

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

Fourth Review Conference

Oslo, Norway, 25-29 November 2019

High-Level Segment, Sara Lindegren, Counsellor, Swedish Perm Rep Geneva

Mr. President,

Sweden stands behind the EU-statement. In addition, I would like to make the following remarks in my national capacity.

Since the review conference in Maputo, developments have sadly shown that humanitarian considerations remain as relevant as ever for mine action. The legacies of the past are still present and new use of anti-personnel mines, including those of an improvised nature, adds to the challenge.

On a more positive note, our work within mine action has improved over the years, not least in terms of gender aspects. We warmly welcome the Oslo Action Plan's integration and mainstreaming of gender and diversity considerations into mine action programming. We also support the working paper presented by Finland with practical voluntary recommendations.

Mr President,

National ownership and political will of the cooperation partner countries are key to achieving sustainable development. Mine action is no exception. It needs to become an integrated part of our collective development efforts in line with Agenda 2030. A new school is of little use if girls and boys cannot get there safely.

In addition to our statement on assistance and cooperation, we would like to emphasize the rights perspective that has become part of the mine survivor agenda. Accessibility in all its aspects requires a socio-economic rights perspective. Sweden does not distinguish between the development aid to mine survivors, and the support to the health care sector in mine affected countries. In the last decade, our support to sustainable health care, infrastructure and personnel, medical education, training and services in such countries and as part of their own development strategies amounts to more than 110 million USD.

Mr President,

Under the heading "Finish the Job", the International Campaign to Ban Landmines has noted that the promise of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention will be fulfilled when the norm against use of antipersonnel mines is universal, and when States Parties to the treaty have fully implemented their key obligations. Our goal of a mine-free world will

only be possible to achieve if our efforts are sustained. The Oslo Action Agenda will be key to the continued and future implementation of the Convention. All affected must be taken into consideration in order to find viable and sustainable solutions.

To conclude, we wish to assure you of our continued support for this Convention and for its implementation.

We will provide a full written version of our statement.

I thank you.