contamination within the framework of the Convention and to support their implementation efforts. This includes continuous analysis of information submitted in Article 7 reports and other relevant documents concerning anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature and engaging with relevant States Parties to address

this contamination, including on matters related to the delivery of mine risk education and risk reduction.

29. The Committee will continue its work with States Parties to report, in their Article 7 reports, updates to their national work plans, including adjusted milestones based on new evidence, budgets for implementation, requirements for assistance, and efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of survey and clearance through the application of up-to-date National Mine Action Standards in line with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). The Committee will also promote the research, analysis, and adoption of innovative approaches, methods, and technological means to this effect.

30. The Committee also welcomes the adoption of the European Union Council Decision in support of the implementation of the Article 5 and mine risk education commitments of the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan for the implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and looks forward to its important role in supporting the implementation of Article 5 at the national and regional levels including the Committee's priorities highlighted above.