

What is the 15MSP about?

The 15th Meeting of States Parties (15MSP) of the Mine Ban Treaty (MBT) will take place from 28 November to 1 December 2016 in Santiago, Chile.

The 15MSP is an annual formal meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty. The 15MSP 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 15MSP will be presided over by H.E. Heraldo Muñoz, Foreign Minister of Chile. The meeting is open to States Parties, states not party, relevant international organizations, and non-governmental organizations. Chile said that it “aims to provide an inclusive space for reflection open to all: [who have interest] in establishing a world free of mines by 2025.”

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 15MSP:

- 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 15MSP, in particular on the following **key issues**:

➤ Achieving the goal of 2025

States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty are committed to an aspirational deadline of 2025 for completion of mine clearance and other treaty obligations. The goal of 2025 was adopted in the Maputo +15 Declaration at the Third Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty in 2014. In the vast majority of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty, the ICBL believes that clearance can be completed before 2025, with many finishing long before that date. Achieving the goal of 2025 is a priority of Chile, the President of the Mine Ban Treaty.

➤ Use of antipersonnel mine use by states

In the past two years, antipersonnel mines were used by the armed forces of Myanmar, North Korea and Syria. Any use should be of serious concern to States Parties and be publically addressed and condemned during the 15MSP. 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 deadlines

Niger and Peru have presented requests for extension of their clearance deadline under Article 5 of the treaty at the intersessional meetings in 2016. The Article 5 Committee has analyzed the requests. At the 15MSP, States Parties should engage in discussions on these requests and decide on their approval. The extension requests are available on the ISU [website](#). Ukraine is in violation of Article 5 after missing its 1 June 2016 deadline for clearance without being granted an extension; it should request an extension at the 15MSP.

How can governments register, prepare and participate?

• **Invitation**

A [note verbale](#) by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon convening the 15MSP was circulated on 2 January 2016.

• **Registration**

To participate in the meeting, all governments should:

1. Step 1- Register online: http://www.15msp.gob.cl/app_acreditaciones/frontend/auth/signup
2. Step 2- Submit a note verbale (step 2) by Friday, 18 November 2016, at the following address:

APLC Secretariat
Fifteenth Meeting of States Parties
United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch)
Palais des Nations, office S-161 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Fax: 41 (0) 22 917 00 34; E-mail: aplc@unog.ch <http://www.unog.ch/aplc>

• **Background Information**

All background documents for the meeting, including the agenda and administrative information are/will be available on the ISU [website](#) and the 15MSP host [website](#).

For any questions related to the meeting contact the Implementation Support Unit of the MBT at isu@apminebanconvention.org