



República de Moçambique

**STATEMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE  
AT THE 4<sup>th</sup> REVIEW CONFERENCE  
OF THE OTTAWA CONVENTION**

*Delivered by*

**His Excellency Mr. Florêncio Joel Sele,  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Norway**

**Head of Delegation**

*Item: Assistance to mine victims*

**Mr. President,**

**Distinguished delegates,**

Since this is the first time I am taking the floor, I wish, on behalf on my delegation, and my own name, to congratulate you, Mr. President, upon your election to preside over the 4<sup>th</sup> Review Conference of Mine Ban Convention.

Our congratulations are extended to your dedicated team, Mr. President, as well as to the Implementation Support Unity, for their commendable work in the preparation of this landmark Conference.

We also wish to join previous speakers in thanking Norway for hosting this conference,

**Mr. President,**

In Mozambique it is estimated that there are around 10,000 mine survivors and other remnants of war.

The Government, Civil Society and cooperating partners have made efforts to implement plans and programs to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities and mine victims, in particular, through enactment of relevant legislation, policies and strategies aiming at the promoting their active participation into society on equal footing with other persons.

Country policies and programs are inclusive and are based on the principle of non-discrimination, as we seek to expand and improve the provision of basic services such as access to psychosocial support, socioeconomic integration, and vocational technical training, that enables the creation of self-employment and income generation activities.

The National Strategy for Basic Social Security 2016-2024 introduces specific programs for the prevention of social risks and the care for mine survivors and persons with disabilities. The Basic Social Subsidy Program, is in the process of designing the specific program of subsidy for the disabled persons.

On the other side, victims of mines and people with disabilities benefit from Basic Social Protection programs through the Basic Social Allowance Program.

As for Mozambique's vision and commitments over the next 4 years, in the context of the prospective Oslo Plan of Action, we would resonate the ICRC, and I quote "*mine free world does not equate mine survivors' free world*", end quote.

Therefore, in light of the principles of *inclusion and leave no one behind* of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, Mozambique commit to redouble efforts in the improvement of programs and strategies aiming at further ameliorating the lives of mine survivors and other persons with disabilities, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability.

Furthermore, Mozambique will strive to:

- Create a national database on mine casualties, disaggregated by gender, age and type of impairment;
- Create more job opportunities for mine survivors, as we endeavor to extract more persons with disability, in general, out of poverty;
- Increase fund allocation to local governments to promote more inclusive actions in a broad way that can cover people with disabilities and mine victims in particular.

Mozambique counts on the support of the international partners in these endeavors.

On a different perspective, Mr. President, we wish to amplify the strong call both by the International Global Conference, that took place in Amman – Jordan, and the Meeting of Experts on Mine Victims, on the margins of this Conference, for the increase of funding for mine survivors' programs and projects, as one the fundamental pillars of Mine Action. Only then, can we stand the chance of advancing, in a substantive fashion, the assistance to mine survivors to lead a dignifying life.

In this regard, we strongly support the calls for the Action Plan to have a strengthened:

1. Section on international cooperation and assistance;

2. An indicator, on the Mine Victims Assistance Section, on the *number of States Parties that allocate specific funding for mine survivors' programs and projects.*

We believe, that the encapsulation of these contributions, would do justice to part of the outcomes of the abovementioned events dedicated to mine victims' assistance.

We thank you, for your kind attention