



ICBL Memo for Government Delegates

Third Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty

23-27 June 2014, Maputo, Mozambique



What is the Third Review Conference about?

The Third Review Conference will take place from 23 to 27 June 2014 in Maputo, Mozambique. The Mine Ban Treaty opened for signature in 1997 and entered into force in 1999. There are now 161 States Parties to the Treaty.

The Maputo Review Conference will mark 15 years since the treaty entered into force, and since the First Meeting of States Parties was held in 1999, also in Maputo. While the treaty has led to many improvements on the ground for communities and has saved many lives, a range of challenges remain on the road to eliminating antipersonnel mines once and for all. The Third Review Conference provides the opportunity for the international community to assess the progress made to date and agree on the roadmap for the work ahead.

The Third Review Conference will be presided by the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mozambique. The Conference will be open to all states – both States Parties of the Mine Ban Treaty, States not party – **at the ministerial level or higher**, as well as relevant international and non-governmental organizations. A high level segment is scheduled beginning the afternoon of Thursday 26 June.

What are states expected to do at the Conference?

States are expected to:

➤ **Attend the Conference at a ministerial or higher level and include survivors on delegations**

High-level participation will show that the states continue to place a high priority on ridding the world of antipersonnel mines and that they will give full political support to the outcome of the Conference. The high-level segment will start on the afternoon of Thursday, 26 June and will continue through Friday, 27 June. In addition, affected states should include survivors as part of their official delegation to the Conference.

➤ **Announce significant recent achievements in fulfilling the treaty obligations or towards joining the treaty**

States are expected to share updates on recent progress they have made on treaty obligations and commitments under the Cartagena Action Plan they adopted in 2009 at the Second Review Conference.

➤ **Commit to complete their remaining treaty obligations**

Completion of the work under the treaty is seen as the core focus for the Third Review Conference and the years to follow. As expressed in the draft Conference outcome documents, the current States Parties will commit and aspire to complete their remaining treaty obligations as soon as possible and no later than by 2025. With this in mind, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) has challenged all States Parties with major treaty obligations to make in Maputo a **public commitment to complete their specific remaining treaty obligations within a defined and ambitious deadline**, and no later than 2025. Similarly,

States not party participating in the Conference are expected to publicly announce a date for accession to the Treaty and to commit never to use antipersonnel mines again.

➤ **Formally adopt final Conference outcome documents**

The outcome documents are being developed by States Parties ahead of the Conference and will be formally adopted in Maputo on the last day of the Conference. They include:

- *Review of the Operation and Status of the Convention, 2010-2014* – an overview of the progress made by States Parties since the last Review Conference in fulfilling obligations under the Treaty.
- *The Maputo Action Plan 2015-2019 (MAP)* – a new five-year action plan that will guide States Parties in the completion of their remaining treaty obligations.
- *Proposal for a meeting programme and related implementation machinery, 2014-2019* – new structures and programme of meetings to support more effectively the functioning and implementation of the Treaty.
- *Political Declaration of the States Parties* - to reaffirm States Parties' commitments to fulfil their remaining treaty obligations within a finite and ambitious time-frame.

How can governments register, prepare for and participate in the Conference?

All information related to the invitation, registration, visas and hotels is available on the Conference Website at <http://www.maputoreviewconference.org/>.

- **Invitation:** On 23 January 2014, all states have been officially notified of the Review Conference by the UN Secretary-General. The government of Mozambique sent a letter of invitation to all states on 12 February 2014.

Registration: Registration is open, and it involves two steps: (1) Each delegation must officially notify the Executive Secretary of the Maputo Review Conference (i.e., Peter Kolarov of the UNODA, at aplc@unog.ch) of the composition of its delegation; and, (2) Each delegate must complete an online registration form.

- **Visa:** Once delegates have registered online, they will receive individual letters to support their travel to Mozambique and a gratis visa upon arrival in Mozambique.

For any questions related to the Conference, please contact the Implementation Support Unit of the Mine Ban Treaty, at: isu@apminebanconvention.org.

Information on the ICBL's messages to states and about its participation in the Third Review Conference can be found at: <http://www.icbl.org/index.php/icbl/Treaty/MBT/Annual-Meetings/Third-Review-Conference-of-the-Mine-Ban-Treaty>.