

## **Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty 30 November–4 December 2015, Geneva**

### **What is the 14MSP about?**

The 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of States Parties (14MSP) of the Mine Ban Treaty (MBT) will take place from 30 November to 4 December 2015 in room XVIII at the United Nations Office in Geneva, Switzerland.

The 14MSP will be the first formal meeting of States Parties since the Third Review Conference which was held in Maputo, Mozambique. The 14MSP will provide an opportunity for States Parties to present progress, challenges, plans, and requirements for assistance and cooperation to achieve their treaty obligations and the commitments they made under the 2014 Maputo Action Plan (MAP) and Maputo+15 declaration.

The 14MSP will be presided over by H.E. Ambassador Bertrand de Crombrughe of Belgium. The meeting is open to States Parties, states not party, relevant international organizations, and non-governmental organizations.

The Mine Ban Treaty opened for signature in 1997 and entered into force in 1999. There are now 162 States Parties to the treaty.

### **What are states expected to do at this meeting?**

At the 14MSP:

- States Parties are expected to **report on the progress they have made and their plans** on all relevant treaty obligations and MAP commitments (mine clearance, victim assistance, stockpile destruction, mine risk education, retained mines, national legislation, cooperation and assistance, etc.)
- States not party to the MBT are expected to **report on the steps they have taken to join the treaty.**
- States are expected to **actively participate in discussions** throughout the 14MSP, in particular on the following **key issues**:
  - Use and allegations of antipersonnel mine use by States

In the past year, antipersonnel mines were used by the armed forces of Myanmar, North Korea and Syria. In previous years, there have been serious allegations of use in at least three States Parties: South Sudan, Sudan and Yemen. Mine use is the gravest violation of the treaty and the ban norm. All use or allegations of use should be of serious concern to States Parties and be publically addressed and condemned during the 14MSP. States Parties should call on and engage with the concerned states to ensure no new mine use in the future.

➤ New Extension Requests for Clearance Deadline

Cyprus, Ethiopia, Mauritania and Senegal have presented requests for extension of their clearance deadline under Article 5 of the treaty at the intersessional meetings in June 2015. The Article 5 Committee has analyzed the requests. At the 14MSP, States Parties should engage in discussions on these requests and decide on their approval. The extension requests are available on the ISU website at: <http://www.apminebanconvention.org/meetings-of-the-states-parties/14msp/what-will-be-considered-at-the-14msp/>

**How can governments register, prepare and participate?**

➤ Invitation

A [note verbale](#) by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon convening the 14MSP was circulated on 2 March 2015.

➤ Registration

To participate in the meeting, all governments should submit a **note verbale** by **20 November 2015**, at the following address:

*Executive Secretary of the Meeting of States Parties  
Office for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch)  
Palais des Nations, room C.113-1  
Avenue de la Paix 8-14  
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland  
Fax: 41-22-917-0054  
E-mail: [aplc@unog.ch](mailto:aplc@unog.ch)*

➤ Background Information

All background documents for the meetings, including the draft Geneva progress report, agenda and administrative information will be available on the ISU website at: <http://www.apminebanconvention.org/meetings-of-the-states-parties/14msp/>

For any questions related to the meetings contact the Implementation Support Unit of the MBT at [isu@apminebanconvention.org](mailto:isu@apminebanconvention.org)