

FINISH THE JOB BY 2025

March 1, 2021 marks the 22nd anniversary of the humanitarian success story that is the **Mine Ban Treaty**. While we celebrate this accomplishment, we also want the entry into force anniversary to serve as a reminder, a **wake-up call**. We have **less than five years to finish the job and achieve the 2025 completion goal** that was adopted at the Third Review Conference in Maputo in 2014 and reiterated at the Fourth Review Conference in Oslo in 2019.

The ICBL calls on all **States Parties to immediately step up efforts and to complete their key Mine Ban Treaty obligations as soon as possible, and no later than 2025**. We strongly believe that with genuine national ownership, renewed determination, sufficient and targeted resources, and applying good practice, a mine-free 2025 is entirely possible! After more than 20 years of implementation efforts, and as we near the 2025 target, there is no more time to spare. We must ensure that **mine action is placed higher on the agenda, that it is tackled with urgency and efficiency, and that it is effective, timely, and inclusive**.

As reported by the [Landmine Monitor 2020](#) very few States Parties appear to be on track to meet their **current clearance deadlines; many continue falling far behind their own targets year after year**. The Monitor also reported that **2019 was the fifth year in a row with unacceptably high numbers of recorded casualties**, mostly due to new contamination of improvised nature.

We should ALL be alarmed.

Tackling completion and finishing the job as soon as possible and by 2025 – is more urgent and important than ever!

States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty committed to the 2025 aspirational completion goal in the 2014 Maputo Action Plan and again via the 2019 Oslo Action Plan. It is in the hands of States Parties to fulfill this commitment.

What does finishing the job by 2025 mean?

Clearance

All current States Parties need to make **every effort** to identify and report all mined areas (including areas contaminated with mines of an improvised nature) and to ensure that all mines in those areas **are cleared and destroyed as soon as possible and no later than their current deadline under the treaty**. If unknown mined areas are discovered after completion is announced, those areas shall be reported on and addressed as quickly as possible. Currently 31 States Parties have declared contamination and have an obligation to clear it; a few additional States Parties need to declare, report on, and clear their new or residual contamination.

Victim Assistance

States Parties will achieve completion of their obligations under Article 6.3 (provision of victim assistance) by **adequately and sustainably meeting the needs and protecting the rights of landmine victims**, including through broader frameworks such as development or disability rights. Currently some 34 States Parties are responsible for significant numbers of mine victims within their national territory. For more information on how to provide a framework for all concerned actors to plan, implement, monitor, and evaluate victim assistance check [ICBL-CMC guiding principles](#).

Risk Education

States Parties need to continue to have more effective and targeted risk education in areas with ongoing casualties. In 2019, some two-thirds of casualties were reported in States Parties, with the highest numbers recorded in: Afghanistan, Colombia, Iraq, Mali, Nigeria, Ukraine, and Yemen. Through better risk education and more rapid clearance, **we look forward to achieving and celebrating no new landmine victims in States Parties by 2025.**

Stockpile Destruction

All current States Parties will have finished destroying their stocks of antipersonnel mines as soon as possible or by 2025 latest. States Parties **Greece and Ukraine (which have both missed their destruction deadlines) and Sri Lanka (2022 deadline) possess a collective total of almost four million antipersonnel mines and should destroy them as soon as possible!**

Mines Retained for Training

States Parties need to regularly review and report on the numbers of mines retained for training and research, and to destroy any mines over the minimum number strictly necessary for that purpose. **Sri Lanka, Finland, and Bangladesh have each retained more than 12,000 mines, while seven States Parties (Djibouti, Nigeria, Oman, Burundi, Cape Verde, Senegal, and Togo) have retained mines for training but never reported consuming any of their mines retained for permitted purposes since the entry into force of the treaty for them.**

Cooperation and Assistance

Since progress on these areas often relies on sustained support, the ICBL calls on affected states and donors to build or strengthen informal partnerships. **Country Coalitions offer the right environment to do so.** Rather than “funding and forgetting,” donors are encouraged to be a present, reliable, and engaged partner throughout the support cycle. Affected states should likewise demonstrate ownership and commitment, and to foster a closer relationship with donors, keeping them regularly informed of progress and needs, and openly discussing challenges. Establishing broader partnerships, involving all donors, operators, and other relevant stakeholders, is also needed to help to fill in any gaps in strategic, political, or technical support and to ensure all actors are working cohesively towards affected states objectives. See the most recent list of mine action donors and recipients in [this infographic on mine action funding trends in 2010–2019](#).

Transparency Reporting

With a submission rate of just 46%, 2020 saw one of the lowest levels of compliance ever for annual transparency reporting. **Transparency reporting is not a mere formality, it is an obligation and an essential ingredient for achieving a mine-free world.** As we redouble our efforts to meet the 2025 target, **detailed and timely reporting of the situation on the ground, progress, needs, and remaining challenges, is indispensable.** All States Parties have a part to play in this endeavor. Read here the [ICBL manifesto on transparency launched in 2018](#) for a refresher on the importance of Article 7 reports.

Universalization

The Mine Ban Treaty will not be “complete” until the **ban norm** is universally respected and there is no more use of anti-personnel mines by any actor anywhere, nor any production or transfers of the weapon. This respect is vital to fulfilling the treaty’s promise to “put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines.” Marshall Islands remains the **only signatory** that has not ratified the Mine Ban Treaty, and **33 non-signatory states remain outside the treaty.** We should spare no effort to ensure that ALL states join the ban and abide by the international norm as soon as possible.



For more information
please check:
www.icblcmc.org
www.the-monitor.org
[@minefreeworld](https://twitter.com/minefreeworld)



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