

ICBL REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

2009



Photo: Giovanni Diffidenti

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International **TO BAN**
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LANDMINES

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B. Project Objectives and 2009 overview

The ICBL is a coalition of non-governmental organizations in over 70 countries working for a world free of antipersonnel landmines and cluster munitions, where survivors see their rights respected and can live fulfilling lives. The ICBL has committed to ensure the full implementation and universalization of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, or Mine Ban Treaty, and the swift entry into force of the new Convention on Cluster Munitions, as well as the gathering of new signatories.

Activities carried in 2009 particularly aimed at ensuring the success of the Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty, or Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World, held in Colombia at the end of the year. The ICBL worked to maintain the necessary level of awareness to ensure the full implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty by States Parties, especially in terms of victim assistance, mine clearance and stockpile destruction, and to ensure the ban on antipersonnel landmines is acknowledged as an international norm. Throughout the year, the ICBL continued to champion the participation of civil society in the disarmament agenda, in partnership with like-minded governments and organizations.

2009 Overview

The year was marked by the need for an honest and thorough assessment of the progress made since the first Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty (2004), followed by a recommitment by all actors to work faithfully towards the goal of a mine-free world where survivors see their needs addressed and their rights respected. Under the slogan “A Mine-Free World: Mission Possible”, the ICBL engaged intensively with governments and the general public throughout the year to call for and contribute to such an assessment and recommitment. Those efforts paid out: the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World made it clear that the international community remains firmly engaged in addressing the landmine issue through the full universalization and implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty. It also sent a signal to the world that the landmine problem is not solved yet and needs the continued energy of all stakeholders.

Victim assistance remains the aspect of mine action that saw the least progress since the Mine Ban Treaty entered into force. Pushing for real change in the lives of mine survivors has been a key undertaking of the ICBL in 2009, through the “Progress on the Ground” initiative that fosters greater and more strategic involvement of its members working on victim assistance. With our support, survivors made their voice heard with their local and national authorities throughout the year, culminating with the delivery of the Survivors’ Call to Action in front of high-level government delegates at the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World. The Cartagena Declaration adopted by all States Parties to the treaty recognized the need to “ensure the full and effective participation and inclusion of mine victims” in all aspects of the life of their communities, and the ICBL commits to keep working towards this goal.

The pace of Mine Ban Treaty universalization has slowed down in recent years, and came to an apparent halt with no new accessions/ratifications since November 2007. However, continuous engagement with states not party by the ICBL and its members did contribute to a few incremental results. These included: participation of the US in the Cartagena Summit and initiation of a comprehensive review of US landmine policy; Mongolia reengaging in the dialog on accession; Nepal attending the Cartagena Summit at a high level; and Lao PDR confirming its intention to join the treaty.

As a member of the Steering Committee of the Cluster Munition Coalition, the ICBL continued to mobilize its network and use its experience to work on the universalization and to encourage the first implementation steps of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Always developed and carried out in close cooperation with the Cluster Munition Coalition and relevant national campaigns, joint lobbying activities contributed to highlighting the close ties between the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions’ humanitarian aims and practical implementation.

In countries affected by landmines and cluster munitions, we believe our work contributes to post-conflict reconstruction, consolidation of peace and sustainable development. Through our national campaign mobilization and support programme, we contribute to strengthening the voice of civil society in many countries and we empower non-governmental organizations on the long term, encouraging them to closely work with their governments on implementing international humanitarian law and human rights.

To ensure such mobilization can continue in an efficient way for as long as needed, the ICBL and the Cluster Munition Coalition undertook parallel, wide-ranging consultation processes with their respective memberships in 2009, about future priorities and structures, including the future relationship and potential synergies between both organizations. Based on the findings of the consultations, the leadership of both campaigns made a proposal for the future that was presented to campaigners in a joint meeting on 5 December. Campaigners welcomed the proposal and entrusted both the Management Committee of the ICBL and Steering Committee of the CMC to further develop it in the course of 2010, for the merger to become effective in 2011.

The ICBL is committed to work until the promises of the Mine Ban Treaty and Convention on Cluster Munitions are fulfilled and to keep doing so in partnership with like-minded states, the United Nations, international organizations and the International Committee of the Red Cross. As Denise Coghlan of the ICBL Management Committee wrote in her May 2009 newsletter editorial: “The first reason why we campaign is people, people whose lives have been changed forever because of the presence of explosive remnants of war in their villages or forests or fields ... The second reason is people again.”

C. Activities

1. Second Review Conference

The Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty, or *Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World*, took place in Cartagena, Colombia from 29 November until 4 December 2009. More information and key documents are available at www.icbl.org/cartagenasummit

ICBL delegation

The ICBL delegation to the Cartagena Summit comprised 419 people from 73 countries, including 193 women and 226 men. From this number, 171 campaigners were from Colombia. ICBL sponsored 94 participants including 13 from States not Parties and 68 from Mine Affected countries or areas. The ICBL delegation included over 60 survivors, including 18 sponsored ICBL members from outside Colombia and 33 from Colombia.

This was the largest ICBL delegation to a landmine meeting ever, demonstrating the strong commitment that motivates civil society to ensure that all aspects of the landmine problem are fully addressed, even ten years after the entry into force of the Mine Ban Treaty. Steve Goose, Director of the Arms Division at Human Rights Watch, led the delegation.

Four ICBL Ambassadors were present: Nobel Peace laureate Jody Williams, Cambodian mine survivors Tun Channareth and Song Kosal, and Ugandan mine survivor Margaret Arach Orech. In addition to holding one-on-one meetings with government representatives, the ICBL Ambassadors officially took the floor on several occasions: Song Kosal addressed the opening ceremony with her personal message as a survivor, Margaret Arach Orech participated to the delivery of the Survivors’ Call to Action, and Jody Williams addressed the opening of the high-level segment, speaking about the enduring vitality of the partnerships between governments and civil society in the continued success of the MBT, and reminding all that “pretty” conference speeches had to be followed with concrete actions.

Engagement with States Parties

One of ICBL’s goals for the Review Conference was for States Parties to make a special effort in the lead up to the conference to complete significant treaty obligations, such as mine clearance, or to make concrete plans to finish them or provide support to others to do so in the coming years. ICBL staff therefore sent letters to all States Parties’ heads of state or government requesting them to come to Cartagena at the highest possible level with such announcements in hand. We individually tailored each letter with suggestions of outstanding treaty obligations we thought would be feasible and useful to finish by Cartagena, as well as concrete actions they could commit to in the coming years. We then

followed up by asking our campaigners in-country to contact their government with the same messages plus conducted a round of advocacy meetings in Geneva.

Launch events

ICBL staff or representatives participated in public events launching the road to Cartagena in early March 2009, in Geneva, Bogotá and New York. In Geneva on 3 March, the ICBL's Treaty Implementation Officer first spoke at a press conference organized by Handicap International, where he presented the ICBL's expectations for the Cartagena Summit, reminding the media that the landmine problem is far from solved. He also participated in a public outdoor ceremony organized by the President-Designate of the Review Conference, where he talked about his personal experience as a landmine survivor from Afghanistan and emphasized the importance of sustainable financial support and long-term programs to clear all mines and to address the needs of survivors, their families and communities. In Bogotá on 2 March, the ICBL's Executive Director joined a public ecumenical ceremony organized by CIREC and other civil society partners, and she participated as a panelist on a press conference organized by the Colombian government to launch the road to Cartagena. In New York, a member of the ICBL management committee joined the Norwegian and Colombian ambassadors to the UN for a public event commemorating the anniversary of the Mine Ban Treaty's entry into force and launching the DVD of *Disarm*, a documentary film on landmines. ICBL campaigners in over 65 countries also organized events launching the road to Cartagena (see below.)

Regional conferences to prepare for the Cartagena Summit, supported by the EU Joint Action.

The ICBL took part in the preparation of the Review Conference through its participation in regional conferences. Those conferences were organized by States Parties, with the support of the European Union through its last Joint Action, in order to build up the momentum towards the Summit. They took place in Managua, Nicaragua on 24-26 February; Bangkok, Thailand from 31 March-3 April; Dushanbe, Tajikistan from 6-8 July, Pretoria, South Africa from 9-11 September and Tirana, Albania from 7-9 October. The five workshops brought together government representatives from each region including many states not Party; international organizations active on the landmine issue; the International Committee of the Red Cross; and ICBL staff and campaigners, including VA Focal Points, who made the voice of survivors and persons with disabilities heard. These meetings provided an important opportunity to review the status of the implementation of the Convention in the region, as well as highlight remaining challenges, including by inviting states that are not yet parties to it.

Our contribution to the meetings included organizing a delegation of regional campaigners to each meeting and working with them before the meeting to prepare thematic and country-specific talking points, delivering statements (for most meetings we were invited to make a high-level statement, and to provide a regional overview of the treaty and the ICBL's expectations for the Cartagena Summit), making impromptu comments during the meeting, and meeting with government delegates during breaks in the conference. In Nicaragua, ICBL representatives also visited the embassies of Cuba and the United States to urge their accession to the treaty. All ICBL reports on the workshops are available online at www.icbl.org/cartagenasummit.

Input into the Cartagena Summit Documents

The Review Conference produced three main documents: the Review of the Status and Operation of the Convention 2005-2009, the Cartagena Action Plan 2010-2014 and the Cartagena Declaration. The ICBL provided significant substantive contributions to all three documents, though we focused mainly on the review and the action plan. We first worked with member organizations, the Landmine Monitor team, and others in the campaign to gather their views on key messages. We then provided written and oral input to the President-Designate and other States Parties throughout 2009, including at the two preparatory meetings on the Review Conference in May and September. Our input started with general suggestions and ended with specific comments on draft language. It covered all areas, from universalization to all aspects of implementation.

In the end the documents of the Review Conference were of extremely high quality and reflected almost all of our suggestions. The Review was a thorough record of the achievements of States Parties and other actors, including those in civil society. It also documented many conclusions related to the implementation of the treaty that States Parties have developed over the past five years, as well as

practices that have helped advance the goals of the treaty. For example, it noted the increasing use of land release through technical and non-technical means, the proactive role past MSP presidents and co-chairs have played on compliance cases, and the actions taken by some states to destroy mines with sensitive fuses.

The Cartagena Action Plan is filled with concrete goals that respond to many of the particular implementation and universalization challenges the ICBL identified, including better reporting on mines retained for training, addressing cases on non-compliance on stockpile destruction, and taking the next steps on land release. The ICBL made a special effort to contribute to the language on victim assistance, consulting with members working or conducting research in the field and VA Focal Points on what they thought could make a real difference in the lives of survivors and other persons with disabilities. The emphasis on the ICBL was on inclusion, access to services, and a rights-based approach to VA, including harmonizing work with the CRPD.

In Cartagena

At the Summit itself, the ICBL had the opportunity to make statements on all aspects of treaty implementation and universalization, which we used to put forward our policy positions, congratulate states on progress made, and challenge them to continue working hard until the treaty's promise was fulfilled. The statements were drafted based on findings of the Landmine Monitor, input from members working in mine-affected states, and the analyses of staff working closely with States Parties on these issues. Landmine survivors also delivered a Survivors' Call to Action, which highlighted implementation priorities from their unique perspective. All statements and other key documents are available at www.icbl.org/cartagenasummit

Victim Assistance at the Cartagena Summit

Several landmine survivors led off the session on victim assistance, bringing out various challenges in the area of victim assistance. They used their own experiences to highlight issues like access to education, basic rights of victims and their inclusion in policymaking, and commitment for national and international funding. The session showed that much has been learned about planning and coordinating victim assistance work, including the need to integrate such efforts into the disability and development frameworks and to include survivors and other persons with disabilities in all stages of planning and implementation. At the same time, the speakers highlighted large gaps that remain in providing timely assistance to all in need, especially in the field of economic inclusion and in reaching communities in remote areas.

A group of survivors led by Cambodian ICBL Ambassadors Tun Channareth and Song Kosal engaged with all delegates after the signing of the Cartagena Declaration during the high-level segment on the last two days of the Summit. The survivors congratulated the government delegates and asked them to fully implement the Cartagena Action Plan in their countries, to support the survivors, and to join the CCM if they had not yet done so. They also handed over the Survivors' Call to Action and symbolic gifts from Cambodia.

In addition survivors played a crucial role holding bilateral meetings with governments, including a meeting by a group of survivors with the USA delegation to urge the US to change its policy and join the Mine Ban Treaty without further delay.

ICBL Working Meetings

In addition to the official conference, the ICBL invited all its members to participate in the 28 November ICBL Orientation and Campaign Meeting to communicate essential logistical information to ICBL campaigners about the activities scheduled in the upcoming week, to set objectives for advocacy and lobbying during the Review Conference, to review advocacy tools, including the Lobbying Booklet with specific goals and messages, and to provide general coordination for the week. The Campaign Meeting was followed by meetings of regional and sub-regional groups, whose task was to develop lobbying strategies vis-à-vis the countries from their region and to divide-up the work between the groups' members for the coming week. In addition, in order to brief new campaigners the ICBL staff organized a general briefing on the Mine Ban Treaty and ICBL both in English and Spanish.

On the same day, ICBL's Advisory Board members were invited to participate in an Advisory Board Meeting where they discussed the expected outcomes of the Review Conference and the future of the campaign.

ICBL Daily Briefings

Daily briefings were held each morning before the opening of the official meetings. These briefings were attended by over 100 ICBL members daily, and provided a forum for ICBL members to discuss the previous day's developments as well as to draw attention to the important issues and events of the upcoming day. The briefings allowed campaigners to share information about previous lobbying meetings, and to strategize on specific points for future discussions with country delegations. They also permitted campaigners and ICBL staff to speak together, to motivate each other, and to participate equally in the definition of objectives for the day and the week.

In addition, the ICBL campaigners held daily meetings in regional and sub regional groups to strategize on lobbying within their region tailor their messages and divide-up the work for the coming day.

Lobbying

The ICBL delegates engaged with governments present at the Summit throughout the week to discuss specific issues of implementation or universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty and to advocate for further progress, and in particular for the full implementation of the Cartagena Action Plan.

The main goals for lobbying at the Summit were the following:

- ICBL representatives meet and engage constructively with every government present at the Summit
- ICBL campaigners and experts discuss in-depth progress, challenges, and next actions to get the job done in the coming years, with representatives of priority countries for implementation and universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty.
- ICBL representatives provide governments with relevant expertise and materials, including Landmine Monitor Report 2009, ICBL statements and policy papers, and other documents.

To ensure lobbying efforts were well coordinated and effective, a series of strategy and information-sharing meetings were organized.

Besides numerous informal discussions held at different occasions throughout the week, the ICBL representatives held formal meetings with 95 out of 125 governments present in Cartagena, including 78 States Parties and 18 states not party, including one signatory to the Mine Ban Treaty.

Next to lobbying carried out by the ICBL, the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) representatives present in Cartagena engaged the governments on the Convention on Cluster Munitions, to advocate for further signatures, ratifications, and implementation steps by concerned states. Where appropriate, the ICBL and CMC representatives held joint lobbying meetings with relevant governments to discuss issues related to both conventions.

In their lobbying meetings, the ICBL representatives often used findings from Landmine Monitor Report 2009, other reports, and recent national developments as a starting point for their discussions, most of which focused on the need for effective and swift implementation of the Cartagena Action Plan in the coming years.

In meetings with States Parties, ICBL representatives raised and discussed thoroughly all aspects of Mine Ban Treaty implementation, in particular: need for more progress on implementation of victim assistance on the ground and inclusion of survivors; better planning and coordination, and more national ownership of mine action programs, especially in countries that have been granted extension for their mine clearance obligations and those that plan to request one in the future; stronger commitment and more resources dedicated to complete stockpile destruction by States Parties that have missed their deadline or have an upcoming one; the need to commit funding to mine action and victim assistance for the next five years; as well as issues related to transparency reporting, retention of mines for training and development, and national legislation.

List of ICBL meetings with States Parties (78):

Afghanistan (high level)	Croatia	Norway (high level)
Albania	Ecuador	Palau
Algeria	El Salvador (high level)	Panama (high level)
Angola (high level)	Ethiopia	Paraguay (high level)
Argentina	Gambia	Peru (high level)
Australia (high level)	Germany	Philippines
Austria (high level)	Ghana	Portugal (high level)
Belarus	Guatemala (high level)	Qatar
Belgium (high level)	Guinea-Bissau (high level)	Serbia
Benin	Iraq	Slovenia (high level)
Bolivia	Italy (high level)	Spain (high level)
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Japan	Sudan (high level)
Brazil	Jordan (high level)	Sweden (high level)
Bulgaria:	Kenya	Switzerland (high level)
Burundi (high level)	Kiribati	Tajikistan (high level)
Cambodia (high level)	Kuwait	Tanzania
Cameroon	Malawi	Thailand (high level)
Canada (high level)	Malaysia (high level)	Tunisia
Chad	Mauritania	Uganda (high level)
Chile (high level)	Mexico	Ukraine
Colombia (high level)	Mozambique (high level)	United Kingdom
Comoros	Namibia	Uruguay
Congo, D.R. (high level)	Netherlands	Vanuatu
Congo, Republic of (high level)	New Zealand (high level)	Vietnam
Costa Rica	Nicaragua	Yemen
Cote d'Ivoire	Niger	Zambia
	Nigeria	Zimbabwe

In meetings with states not party, the ICBL delegates discussed the challenges to and progress made towards accession, and in particular plans and timeline for accession/ratification and adoption of interim measures by states that are not ready to join yet, including voting in favor of the annual U.N. General Assembly resolution on the treaty, submitting a voluntary transparency report, as well as national moratoria on use, export and production, and plans for stockpile destruction, clearance and victim assistance.

List of ICBL meetings with states not party (18):

Bahrain	Lao PDR (high level)	Russian Federation
China	Lebanon	Saudi Arabia
Cuba	Mongolia	Singapore
Egypt	Morocco	Sri Lanka
Georgia	Nepal (high level)	USA
India	Poland	Vietnam

On 3 and 4 December, ICBL delegates met bilaterally with high level government representatives to strengthen the partnership between the civil society and government at the national level, and to discuss the next steps towards full implementation or accession. The ICBL met with high level representatives of the following countries: Afghanistan, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Italy, Jordan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mozambique, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda.

On 3 December, the ICBL organized a special event for high level representatives, to discuss the challenges still ahead on the road to a mine-free world, as well as ways to jointly pursue the full universalization and implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty. A small group of high-profile ICBL members represented the various facets of our diverse campaign, including Nobel Peace laureate Jody Williams; Margaret Arach Orech, ICBL Ambassador and landmine survivor; Steve Goose, ICBL Head of Delegation; as well as Mystical Rose Laguna, from the Youth Leaders Forum. They all presented their views and hopes for the future of the treaty.

Her Royal Highness Princess Astrid of Belgium shared her personal commitment to the treaty and her wish to see Belgium pursuing its leadership role on victim assistance. Soraya Paikan, Deputy Minister of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled of Afghanistan shared the difficulties she faces in trying to improve the life of survivors, but reaffirmed the commitment of Afghanistan towards them. Arian Starova, Deputy Minister of Defense of Albania declared Albania was honored and ready to be designated as President of the 10 MSP, and would take their responsibilities very seriously.

Bob McMullan, Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance of Australia emphasized the need to find ways to support affected states on a multi-year basis, to ensure more sustainability, hence results, and said Australia would continue working on universalization in Asia. Peter Kent, Canadian Minister of State of Foreign Affairs (Americas) reaffirmed the Canadian leadership against landmines and shared his pride to see such a momentum around the Mine Ban Treaty, ten years after its entry into force. Lastly, Jostein Leiro, speaking on behalf of Gry Larsen, State Secretary of Norway, reiterated his country's engagement to ensure the success of the Mine Ban Treaty, together with the Convention on Cluster Munitions, and called for all to seek appropriate synergies to facilitate and encourage implementation.

All high level delegates paid tribute to the role the ICBL had played over the years in not only bringing about the Mine Ban Treaty, but also maintaining momentum to ensure its implementation and universalization. They particularly recognized the powerful presence and work of survivors at the Summit, and expressed the wish the Call to Action they had sent to delegates would be heard, and acted upon, in the coming years.

A group of survivors led by the ICBL Ambassadors from Cambodia Tun Channareth and Song Kosal, engaged with all delegates after the signing of the Cartagena Declaration on the last two days of the Summit. The survivors congratulated the government delegates and asked for actions to fully implement the Cartagena Action Plan in their countries, to support the survivors, and to join the Convention on Cluster Munitions if the country has not yet done so. They also handed over the Survivors' Call to Action, and symbolic gifts from Cambodia. In addition, survivors played a crucial role holding bilateral meetings with governments, including a meeting by a group of survivors with the American delegation to urge the USA to change its policy on landmines and to join the Mine Ban Treaty without further delay.

Side Events

A rich program of side events organized by the ICBL and its members did an excellent job of shedding light on a variety of aspects of the mine problem. All events were open to all conference participants, including the media. The program provided participants with opportunities for in-depth, technical discussions relevant to the advanced implementation stage of a ten year old treaty, but also with emotion-packed and exciting experiences such as diving with mine survivors off the coast of Cartagena or joining in a wheelchair rugby match alongside international players. The full list of side events is available in the Cartagena Summit report at www.icbl.org/cartagenasummit. The ICBL and its members also set up several photo exhibitions about the impact of landmines and explosive remnants of war, with the aim of bringing to the Summit the reality of mine-affected communities worldwide.

2. Implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty

Advocacy efforts on Mine Ban Treaty implementation in 2009 included outreach to States Parties through lobbying meetings with delegates to the United Nations in Geneva as well as ongoing dialogue with government representatives at the national level; active participation in all the official Mine Ban Treaty meetings through the delivery of statements on key aspects of the treaty and the dissemination of policy papers such as critiques of mine clearance deadline extension requests; tailored letters sent to all heads of states and foreign ministers asking for specific announcements and commitments at the Cartagena Summit as well as high-level representation at the Summit; staff missions supporting in-country advocacy; communication tools shared with campaign members to encourage coherent campaigning worldwide (e.g. a logo and slogan for the Cartagena Summit, template media tools); providing information to the public through our revamped website and newsletter; as well as reaching out to the media and acting as an expert resource.

a) General activities

Engagement with States Parties

Throughout 2009, the ICBL continued to use its presence in Geneva to meet regularly with States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty to discuss issues related to the implementation of their treaty obligations. Such meetings allowed us to communicate our advocacy messages and hear about national developments in an efficient manner. Given the disarmament focus of diplomats in Geneva, our interlocutors are generally well-informed about the landmine issue. Otherwise we use these occasions to increase their understanding of the treaty and encourage them to be more engaged.

The ICBL also met with a large number of government representatives during significant gatherings of states in Geneva, such as the UN Programme Director's Meetings, which took place in March, and the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) meetings, which were held in February, April, and November. Again, the government representatives at such meetings are usually familiar with the technical aspects of Mine Ban Treaty implementation, making this an excellent opportunity to discuss implementation in detail. The ICBL worked to coordinate its advocacy efforts with other partners in Geneva, including the ICRC, the European Commission and United Nations agencies.

In addition to the meetings described above, the ICBL was also in contact with States Parties through letters or emails, both at the working level and at high levels, to obtain information on implementation or to seek a change in policy or practice. ICBL staff coordinate such advocacy with national campaigners when present in the country in question. We also sent a set of letters to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of a specific group of States Parties around the 1 March anniversary of the entry into force of the Mine Ban Treaty. We chose to focus on those states that either still have stockpile destruction obligations, received mine clearance deadline extensions in 2008, have not been transparent about mines retained for training purposes, or owe initial transparency reports.

Coordinating Committee

The ICBL continued to be highly involved in the work of the Coordinating Committee, a body of treaty leaders including the President of the Meeting of the States Parties/Review Conference, co-chairs and co-rapporteurs of the thematic Standing Committees and leaders of the Contact Groups that meets once every one to two months to coordinate their activities. Through separate meetings or together through the Coordinating Committee, the ICBL worked with these governments to communicate our advocacy priorities, to encourage them to focus on specific issues and States Parties, and to shape the agenda of the informal and formal treaty meetings.

Intersessional Standing Committee Meetings, 25-29 May 2009

The Intersessional Standing Committees meetings (ISC) took place from 25 to 29 May 2009 in Geneva, Switzerland. The meetings provided a forum for States Parties to give updates on their implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty as well as for the ICBL and other participants to discuss progress and remaining issues of concern.

ICBL campaigners attended the ISC meetings in large numbers, with over 100 campaigners (114) from around the world attending, including 51 women and 63 men. ICBL sponsored participants included 5 women and 11 men. The campaign prepared updates for its members to use in country, which are available online at www.icbl.org/index.php/icbl/Library/News-Articles/intersessionals09.

The ICBL team coordinated campaigning activities at the ISC including: lobbying delegates, supporting campaigners in their advocacy work, organizing and facilitating trainings and workshops on lobbying objectives and strategies, organizing side events, and working with the media. The ICBL and its member organizations delivered statements on all aspects of the Mine Ban Treaty implementation and universalization, including stockpile destruction, mine clearance, victim assistance and matters of interpretation and compliance. Of special concern in 2009 were three states' continuing non-compliance with their stockpile destruction obligations, the large number of states needing extensions of their mine clearance deadline, the lack of progress seen by survivors on victim assistance, and states keeping mines for training without reporting on past or planned use. The ICBL also expressed its concern about recent allegations of use of landmines along the Thai-Cambodia border, and it encouraged states to find a more systematic way to deal with such allegations of non-compliance at the Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty (Cartagena Summit).

On May 22nd, the ICBL organized a preparatory workshop for Victim Assistance Focal Points (VAFP) and campaign members working closely with survivors. The participants of the workshop were updated on the developments, achievements and challenges in the field of Victim Assistance (VA). The participants also prepared ICBL's VA statements, coordinated their lobbying efforts for the week and shared their views on the recommendations for the Cartagena Action Plan.

The workshop was followed by a two day VA retreat, which took place from 23 to 24 May and was organised by the VA Co-Chairs (Belgium and Thailand). The VA Focal Points of ICBL actively participated and shared their recommendations and suggestions on behalf of their fellow survivors and persons with disabilities from around the world for the Cartagena Action Plan.

This preparation helped landmine survivors and other victim assistance experts in the ICBL to play an active role in the parallel program organized by the VA Co-Chairs throughout the week. Participants in the VA parallel program provided input and suggestions on a food for thought paper drafted by the VA Co-Chairs, outlining recommendations for the Cartagena Action Plan. The recommendations were presented to the President-Designate of the Second Review Conference.

In addition, VA Focal Points provided concrete inputs and suggestions in promoting availability and accessibility, national ownership and capacity building, and synergies with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. The final message of the survivors highlighted implementation as the crucial aspect of victim assistance. When Margaret Arach Orech, a landmine survivor and ICBL's Ambassador from Uganda, was asked to outline the top three priorities for the period of 2010 to 2014, she replied "Number 1 implementation, number 2, implementation and number 3 implementation."

Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World, 29 November - 4 December 2009

See above, C.1 Second Review Conference

b)Thematic Issues

Mine Clearance

The ICBL closely followed developments in those countries still contaminated by antipersonnel mines, encouraging policy developments and national actions that encouraged clearance in the safest and most expedient manner. Of particular concern to the ICBL has been the high proportion of states asking for extensions of the 10 year period given for mine clearance under Article 5 of the treaty. States Parties can ask for an extension of this deadline, but this provision was intended for states facing extraordinary circumstances like ongoing conflict or heavy contamination. Instead, 15 states requested and received extensions in 2008, and another four states did so in 2009. In 2009, three of the four requesting states - Argentina, Cambodia and Tajikistan - asked for a 10-year extension - the

maximum extension authorized by the treaty. Another disappointment was that Uganda, which was expected to finish by its 1 August 2009 deadline, not only did not finish but asked for another three years.

The ICBL prepared critiques of the requests from Cambodia, Tajikistan, and Uganda. We recommended that Cambodia request and be granted a two-year extension to give it time to collect accurate and reliable data on its mine contamination, and then submit a second request based on the results of a new baseline survey and subsequent planning. Given Tajikistan's relatively small contaminated area, we suggested that its request be reduced from ten to five years with a new plan based on the possibility of greater national and international funding. We also recommended that Uganda receive a shorter extension, or failing that, be asked to report back to states with a new plan if they were able to use mechanical equipment they expected to borrow from a demining organization in southern Sudan.

We presented the critiques to the group of states tasked with preparing questions and analyses of the requests and to the ISC meetings and the Review Conference. We were told by states in this “analysing group” that they were useful in preparing their reactions to the requests. Ultimately the states were all given the extensions they sought, but the analyses and decisions on the requests included some of our concerns and encouraged states to be more efficient and transparent in the future. The ICBL followed up the developments in those 15 states that were granted extensions of their clearance deadline in November 2008, and made statements in the Standing Committee meeting in May 2009. All the relevant documentation on ICBL work on the extension requests is available at www.icbl.org/index.php/icbl/content/view/full/23744.

In 2009, the ICBL also sought to point out the close connection between international assistance and successful implementation of Article 5. The ICBL supported a call by Zambia and other mine-affected states to create a new Standing Committee on Resources in order to focus attention on the continuing need for international aid, and also to encourage greater efficiencies in mine action and more cooperation among affected states.

The ICBL followed up on past expressions of concern about the changes to the European Commission’s funding system, which meant that as of 2007, those states that did not signal mine action as a development priority were no longer able to access demining funds from the EC. With a mid-term funding review in 2009, the ICBL sent letters to all states that had been receiving such aid to ensure that they included mine action as a priority in their bilateral planning documents with the EC. In addition, the ICBL continued to voice our opinion on policy matters relative to Article 5, including land release, clearance to less than treaty requirements (i.e., clearing only until “impact-free”), and the need to take seriously the treaty’s requirement to clear land “as soon as possible”. We spoke on these issues at the ISC meetings, the regional meetings leading up to the Review Conference and in Cartagena itself. We also encouraged states to include language on these points in the Cartagena Action Plan and five-year review.

Victim Assistance

See below, C.3 Focus on Victim Assistance

Disarmament

The ICBL followed a number of serious issues related to the Mine Ban Treaty’s ban on antipersonnel mines, including non-compliance with stockpile destruction deadlines, allegations of use of mines, retention of mines for unclear purposes, states’ interpretation of key treaty articles and submission of transparency reports. The ICBL has been particularly active during the period of the Action to ensure States Parties were meeting their stockpile destruction deadlines – or to denounce slow process and missed deadlines. Three states (Belarus, Greece and Turkey) missed their 1 March 2008 deadline with millions of mines remaining in their stocks, a violation of a critical obligation of the Mine Ban Treaty. We strongly encouraged the three states to destroy their mines without any further delay and to announce a new date by which they expected to finish. Our advocacy with Greece, especially in Geneva, helped push it to move much faster than originally planned, though they still have no firm end date for completion. Turkey now also appears to have increased its destruction capacity. Both states

are actively destroying tens of thousands of mines per month. Belarus' progress depended on negotiations on funding with the European Commission, so we encouraged both parties to work quickly and in a flexible manner to reach an agreement. We also worked with Ukraine on augmenting national capacity to destroy their six million mines, which are due to be destroyed by 1 June 2010. They finally managed in the fall of 2009 to take the necessary steps to access EC funding, but they still do not anticipate finishing destruction for several more years.

The ICBL closely followed allegations of use of antipersonnel mines in Peru, as well as along the Thailand-Cambodia border. Upon receiving media reports of use of mines by the military in Peru, we wrote to the Minister of Defense, who informed us that an investigation had taken place and that no use had occurred by Peruvian forces. We also continued to work with the governments of Thailand and Cambodia to follow up on allegations of new mine use along their border in 2008.

The ICBL pursued its advocacy with States Parties on Articles 1, 2 and 3 of the treaty. We encouraged states to make their views known on the treaty's ban on assistance in the use of mines (Article 1) and the use of sensitive fuses with anti-vehicle mines (Article 2). Two additional states made their views known at the Cartagena Summit on Article 2, showing that there is near consensus on this obligation. We continued to advocate for states to clarify how they have used mines retained under Article 3 (for training purposes), noting that a failure to do so creates suspicions of abuse of the exception to the treaty's ban on stockpiling.

In terms of transparency reports, we have regularly called on States ahead of their 30 April deadline, asking them to submit the report on time as well as to fill in all non mandatory forms, (especially on the use of mines retained for training and on victim assistance). We are concerned that the compliance rate with these obligations has been dropping steadily in recent years. We have also regularly engaged with those states who have not yet submitted their initial report (Equatorial Guinea, Gambia and Cape Verde). The latter two states submitted their initial reports in 2009.

Finally, the ICBL has been working relentlessly to ensure the ban on landmines is acknowledged as an international norm. In particular, the ICBL and its partners have been watching, monitoring and denouncing any new use of antipersonnel landmines by any actor in the global system. The ICBL has followed up with letters and demarches to all states parties to the convention who have been the subject of allegations of, or confirmed use, of antipersonnel landmines. As a result, use of antipersonnel landmines is reported by only 2 countries (Russia and Myanmar), and by Non States Armed groups in 7 countries (as opposed to 28 countries in 1999 when the Convention entered into force, and 13 in 2005).

In addition, we have been advocating for States not Parties to the Treaty to take intermediary steps that would bring them closer to accession, as well as show their interest in addressing the humanitarian consequences of the weapon. Those steps include moratoriums on use, production, and export, voluntary submission of transparency reports, and assistance in mine action. (see below section on universalisation).

c) Missions

Explosive Remnants of War - Challenges for Victim Assistance, Berlin, Germany, 4 November 2009

The ICBL's Treaty Implementation Officer joined this conference that brought together victim assistance experts from ICBL member organizations, human rights organizations, and functionaries and politicians from Germany, France, Belgium, Austria and the European Union. They discussed funding, implementation and monitoring of victim assistance activities, with a focus on treaty obligations and possible synergies to ensure optimal use of funds.

Mine Action Seminar of African Francophone States, Dakar, Senegal, 2-3 November 2009

The ICBL's Treaty Implementation Director and the ICBL campaigners in Senegal participated in a meeting of francophone states on mine action, mine risk education and victim assistance that was organized by the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining. The meeting enabled the

ICBL to learn about progress and challenges in these states in an environment that was more favorable than usual for communication with these French-speaking mine action stakeholders.

Promotion of the Rights of Mine Survivors and Coordination of Social Services and Activities, Croatia, 26-27 October 2009

An ICBL staff member participated in the seminar organized by the Croatian arm of the ICBL. Bringing together mine survivors, politicians, non-governmental organizations and governmental agencies providing victim assistance, the meeting aimed to exchange information on the role of institutions and organizations involved in the protection and implementation of the rights of persons with disabilities (including mine survivors) and assessing challenges in service accessibility.

Progress and Challenges of the Mine Ban Treaty, Turkey, 18 October 2009

ICBL staff members, mine survivors, campaigners and non-governmental organizations gathered in Diyarbakır to review the progress and challenges since the Mine Ban Treaty entered into force for the country in 2004. Organized by the ICBL arm in Turkey in partnership with local organizations, the meeting was the first of its kind to be held in mine-affected eastern Turkey. The conference demonstrated a strong desire on the part of the people in the region to see their government increase its efforts in the areas of victim assistance, mine clearance and stockpile destruction.

Pyramid of Shoes, France, 26 September 2009

ICBL staff members participated in Handicap International's Pyramid of Shoes in Paris. The Pyramid of Shoes is a social event organized every year in France to mobilize the people and the government to support Survivors and other persons with disabilities in mine-affected countries.

ICBL Ambassador Tun Channareth at the Second Preparatory Meeting of the Second Review Conference, Geneva, Switzerland, 3-4 September 2009

ICBL Ambassador Tun Channareth participated in the Second Preparatory Meeting of the Review Conference. He talked about the day-to-day challenges faced by the landmine survivors in Cambodia, suggested solutions and urged donor states to increase their support to the grassroots projects that can have a quick impact on the lives of survivors.

ICBL Mission, July 2009, Afghanistan

The ICBL's Treaty Implementation Officer visited the Civil Society relevant stakeholders and Mine Action Program of Afghanistan. He provided technical support to ICBL's national VA Focal Points to strengthen the advocacy efforts of the disability stakeholders on victim assistance within the framework of the Mine Ban Treaty. He met several concerned civil society stakeholders in regards to Afghanistan's commitment to the Mine Ban Treaty and the civil society's role in implementation. He also conveyed the ICBL's messages to the relevant members of the Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled, Public Health and the Afghan parliament.

"Delivering on the promises: A meeting of victim assistance practitioners, survivors and other experts" Oslo, Norway, 23-25 June 2009

The ICBL's Treaty Implementation Officer and ICBL members participated in a victim assistance workshop organized by the ICRC and the Norwegian Red Cross. Practitioners, survivors, policymakers and donors came together to identify priorities for implementation of victim assistance commitments in the context of the Mine Ban Convention, the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War. A list of recommendations highlighting such priorities was produced at the result of the meeting.

Meetings with European Union institutions, Belgium, 4-6 February, 6 June and 28 September 2009; intervention at NATO/EAPC, 19 June 2009

ICBL representatives met with partners and stakeholders within EU institutions in Brussels to explain specific aspects of the treaty and promote the message of civil society experts. These included on the following topics: European support to stockpile destruction in Belarus, ongoing political engagement of the Directorate General of External Relations on landmines, cluster munitions and explosive remnants of war, and financial support to mine action. In addition, on 19 June the ICBL addressed the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC), a NATO institution comprised of all NATO members plus

22 partner countries. Participants from the EAPC's Ad Hoc Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Mine Action were briefed on the global landmine situation.

From 4-6 February 2009, the Treaty Implementation Director met different partners within EU institutions in Brussels, including the person in charge of the Mine Ban Treaty Joint Action project and those persons working on the EC funding for stockpile destruction in Belarus and Ukraine.

On 6 June, the ICBL Executive Director, ICBL members, and Handicap International members met with Lars Wigemark, the official in charge of Security Policy in the Direction of Multilateral Relations and the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP). They met at the Directorate General of External Relations of the EC to discuss how the issue of landmines, cluster munitions and explosive remnants of war would remain on the agenda of the European Commission. The discussion led to the proposal by the EC to organize a meeting in September to raise awareness internally on the issue prior to the Cartagena Summit.

On 28 September, the EC organized a very useful half day meeting to which they convened not only EC personnel, but also members of the European Council, members of European Parliament as well as representatives of the EU Member States, and the current Presidency, Sweden. The ICBL Executive Director and Treaty Implementation Director, along with Mines Advisory Group, made an intervention at the meeting. The meeting shed light on possibilities and challenges linked to EU support for mine action for the years to come.

On 19 June 2009, ICBL Executive Director Sylvie Brigot and Handicap International Belgium's Head of Policy Unit Mr. Stan Brabant addressed the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) in Brussels, Belgium. The EAPC, a NATO institution, is comprised of all NATO members plus 22 partner countries. Participants from the EAPC's Ad Hoc Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Mine Action were briefed on the global landmine situation.

ICBL Ambassador and survivor from Uganda Margaret Arach Orech, Kenya, 16-18 June 2009

On 16-18 June 2009, ICBL Ambassador Margaret Arach Orech joined the Conference of Religious Leaders on Conventional Weapons: Small Arms and Landmines, in Nairobi, Kenya. She provided examples of specific actions religious leaders can take to facilitate the rehabilitation and inclusion of mine survivors and other persons with disabilities into their communities. She facilitated a discussion where action points were identified by all participants.

ICBL Youth Ambassador Song Kosal visit in Rome, 4 April 2009

ICBL Youth Ambassador and Cambodian landmine survivor Song Kosal was the guest of honour at the Italian Campaign to Ban Landmines celebrations of the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action. The three-day series of events included meetings with Pope Benedict XVI, the Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs Vincenzo Scotti, and 300 teenage students who had been inspired by her life story through the workshop. She carried the message that peace is not possible with the existence of landmines.

ICBL Treaty Implementation Director mission to Cambodia, 30-31 March 2009

Before attending the regional meeting on the Mine Ban Treaty in Bangkok (see below), the ICBL's Treaty Implementation Director visited Phnom Penh to meet with key actors on Cambodia's extension request, including the Cambodian Mine Action Authority and ICBL member Mines Action Group (MAG).

3. Focus on Victim Assistance, the Progress on the Ground Initiative

The ICBL focused in 2009 on strengthening its work on advocacy on victim assistance (VA), particularly through greater and more strategic involvement of its members working in victim assistance. The work was led by a dedicated staff member, who is an experienced advocate and a landmine survivor from Afghanistan.

Victim assistance was fully integrated in our messaging, letters, statements and calls to action during the reporting period. ICBL staff and members actively participated in the work carried out by the Standing Committee on victim assistance and brought the voice of survivors and affected communities into national, regional, and international discussions on the treaty. Indeed, one of our key messages has been and continues to be the inclusion of landmine survivors and other experts on VA into the planning, implementing, and monitoring of VA programs and projects. Progress in this area has been made in countries where the campaign has strong members, such as Afghanistan, Albania, Cambodia, Tajikistan and Uganda.

Overall progress in the six elements of victim assistance has been seen but remained greatly insufficient. Progress was mostly visible in coordination aspects rather than in implementation of actual services, even by those who made significant advances (many of the VA26 affected countries' objectives related to data collection, strategies, awareness-raising, and coordination).

In 2009, the ICBL worked closely with member organizations and other campaigners on a "Progress on the Ground Initiative" intended to push for real change in the lives of landmine survivors. In order to be more effective at the national level, we created a network of ICBL "Focal Points" on victim assistance as national advocacy partners to implement the initiative. So far we have 31 Focal Points in 28¹ affected countries, including many survivors. The Focal Points promote collective national advocacy efforts on victim assistance by creating advocacy forums, committee and self-help groups with the civil society institutions, and associations of persons with disabilities and individual activists.

The focal points were provided with small grants and technical assistance throughout 2009, including one-on-one coaching and strategy workshops. In January 2009, ICBL sent letters to 18 major international and national VA stakeholders asking them to help support the national VA Focal Points and national organizations that are involved in disability/VA. In April 2009, the ICBL provided small grants (which ranges from 900USD to 3500USD) to 22 Focal Points in 20 affected countries to support their national advocacy activities.

Before the official opening of the Cartagena Summit, a preparatory workshop on VA was held on Friday 27 November. Bringing together over 60 campaigners, experts and survivors, the one-day gathering aimed at confirming key messages for the Summit, getting approval on the Survivors' Call to Action drafted earlier, and identifying post-Cartagena priorities (coordination, accessibility, capacity building, economic inclusion, funding, and synergizing of the CRPD in advocacy activities.) Participants were briefed about their role in the different Summit events, received copies of the brand new edition of the ICBL booklet of practical campaigning tips, *So You Want to Advocate for Victim Assistance?*, and were given background information for VA in the framework of Mine Ban Treaty.

The VA Focal Points made numerous interventions in government meetings on victim assistance, lobbied government delegates from States Parties and states not Party alike, and presented a powerful Survivor Call to Action to the high-level segment of the Summit (see below for more detail). They identified service oriented priorities (coordination, capacity building, accessibility, economic inclusion, synergizing VA advocacy works with the CRPD and funding) as priorities for future advocacy work.

ICBL staff and VA Focal Points made a significant contribution to the in-depth report *Voices from the Ground*, written by ICBL member Handicap International. The report surveyed hundreds of survivors to allow their views on progress on victim assistance to be heard by decision-makers. [www.icbl.org/Library/News-Articles/Work/VGLaunch]

More information is available at www.icbl.org/Work/MBT/Victim-Assistance.

¹ In Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda, Yemen and in states not Party Sri Lanka, Greece, Nepal and Pakistan, Rwanda, Vietnam and Laos.

4. *Universalization*

Promoting universal adherence to the Mine Ban Treaty and ban norm remained one of ICBL's priorities during the reporting period. Universalization efforts in 2009 built on work done by the ICBL staff and network in previous years and focused in particular on areas with low adherence to the Mine Ban Treaty (specifically Asia-Pacific, the Middle East, and the United States).

The pace of universalization has slowed down in recent years, and came to an apparent halt with no new accessions/ratifications since November 2007. However, continuous engagement with states not party by the ICBL and its members did contribute to a few incremental results. These included: participation of the USA in the Review Conference and launch of a policy review on landmines; Mongolia reengaging in the dialog on accession, Nepal attending the Cartagena Summit at a high level and Lao PDR confirming its intention to join the treaty.

The ICBL participated actively in efforts to coordinate universalization efforts with other key partners (States Parties, the ICRC, the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining's Implementation Support Unit) in order to maximize results, avoid duplication and ensure maximum regional coverage. This was done mainly through the Universalization Contact Group, coordinated by Canada, as well as through bilateral contacts.

As in previous years, the ICBL and its members pursued the goal of universalization by picking the most appropriate advocacy tools from a varied toolbox.

These included:

- Universalization mission to Mongolia. This provided an opportunity to revive and deepen the dialogue with national authorities and strengthen collaboration with local civil society. Exchanges of views during missions also provided further clarification on the reasons lying behind states' positions vis-à-vis the Mine Ban Treaty, which will prove helpful in refining advocacy strategy towards them.
- Constant communications with governments in states not party, both in capitals and through Geneva and New York-based diplomatic missions.
- One-on-one advocacy meetings to promote the Mine Ban Treaty. These were conducted in the context of treaty-related global and regional meetings, including the Intersessional Standing Committees Meetings (Geneva, 25-29 May 2009) and the Second Review Conference (Cartagena, 29 November – 4 December 2009). Similar activities were also carried out at regional workshops in the lead-up to the Review Conference in Nicaragua (February), Thailand (April), Tajikistan (July), South Africa (September) and Albania (October). A series of bilateral meetings was also held on the margins of the UNGA meetings in New York. Target countries for these efforts included Azerbaijan, Bahrain, China, Georgia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, Oman, Poland, Sri Lanka, the United Arab Emirates, USA and Vietnam.
- Letters encouraging steps to move closer to accession sent in March on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the entry into force of the Mine Ban Treaty.
- Letters to heads of states/ Foreign Ministers encouraging high-level participation and announcements on concrete steps taken on planned towards ratification/accession; co-signed by ICBL Executive Director and Ambassador Jody Williams and sent in August.
- Letters encouraging states not party to give a concrete political sign of support to the treaty by voting in favor of the annual UNGA resolution calling for its universalization. As in previous years, this letter-writing action was complemented by lobbying at the UN in New York on the occasion of the First Committee Meeting in October. In 2009, 19 states not party voted in favor of the resolution.

- Global Action Alerts urging target states not party to join the treaty by mobilizing the ICBL network worldwide to send letters and hold meetings.
- National-level activities and constant follow-up by national campaigns and members in states not party has been key to the progress on universalization. In 2009 national actions were carried out in the following countries: Azerbaijan, Egypt, Georgia, India, Mongolia, Lebanon, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines (NSA work), Poland, Sri Lanka, Syria, the USA, and Vietnam.

Denouncing the Use of Antipersonnel Landmines

In 2009, the ICBL remained vigilant in monitoring and denouncing new use of antipersonnel landmines. A press release was issued jointly with the Pakistani arm of the ICBL in May, to denounce use of antipersonnel landmines by the Pakistani Taliban in Pakistan's Swat Valley (<http://www.icbl.org/index.php/icbl/Library/News-Articles/Universal/pr20may2009>). The ICBL closely followed allegations of use of antipersonnel mines in Peru, as well as along the Thai-Cambodia border (see below, C. Implementation, Disarmament).

Universalization Advocacy Missions and Other Initiatives

March 1st Action Alert on the USA, Poland, Nepal, Cuba and Bahrain

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the treaty's entry into force, during the last week of February and in the lead up to 1st of March, the ICBL held a global Action Alerts on Bahrain, Nepal, Poland and the USA, as well as a regional one on Cuba. ICBL campaigners around the world sent letters to the highest decision makers of these countries and held meetings at their diplomatic missions.

Regional Mine Ban Treaty Workshops in the lead-up to the Second Review Conference:

- Nicaragua Workshop on Achieving Mine-Free Americas, February 2009

On the margins of the meeting, as part of the global action alert, the ICBL representatives met with diplomatic representatives of Cuba and the United States, the only countries in the Americas that have yet to join the Mine Ban Treaty. The Cuban Ambassador expressed interest in the treaty's Second Review Conference. The deputy U.S. representative to Nicaragua agreed to transmit the ICBL's request for a review of U.S. landmine policy back to Washington, DC. Both Cuba and the US took part as observers in the Review Conference.

- Bangkok Workshop on Achieving a Mine-Free Southeast Asia, April 2009

The workshop was attended by six States not Party to the treaty: Lao PDR, Mongolia, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam, which provided a useful opportunity for the ICBL staff and campaigners to engage with these states on their positions vis-à-vis the treaty. Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vietnam participated in the Cartagena conference.

- Dushanbe Workshop on Achieving Mine-Free Central Asia, July 2009

The workshop was attended by three States not Party to the treaty: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan, which provided a useful opportunity for the ICBL representatives to engage with these states on their positions vis-à-vis the treaty. None of the States not Party from the region attended the Review Conference.

- Third Continental Conference of African Experts on Landmines, Pretoria, South Africa, September 2009

ICBL representatives engaged with States not Party present at the conference: Egypt, Libya and Western Sahara. Egypt took part in the Cartagena Summit later in the year.

- Tirana Workshop on Achieving Mine-Free South Eastern Europe, October 2009

ICBL representatives engaged with Azerbaijan - the only state not party present at the workshop. Azerbaijan did not attend the Review Conference, but Georgia did.

Intersessional Standing Committee Meetings, Geneva, Switzerland 25-29 May 2009

ICBL Diplomatic Advisor Ambassador Satnam Jit Singh, along with the ICBL Advocacy and Campaigning Officer and concerned campaigners, carried out intensive lobbying work with representatives of States not Party both at the meeting and by visiting Geneva-based diplomatic missions. The list of countries met included: China, Georgia, Israel, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and the USA. The focus of these meetings was to encourage participation in the Review Conference, to undertake steps towards accession/ratification this year, and to make relevant announcements at the Review Conference. Some specific issues discussed included: more precise accounting of stockpiles and next steps toward a total ban in China; universalization work in the region and the possibility of support for stockpile destruction for Mongolia with Japan; links and the mutually reinforcing nature of the Mine Ban Treaty and Convention on Cluster Munitions in Lao PDR; the upcoming mission of the ICBL Diplomatic Advisor to Ulaanbaatar and challenges to accession in Mongolia; obstacles and steps towards accession, voting in favor of the UNGA resolution on the Convention with Nepal; reengagement on the treaty after the end of the internal conflict, clearance of former battle areas in Sri Lanka; launch of the policy review on landmines and participation in Mine Ban Treaty meetings, including the Review Conference with the USA.

With the exception of Israel, all of these countries participated in the Review Conference, with some represented at high or senior level and some making encouraging statements.

[<http://www.icbl.org/index.php/icbl/Library/News-Articles/intersessionals09>]

ICBL mission to Mongolia, 29 June - 3 July 2009

From 29 June to 3 July 2009, Ambassador Satnam Jit Singh, ICBL Diplomatic Advisor, visited Mongolia for the second time (first time in 2005) to sensitize Mongolian officials to the desirability of acceding to the treaty prior to the Review Conference. Mongolia publicly declared in October 2004, its intention to sign the Mine Ban Treaty before the end of 2008, following a "step-by-step" approach. A promising start was made when Mongolia released information about the country's landmine stockpile, but progress then slowed down and the deadline passed.

In 2009 the ICBL Diplomatic Advisor, accompanied by the representative of the Mongolian campaign, met with senior officials in Ulaanbaatar, including the Defense Minister, Foreign Minister, Foreign Policy Advisor to President, National Security Policy Advisor to President, Chairman, Standing Committee of Parliament on Defense & Foreign Affairs, Acting Chief of General Staff and Head of Strategic Policy Department of Ministry of Defense.

Due to the change of key officials in Mongolia in the second half of the year, the accession process in Mongolia slowed significantly and will require more follow-up in 2010. However, Mongolia participated in the Second Review Conference and made a fairly positive statement.

[http://www.icbl.org/index.php/icbl/Library/News-Articles/08_Contents/ICBL-NEWS/ICBL-News-Sept-09/Mongolia]

Lobbying work at UN First Committee, New York, October 2009

Alongside colleagues from the Cluster Munition Coalition, ICBL campaigners gathered in New York to conduct outreach in favor of the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Campaigners from both coalitions met with representatives of 50 governments to discuss both treaties during the annual meeting of the United Nations First Committee (Disarmament and International Security). The ICBL representatives met with officials from the following States not Party to the Mine Ban Treaty: Cuba, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Morocco, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Tonga, United States. The main points of discussions included: voting in favor of the UNGA resolution on the convention; participation in the upcoming Second Review conference; and accession to the treaty.

In addition to lobbying meetings, the ICBL cooperated with Colombia, Norway, and Switzerland to hold a lunchtime briefing on the Mine Ban Treaty, on the UNGA resolution and the preparations for the Review Conference. The ICBL also delivered a statement on the Mine Ban Treaty during a plenary session of the First Committee, in which it called on all States not Party to accede to the Treaty and to participate in the Review Conference.

While no new States not Party supported the resolution in 2009, useful follow-up took place and many of these countries, including Cuba, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Morocco, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, and the USA, participated in the Cartagena Summit and made statements that may result in some developments in 2010.

[<http://www.icbl.org/index.php/icbl/layout/set/print/content/view/full/25211>]

Regional Conference on the Promotion and Universalization of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, Bali, Indonesia, 16-17 November 2009

A few ICBL campaigners from the region participated in the Regional Conference on the Promotion and Universalization of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) conference and took the opportunity to advocate on the Mine Ban Treaty vis-à-vis the States not Party from the region present at the meeting (Lao PDR, Mongolia, Myanmar (Burma), Sri Lanka, and Vietnam). The ICBL representatives followed-up with these states on their participation in the upcoming Review Conference and on their positions in regard to the Mine Ban Treaty. All of them, except Myanmar took part in the Review Conference two weeks later.

Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty – Cartagena Summit, Cartagena, Colombia, 29 November - 4 December 2009

While the main focus of the meeting was on the review of the past five years of the status and operation of the Mine Ban Treaty and on the Cartagena Action Plan for the next 5 years, the ICBL representatives held a number of bilateral meetings with States not Party to follow up on discussions held earlier in the year and to hear about next steps. In particular, the focus of the meetings was on plans and timeline for accession/ratification and adoption of interim measures by states that are not ready to join yet, including voting in favor of the annual UNGA resolution on the treaty, submitting voluntary Art. 7 Report, as well as national moratoria on use, exports and production, and plans for stockpile destruction, land clearance and victim assistance.

[<http://www.icbl.org/cartagenasummit>]

Universalization work by national campaigns, all year

The ICBL national campaigns in the following States not Party: Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Egypt, Georgia, India, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Poland, Russia, Somalia, Syria, US and Vietnam have continued to carry out outreach vis-avis their governments to bring them onboard of the Treaty. Similarly, national campaigns held a number of meetings and actions in their countries as part of the mobilization in the lead up to the Review Conference of the Convention.

A few universalization activities undertaken by ICBL campaigners at the national level were: a public petition on the Mine Ban Treaty for the President in Mongolia; a workshop on landmines and a reception in Katmandu; a letter campaign, poster competition and exhibition and public screenings of films on landmines and cluster munitions, with a press briefing in Pakistan; a national Seminar on International Law on Landmines and Explosives Remnants of War co-organized with Unicef and national authorities in Colombo; a national seminar on disability and victim assistance in the context of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRDP), Mine Ban Treaty, Convention on Cluster Munitions in Hanoi, Vietnam; a media tree-planting event in formerly affected areas in Georgia, and letter sign-on actions in the USA.

[<http://www.icbl.org/index.php/icbl/Library/News-Articles/National-Campaigns/1March09events>]

5. Ensuring Swift Entry into Force and Universalization of the Convention on Cluster Munitions

The presence in Geneva of diplomatic missions of states and international organizations presented a great opportunity for the ICBL team to promote the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) and to contribute to the global effort to secure rapid entry into force and further universalization and implementation of the convention. In coordination with the Cluster Muniton Coalition and with national campaigners working in capitals, ICBL staff organized bilateral lobbying meetings with missions of priority countries, and used the meetings of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) in Geneva to gather information and to approach government representatives and experts.

Briefings on the convention were organized in partnership with the Cluster Muniton Coalition on the margins of three major regional workshops held in the lead-up to the Cartagena Summit (see above,

C.1 Second Review Conference), to raise awareness among government representatives on the obligations of the convention and on steps towards joining it. The ICBL facilitated the participation of regional campaigners to all those workshops, creating additional opportunities for them to lobby their country representatives on both the Mine Ban Treaty and CCM. In June, staff members participated in the Berlin Conference on the Destruction of Cluster Munitions, that kick-started states' work on stockpile destruction and provided a boost to the momentum behind the CCM.

As mentioned above in section C.4 b) Universalization Advocacy Missions and Other Initiatives, lobbying efforts were also organized at the Intersessional Standing Committees meetings in Geneva, the UN First Committee in New York, and the Cartagena Summit. Always developed and carried out in close cooperation with the Cluster Munition Coalition and relevant national campaigns, joint lobbying activities contributed to highlighting the close ties between the Mine Ban Treaty and CCM's humanitarian aims and practical implementation.

In addition, ICBL communication and advocacy tools such as the messages booklet, newsletter, website and relevant media activities integrated messages on cluster munitions. Small grants and other support provided by the ICBL to national campaigns, while focused on Mine Ban Treaty objectives, also encouraged them to promote the CCM (see below, C.6 b) Capacity Building and Support to National Campaigns.)

6. National Campaigns Mobilization and Support Programme

During the reporting period, the ICBL has expanded its network to more than 90 countries and territories, including 19 states not party to the treaty. We continued to nurture our network in order to strengthen national level advocacy on implementation and universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty, as well as on cluster munitions and the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

a) Global Campaign Mobilization

In 2009 the ICBL staff focused on mobilizing the global network on implementation and universalization at country level in the lead up to the Review Conference of the Convention. They aimed to grab states' attention, and urge enhanced efforts and renewed, sustained commitment toward a mine-free world before the Cartagena. In this context, the ICBL elaborated and disseminated messages, as well as advocacy and campaigning tools, linking them also to cluster munitions and the CCM, where appropriate. Messages and tools disseminated during the reporting period included:

- March 1st Action Alert: 10 Years into Force of the Mine Ban Treaty, 23 February -1 March 2009

To mark 10 years of the entry into force of the Mine Ban Treaty and to globally launch the road to the Review Conference, the ICBL organized a week of activities between 23 February and 1 March 2009. Campaigners from 65 countries and territories around the world took action to commemorate 10 years of the Mine Ban Treaty's entry into force and to advocate for its further universalization and implementation; at the same time they strove to bring the new Convention on Cluster Munitions into force. Under the slogan "A Mine-Free World: Mission Possible", campaigners from Afghanistan through Zambia organized roundtables, press briefings, street actions, photo and art exhibitions, film screenings, marches, rallies, workshops, petitions, TV and radio shows, and other events to once again bring the world's attention to the scourge of landmines. In the same week, the ICBL mobilized its network to focus on a few target countries to urge them to join the treaty without delay (Bahrain, Cuba, Nepal, Poland, and USA) and to set a good example of implementation (Colombia), sending letters to the decision makers and holding meetings at the target countries' diplomatic missions around the world.

This global mobilization has generated significant national and international media attention and coverage, as well as raised interest and engagement of governments, international agencies, and civil society on the issues.

The ICBL March 1st events and actions took place in the following 65 countries and territories: Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Colombia, Congo Democratic Republic, Croatia, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Mali, Mongolia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, UK, USA, Uruguay, Vietnam, Western Sahara, Yemen, Zambia.

- Mobilization before the Intersessional Standing Committee meetings, May 2009

In the lead up to the Intersessional Standing Committee meetings, the ICBL launched a call to action. The call aimed to ensure broad and active participation of governments in the intersessional meetings and the Review Conference preparatory meeting, which set the tone for further preparations of the upcoming Second Review Conference.

To initiate this action, the ICBL staff prepared a comprehensive ISC Lobbying Memo for campaigners, which covered all key issues of the four standing committees and provided practical information and specific messages aimed at government representatives. This memo and individual calls on specific key issues were circulated to the network from the beginning of May and followed-up through the ISC meetings. In addition several campaigners from key countries took active part in the meetings, engaging with a number of delegations.

- Second Review Conference - Cartagena Summit Call to Action: Come, Share, Commit, and Care!

Two months before the Review Conference, on 29 September the ICBL launched its global Call to Action under the slogan: "Come, Share, Commit, and Care!" The Call was constantly circulated until 29 November, when the Summit opened. The Call's aim was to mobilize campaigners around the world to engage with their governments ahead of the Cartagena Summit in order to ensure as many global leaders and decision-makers as possible participated actively in the Summit, and to make strong and concrete announcements about their recent accomplishments and pledges for the future. In particular the campaigners urged their governments to:

Come: Participate in the Summit at the highest level possible: Head of State/Government, State Secretary, or ministerial level.

Share: Announce in Cartagena significant recent accomplishments made on any of the treaty obligations or towards joining the treaty.

Commit: Arrive in Cartagena with a pledge to undertake one or more actions in the coming years to move toward fulfilling specific treaty obligations or joining the treaty, or supporting other states in their efforts to do so.

Care: Stay passionate and fully committed to the treaty until the promise of a mine-free world becomes a reality.

In support of the call, campaigners from dozens of countries held meetings with their governments' representatives, sent letters, did media work, organized national releases of the Landmine Monitor Report 2009 and held other public events to draw attention to the problem and urge for active participation in the Cartagena Summit. In their endeavours, the ICBL campaigners cooperated with diplomatic missions of countries like Norway, Canada, and Switzerland, with UN agencies, the RC/RC national societies and other civil society organizations.

To enable easy access to information, the ICBL produced a brief memo in several languages for government delegates on the Cartagena Summit, with crucial practical information concerning registration, participation, and the program and documents of the Summit.

b) Capacity Building and Support to National Campaigns

Campaign workshops and meetings

The ICBL staff organized several workshops and meetings to enhance the capacity of national campaigns to advocate on the implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty. Ahead of the ISC and the Review conference, the Treaty Implementation Officer organized workshops on victim assistance for VA focal points and other VA experts aimed at providing updates and to discuss messages and advocacy tools to advance progress on some key issues; the workshop also served as a forum to brainstorm and exchange ideas on goals, challenges and work at national level in the run up to the Review Conference and post 2009. The ICBL staff also held campaign meetings ahead of each of the regional workshops in the lead up to the Review Conference. These meetings gathered campaigners from the region to participate in the workshops and provided opportunities to share information on the latest developments on the Mine Ban Treaty work, news on recent and planned campaigning actions, and a chance to strategize for lobbying at the regional meetings.

One-on-one meetings

The ICBL staff and national campaigns held one-on-one meetings to discuss national priorities and advocacy plans, in particular post-2009. In 2009 these were held during the ISC, regional Mine Ban Treaty workshops, the Review Conference, cluster munitions meetings, advocacy missions, or by email or Skype. All advocacy missions were prepared and conducted in close relationship with the relevant national campaigns or individual ICBL members. During these missions, ICBL staff met with national campaigns to discuss and elaborate on their planned activities and commitment to stay involved post-2009.

Support extended to target national campaigns

In 2009, the ICBL provided technical, organizational and financial assistance (based on expenses reimbursements) to a number of national campaigns for implementation of their advocacy plans and projects and to enhance their overall capacity. In this spirit, the ICBL launched its Support Program for National Campaigns: 10 Years into Force of the Mine Ban Treaty - Making a difference on the ground. The first round of the program took place between January and March; a second one took place between October and December, and part of it continued until February 2010.

The first round was aimed at enabling national campaigns to mark 10 years of the Convention's entry into force and to globally launch the road to Cartagena. While the primary focus was on advocacy activities aimed at engaging national authorities on universalization and implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty, campaigns were also encouraged to promote the Convention on Cluster Munitions and advocate for its signature / ratification (as relevant for their country).

A total of 38 projects of national campaigns were supported in the program's first round, from the following countries: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia, Brazil, Cambodia, Colombia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, India, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Kosovo, Mongolia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, USA, Yemen, and Zambia.

The main objective of the second round of the Support Program was to enhance the overall capacity of active ICBL national campaigns and members by covering some costs related directly to their ongoing work. In addition, some events and media work, as well as the majority of the national LM launches, were supported through this scheme. A total of 32 national campaigns were supported in the second round of the program, from the following countries: Afghanistan, Argentina, Belarus, Bosnia, Brazil, Colombia, DRC, Egypt, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, India, Iraq, Kosovo, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Yemen, and Zambia

7. Working with Youth

Mines Action Canada (MAC) coordinated the 2009 Youth Leaders Forum for youth delegates to the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World, the Second Review Conference of the Convention on the

Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Antipersonnel Mines and on Their Destruction, held in Cartagena, Colombia from 30 November to 4 December 2009. The Youth Leaders Forum (YLF) engaged 35 young people from 23 countries in an intensive one-week program.

The Youth Leaders Forum was an opportunity for youth to get more involved in the work of the ICBL and the CMC and to make tangible contributions to achieving a mine-free and cluster-free world in their lifetime. The program included skills-building sessions led by seasoned campaigners on topics such as fundraising and grant management, media relations, volunteer management, and lobbying and advocacy strategies. Youth also worked together in small groups, organized thematically, to develop specific and measurable action steps young campaigners can take in the next two years to advance the goals of the ICBL and the CMC globally as well as those of national campaigns.

As well, participants convened regularly in plenary to achieve consensus of the action plans. To augment and complement the skills-building and action-planning sessions, youth delegates also had opportunities to participate in active campaigning throughout the Mine Ban Treaty Second Review Conference. For example, participants attended daily campaign briefing meetings, shadowed experienced campaigners for lobbying meetings with government delegations, observed official proceedings, and attended social and networking events. The final product of the Youth Leaders Forum was the 2009 Cartagena Youth Action Plan that will form the basis of advocacy and implementation work of the delegates for 2010-2011. Representatives of the Youth Leaders Forum made a powerful statement at the closing ceremony of the Summit and handed over their Plan of Action to its President, Ambassador Eckey of Norway.

8. Crosscutting Advocacy Tools

a) Advocacy and Campaigning Tools

Revamped Website and Web 2.0 Applications

A new, streamlined website was launched in May 2009. Reflecting the ICBL's general strategy and mandate, it integrates messages on both antipersonnel mines and cluster munitions, and emphasizes that the Mine Ban Treaty and Convention on Cluster Munitions are the best frameworks to address these issues. The website aims at providing reliable and up-to-date information about these issues; acting as a "vitrine" for the ICBL's work and current messages; motivating people to get involved and providing them with ways to do so; acting as a channel for private donations; and collecting feedback and questions from users. It includes a revamped, user-friendly image library documenting ICBL advocacy activities since 1996. The ICBL also posts advocacy videos on its YouTube channel and uses Facebook to disseminate messages and collect donations.

ICBL News, Printed and E-newsletter

The ICBL newsletter emphasizes key messages on both the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions, allows national campaigns to exchange information on their activities and planning, enhances the visibility of the coalition and helps raising voices from mine-affected communities for decision-makers to hear them. In 2009, four issues were sent to our list of subscribers, and hard copies were distributed at the launch of the road to the Cartagena Summit, at the ISC meetings and at the Cartagena Summit.

Messages Booklet

In 2009, ICBL staff twice updated and distributed to campaigners the "ICBL Messages Booklet," which identifies key points to make with governments during international meetings. The 16-page guide provides a succinct description of the main policy issues ICBL works on (the key treaty articles, plus universalization on the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions), as well as messages to communicate to governments, and the relevant target countries for each topic. The 2009 booklets emphasized the need for States Parties to make progress on the ground on victim assistance; to finish mine clearance within deadlines; to speak up against unjustified clearance deadline extension requests; and to respect all treaty obligations. The messages booklets also served as a reference guide, providing information on the States Parties' treaty deadlines, the list of 26 states with high numbers of

mine survivors, states retaining large numbers of mines for training, high priority targets for universalization, etc.

So You Want to Advocate for Victim Assistance?, Advocacy Booklet

Capitalizing on the network members' rich and diverse campaigning experience is key to reaching the ICBL's advocacy goals. To disseminate messages on victim assistance and share lessons learned, a second, enhanced edition of the brochure *So You Want to Advocate for Victim Assistance?* was published in 2009. It provides an overview of the legal instruments promoting the rights of victims (Mine Ban Treaty, Convention on Cluster Munitions, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities); lists advocacy steps and tips; and showcases successful advocacy activities undertaken by national campaigns from all continents, which can be adapted and applied to other contexts. It was distributed to the ICBL victim assistance focal points and to all interested campaigners at the Cartagena Summit, and made available online.

A Mine-Free World: Mission Possible, Advocacy Tools Package

The slogan "A Mine-Free World: Mission Possible" was chosen as a motto supporting all ICBL advocacy and communications in 2009, and was enthusiastically adopted by national campaigns. An advocacy toolkit was prepared for the 1 March celebrations, and was enhanced and updated throughout the year. It included:

- a PowerPoint presentation: "The Mine Ban Treaty: Achievements and challenges 10 years after the entry into force" (English & French)
- *A Mine-Free World: Mission Possible* Fact Sheet (English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Russian, Bosnian)
- a photo exhibition presenting key moments and achievements of the mine ban movement and the Mine Ban Treaty, including images and quotes of survivors and other key actors who "turned the vision into reality"
- a logo in English and Spanish
- factsheets on four universalization targets: Bahrain, Nepal, Poland, USA.

The Legacy of the Perfect Soldier, Photo Exhibition by Giovanni Diffidenti

With the aim of bringing to the Cartagena Summit the reality of mine-affected communities worldwide, the ICBL worked alongside Italian photographer Giovanni Diffidenti to create an exhibition of large-format photographs of survivors from 13 countries in their daily activities. Displayed in one of the busiest areas of the Convention Center, the exhibition was unveiled by Nobel Peace Laureate Jody Williams in front of the media and in presence of Mr Diffidenti on the first day of the Summit.

Media Work

In order to maintain awareness of the landmine issue and to support the new convention banning cluster munitions, the ICBL disseminated press releases and media materials to international, regional and local media in 2009. Interview opportunities were provided to a variety of print, broadcast and electronic media in multiple languages. The most important events on which the ICBL attracted media attention in 2009 were:

- Mine Ban Treaty entry into force anniversary (March)
- UN International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action (April)
- Launch of the exhaustive report *Banning Cluster Munitions* (May)
- Launch of the report on victim assistance *Voices from the Ground* (September)
- Launch of *Landmine Monitor Report 2009* (November)
- Five regional workshops organized in preparation for the Cartagena Summit (February to October)
- Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World (November-December)

All press releases are available at www.icbl.org/mediaroom and www.icbl.org/cartagenasummit.

Raising the media profile of the landmine issue and building-up expectations for the Cartagena Summit started as early as 1 March 2009, when campaigners worldwide kick-started the year with events in over 65 countries and areas. Template press releases and a set of media materials were provided to national campaigns on this occasion as well as for each of the five regional workshops organized in the lead-up to the Summit, where media work was carried by the ICBL staff and local campaigns. The global release of Landmine Monitor took place in Geneva in mid-November and acted as a powerful media hook. It was followed by a series of national release events organized by campaigners, which provided good opportunities to engage with the media, and which culminated with the regional Latin-American release event and press conference held in Bogotá to set the scene for the Summit. During a governmental press briefing just before the Summit's opening, the Obama administration indicated the US would not join the Mine Ban Treaty. The ICBL and its members immediately reacted - press releases were issued and many interviews were given - and this unexpected event generated extensive coverage of ICBL messages in dozens of countries. Responding to civil society's outcry, the US declared a few hours later that the review of its policy on landmines was still underway.

Media work during the Summit included the dissemination of a full media kit in English and Spanish, participation in the opening press conference, four press releases including one prepared jointly with the Cluster Munition Coalition, Fundación Arcangeles and Survivor Corps, participation in daily press briefings, and promotion of side events.

Published or broadcast stories throughout the year and especially at the Cartagena Summit included *inter alia* the Los Angeles Times, the New York Times, the Guardian, the BBC, Al-Jazeera, the Phnom Penh Post, Le Monde, Stern, the South Africa Broadcasting Corporation, as well as global agencies such as Reuters, Associated Press, Agence France Presse, Deutsche Press Agency, ANSA and EFE. ICBL outreach efforts before and during the Cartagena Summit generated coverage of ICBL or Landmine Monitor messages in at least 67 countries. All identified coverage carried the ICBL messages in a positive fashion.

D. Landmine Monitor

Landmine Monitor is the research and monitoring initiative of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), and the *de facto* monitoring regime for the Mine Ban Treaty (a role it is now undertaking for the Convention on Cluster Munitions). It independently and impartially monitors and reports on States Parties' implementation of and compliance with the Mine Ban Treaty and, more generally, assesses the international community's response to the problems caused by landmines, cluster munitions, and explosive remnants of war (ERW). Landmine Monitor complements States Parties' transparency reporting required under Article 7 of the Mine Ban Treaty, but it goes much further, and includes independent reporting and evaluation.

Landmine Monitor is an indispensable reference tool for the international community. Its reporting is used extensively by governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), media, academics, and the general public, and is the only project in the world to systematically monitor the global landmine, cluster munitions, and ERW situation. As such, it helps to provide governments with the information they need to make informed policy and funding decisions, gives mine action operators and donors valuable information about the situation on the ground in affected countries, and serves as an advocacy tool for campaigners to hold governments accountable for their actions under international law. By making information about landmines, cluster munitions, and ERW available in the public domain, Landmine Monitor helps to create broad public awareness of the landmine, cluster munition, and ERW problem, and assists in generating the momentum and support needed to sustain mine action efforts.

With over a decade of experience reporting on landmines, cluster munitions, and ERW, a global network of researchers with extensive knowledge and indispensable in-country contacts, an experienced Editorial Team drawn from diverse civil society backgrounds, and extensive experience in the movements to ban landmines and cluster munitions, Landmine Monitor has proven that it has

the knowledge, contacts, and global reach to effectively monitor the global landmine, cluster munition, and ERW problem.

In June 1998, the ICBL formally agreed to create Landmine Monitor as an ICBL initiative. In 2008 Landmine Monitor also became the research and monitoring arm of the Cluster Munition Coalition. A five-member Editorial Board coordinates the Landmine Monitor system: Mines Action Canada, Handicap International, Human Rights Watch, Landmine Action, and Norwegian People's Aid. Mines Action Canada serves as the lead agency. The Editorial Board assumes overall responsibility for, and decision-making on, the Landmine Monitor system. A network of 60 researchers from 45 countries and other areas and a 20-person Editorial Team gathered information to prepare the 2009 report. Landmine Monitor has used the ICBL campaigning network, but has also drawn in other elements of civil society, including journalists, academics, and research institutions, to help monitor and report.

Landmine Monitor builds upon the experience, expertise, and capacities of NGOs and other elements of civil society to systematically monitor and document the various dimensions of the global mine and ERW problem, including use, production, transfer, stockpiling, and casualties, as well as progress in clearance, risk education, victim assistance, and support for mine action.

Landmine Monitor reporting consists of an Annual Report, an Executive Summary, fact sheets, and webpage, while its expertise lies in the global research network. Reports are issued prior to key international meetings. A report specifically on cluster munitions was also released in 2009.

Banning Cluster Munitions: Government Policy and Practice was globally released on 29 May during a press conference at the UN in Geneva, Switzerland. The 288-page report is the first to take an in-depth, country-by-country look at how the "Oslo Process," the diplomatic initiative started by Norway in November 2006, resulted in the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions. Charting the evolution of cluster munition policy in 150 countries, this report highlights dramatic changes experienced by major powers such as France and the United Kingdom. *Banning Cluster Munitions* also provides new information on cluster munition use, production, stockpiling, and trade.

Landmine Monitor's 11th annual report, the 1,253-page *Landmine Monitor Report 2009: Toward a Mine-Free World*, was released on 12 November 2009, in advance of the Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty in Cartagena, Colombia. *Landmine Monitor Report 2009* contains information on every country in the world and eight other areas not internationally recognized as states with respect to landmine ban policy, use, production, transfer, stockpiling, mine clearance, casualties, risk education, victim assistance, and support for mine action. It also includes a special ten-year review of progress since the entry into force of the Mine Ban Treaty in 1999.

Our reporting in 2009 demonstrates civil society's capacity to recognize and adapt to the changing information needs of the international community. In recognition of the need for information on state policy and practice with regard to cluster munitions we produced a report on this subject. In preparation for the Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty, *Landmine Monitor Report 2009* expanded its coverage to include a review of progress made globally in the decade since the Mine Ban Treaty entered into force in 1999. Strengthened thematic reporting resulted in a detailed and focused report that provided greater insight into the successes and challenges in mine ban policy, mine action, casualties, risk education, victim assistance, and support for mine action. *Landmine Monitor Report 2009* included more in-depth information on ERW (including cluster munitions) clearance, casualties, risk education, and victim assistance, and reporting on support for mine action included expanded information about contributions by recipient countries.

We maintained the best researchers in our global research network and added new researchers where possible to fill in existing gaps—thereby ensuring in-country knowledge and experience where needed and maintaining broad civil society involvement—and we have continued to add new thematic expertise to the Editorial Team. We undertook a series of field missions to key countries to ensure that we could accurately and comprehensively report on the challenges facing mine-affected countries. This ensured that Landmine Monitor continues to provide governments, civil society, practitioners, journalists, academics, and media with the most thorough and highest quality of reporting possible.

Landmine Monitor incorporated gender considerations into all project activities consistent with UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. The Editorial Team and research network included significant contributions by women. To the greatest extent possible, Landmine Monitor reported on the impact of antipersonnel mines on women and girls, and included available casualty and other data specifically related to women and girls.

All Landmine Monitor publications are available online at <http://lm.icbl.org>.

E. Staff and Assets

9. Staff

In 2009, the ICBL team was composed of: Sylvie Brigot, Executive Director (based in Paris, France); Simona Beltrami, Advocacy Director (Rome, Italy) in maternity leave from May 2009; Firoz Alizada, Treaty Implementation Officer (Geneva, Switzerland); Amelie Chayer, Communications Officer (Paris, France); Olivia Denonville, Project Officer (Geneva, Switzerland); Katarzyna Derlicka, Advocacy and Campaign Officer (Geneva, Switzerland); Tamar Gabelnick, Treaty Implementation Director (Geneva, Switzerland); Daiana Savage, Administrative Officer (Geneva, Switzerland); Patrick Teil, Finance Manager (Lyon, France).

The ICBL also worked and integrated in the team numerous interns, essentially at the Geneva office.

10. ICBL Assets

In addition to the staff, the ICBL's activities are supported by a Management Committee, Advisory Board, thematic working groups, ICBL ambassadors and diplomatic advisors and Landmine Monitor team. During 2009 the composition of the Management Committee and the Advisory Board were reviewed and renewed.

L.2 a) Management Committee (MC)

During 2009 the Management Committee was composed of: Stanislas Brabant (Handicap International), Denise Coghlan (Cambodia Campaign to Ban Landmines), Steve Goose (Human Rights Watch), Paul Hannon (Mines Action Canada) and Ayman Sorour (Protection).

The responsibilities of the MC include: regular and consistent oversight of staff/campaign activities, provide rapid feedback to staff; decision-making responsibility; fiduciary responsibility; personnel oversight; and strategies, policy and priority setting (strategic planning).

L.2 b) Advisory Board (AB)

The Advisory Board is a larger body, representative of various elements of the ICBL and composed, in 2009, of: Afghan Campaign to Ban Landmines, Asociacion para Politicas Publicas (APP Argentina), Brazilian Campaign to Ban Landmines, Cambodia Campaign to Ban Landmines, Colombian Campaign to Ban Landmines, DanChurchAid/Lutheran World Federation, Handicap International, Human Rights Watch, ICBL Georgian Committee, IPPNW Zambia, Italian Campaign to Ban Landmines, Japan Campaign to Ban Landmines, Landmine Action, Landmines Resource Centre (Lebanon), Mines Action Canada, Moviment per la Pau, Nepal Campaign to Ban Landmines, Nonviolence International, Norwegian People's Aid, Protection (Egypt), Survivor Corps and Tajikistan Campaign to Ban Landmines (TCBL). The AB provides vision, strategic direction, input and feedback regarding the oversight tasks of the MC. It interprets and reflects ICBL membership issues and thinking to the MC. At annual meetings, the AB and MC jointly review strategic planning, with accompanying budget implications, for the upcoming year of ICBL activities.

L.2 c) ICBL Ambassadors

In 2009, the ICBL had five International Ambassadors, who served as Campaign spokespersons and who have responded to numerous speaking and visiting requests. The ICBL Ambassadors are: 1997

Nobel Peace Prize Co-Laureate, Ms. Jody Williams; Mr. Tun Channareth from Cambodia; Ms. Song Kosal (Youth Ambassador) from Cambodia; Ms. Elizabeth Bernstein, former coordinator of the ICBL; and Margaret Arach Orech from Uganda.

L.2 d) ICBL Diplomatic Advisor

Ambassador Satnam Jit Singh has been working as a Diplomatic Advisor for the ICBL since early 2004, and brings a diverse and highly relevant expertise to the ICBL. He is a landmine survivor, has experience with mine clearance operations, knowledge of military affairs and a long diplomatic exposure. Ambassador Singh is focusing essentially on the universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty.

L.2 e) LM Editorial Team

Although a separate project, coordinated by the Editorial Board, Landmine Monitor was established to strengthen the ability of the campaign to advocate for its goals. Landmine Monitor establishes the facts that allow the campaign to develop effective and sound advocacy. Over the years, the Landmine Monitor Editorial Team has helped ICBL staff and campaigns by contributing to developing messages and preparing missions, sharing analysis, and participating in workshops as resource persons or facilitators. This collaboration demonstrates how research and advocacy reinforce each other.