



# ICRC

## **ICRC Statement on International Cooperation and Assistance Third Review Conference of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, Maputo, 23-27 June 2014**

Resources were highlighted at the Second Review Conference in 2009 as one of the biggest challenges to the full implementation of the Convention, and remain so today. Meeting clearance deadlines, ensuring the delivery of improved victim assistance and the destruction of stockpiles all rely heavily on technical, financial and human resources.

This issue is of vital importance, especially if States are to meet the goals set out in paragraph 6 of the Maputo Declaration by 2025, an aspiration which the ICRC fully supports. Securing and optimising resources requires active State engagement, effective partnerships, improved efficiency and innovative solutions.

One development, which the ICRC thinks is very promising, is the increasing use of “South-South” or “triangular” cooperation, to help maximise the expertise and experience that has built up over the years in mine-affected countries. In addition, the Platform for Partnerships, established by the Standing Committee on Resources, Cooperation and Assistance, has the potential to improve the circulation of information about available assistance and provide a useful framework for pairing up needs and offers of assistance.

The ICRC agrees it timely to reconsider how best to progress cooperation and assistance under the Convention, and we welcome the proposed creation of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance to assist the States Parties in the full implementation of Article 6.

In terms of our own work in the field of mine action, the ICRC greatly appreciates our donors' contributions to the Special Mine Action Appeal. This Appeal is unfortunately underfunded every year and we regret that again in 2013, the funding received for it fell considerably short of the amount required. This year, the ICRC is seeking 25.8 million Swiss Francs for its physical rehabilitation services and preventive mine action activities aimed at reducing the impact of weapons contamination. As of today, the Appeal remains significantly underfunded, with only 4.8 million in pledges having been received, leaving a shortfall of 21 million Swiss francs. Further information on our planned activities and budget for next year can be found in the 2014 Mine Action Appeal.