

**3rd Review Conference of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention  
Maputo, 22-27 June 2014. Norwegian intervention on Cooperation and  
Assistance**

Mr President,

Implementation of article 6 on international cooperation and assistance is a prerequisite for reaching our common aim of a mine-free world.

The convention has been instrumental in facilitating significant international support for mine action consistently over all the years since we last met here in Maputo. Only since the Second review Conference in 2009, international support has reached some 2,3 billion USD, backed up by at least 900 Million USD provided by affected states themselves.

Even if there will be a downward trend over the coming five years, the total investments in mine action will remain substantial. The challenge is of course to make use of the funds available in the most effective manner, something that we know has not always been the case.

Even if tracking funds is a coarse measure for how article 6 is implemented, it is noteworthy that there is a certain degree of consistence between the most affected states and those who receive most international support, with Afghanistan, Iraq and Cambodia among the top five.

But article 6 is not only for supporting mine clearance, its significance comes even more from its requirement to *provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration of mine victims*.

This sentence has been the basis for the establishment of what over the years have become a comprehensive field of expertise, practice and norm-building, shaping international discourse on rights for persons with disabilities and recognition of war victims.

Victim assistance is a core provision of the Convention, but as we have put forward for some years now, attempts to measure commitments to this provisions by counting the amount of financial resources dedicated to "mine victim assistance," fails to capture the full picture of what is being done. Victim assistance is not a DAC category, and it is in addition difficult to precisely measure how international contributions for health systems, education, economic development and inclusion, also benefits mine victims. Even contributions that are identified as mine victim assistance are used to support much broader groups of persons in need, independent of the cause for their problems. So we need better tools to measure both needs and contributions.

Article 6 also concerns international cooperation, and we believe that the increased focus on that aspect by the co-chairs over the past years have been important.

Norway will continue to support all aspects of mine action over the years to come, both in the form of financial support to implementing agencies working in affected areas, and in partnership with national authorities, building on the good lessons learned from our strategic framework agreement with our hosts.

However, in the future, Norway will apply stricter criteria, both in terms of actual national commitment and leadership and in terms of results achieved on the ground.

Thank you.