ICBL’s One Month Countdown
to the 13th Meeting of States Parties of the Mine Ban Treaty
Geneva, Switzerland, 2-6 December 2013

Introduction

The 13th Meeting of States Parties (13MSP) of the Mine Ban Treaty (MBT) will take place from 2 to 5 December 2013 at the United Nations Office in Geneva, Switzerland. It will be followed by a one-day Preparatory Meeting for the Third Review Conference of the MBT on 6 December 2013 at the same venue.

The 13MSP and the Review Conference Preparatory Meetings will take place just over half a year ahead of one of the key milestones in the life of the treaty, the Third Review Conference. States are required to present progress, challenges, plans, and requirements for assistance and cooperation to achieve the objectives of the treaty and the commitments they made under the 2009 Cartagena Action Plan (CAP) as well as to exchange views and share expectations in regard to substance, structure, and main outcomes of the Review Conference.

It’s time for the ICBL members to accelerate advocacy efforts in lead up to the 13MSP in order to ensure maximum results at and beyond the 13MSP.

This one-month countdown is ICBL’s global action aimed at promoting further implementation and universalization of the MBT and at active participation by government representatives at the 13MSP.

Key messages and expectations

At the 13MSP:

- **States Parties** are expected to **report on the progress they have made and on their future plans** on all relevant treaty obligations and the Cartagena Action Plan (CAP) commitments (clearance, victim assistance, stockpile destruction, mine risk education, retained mines, national legislation, cooperation and assistance and etc.).

- **States not party to the MBT** are expected to **report on steps they have taken to join the treaty**.

- **States** are expected to **actively participate in discussions** throughout the MSP, in particular on the following key issues:
  - **Use and use allegations**: All instances of use or use allegations should be of serious concern to all States Parties and be publically addressed, condemned and questioned about during the 13MSP. States Parties should call on and engage with the concerned states and actors to ensure no new mine use in the future.
  - **New extension requests for clearance deadline**: Chad, Germany, Mozambique, Niger, Serbia, Sudan, and Turkey have presented their draft requests for extension of their clearance deadline under Article 5 of the treaty. The 12MSP President and the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committees have been analyzing the requests. **At the 13MSP, States Parties should engage on those requests and decide on their approval**.
  - **Annual transparency report**: As of 31 November 2013, 46% of States Parties to the MBT had not submitted their 2013 reports. States Parties that have missed to submit their 2013 transparency reports should turn in their reports as soon as possible.

At the Preparatory Meeting for the Review Conference:

- States Parties are expected to share views on the substance and structure of the Review Conference as well as on the main outcomes of the Conference.
Take action in your country

We would like you to contact your governments and urge them to:

1. **Increase efforts on universalization and implementation** of the MBT and the CAP.

2. **Register and actively participate in the 13MSP and the First Preparatory Meeting of the Review Conference.** Encourage States Parties with significant numbers of victims to include survivors as part of the official delegation at the 13MSP.

3. **Report at the 13MSP on concrete progresses and achievements** made on implementing the MBT and relevant CAP actions and the next steps to fully meet its objectives.

4. **Condemn all mine use and express concern over allegations of landmine use.**

5. **Share the ICBL’s 13MSP memo for government delegates** with your mine action and victim assistance or other relevant authorities in your country.

Get the word out

We will be doing media outreach to promote the objectives of the 13MSP and the Preparatory Meeting of the Review Conference.

We encourage you to:

- Do as much media work as you can to highlight the importance of the 13MSP and the Preparatory Meeting of the Review Conference and to get your government excited for a productive meeting in Geneva.

- Write blog submissions for the [Landmine and Cluster Munition Blog](http://www.the-monitor.org/) on relevant progresses and challenges that you would like to highlight in lead up to the 13MSP and beyond.

- Use social media (Facebook, Twitter, Flicker and YouTube) to multiply our voices and messages. Follow the ICBL on Facebook ([http://www.facebook.com/minefreeworld](http://www.facebook.com/minefreeworld)) and on Twitter ([http://www.twitter.com/minefreeworld](http://www.twitter.com/minefreeworld)) and make sure to share your relevant images and messages with the ICBL and on your own Facebook or Twitter pages.

Campaign tools and materials

The tools available to support your actions are attached to this email or available online:

- Memo for Government Delegates about the 13MSP in **English, French and Spanish**.
- A Press Release template and key messages for your media and social media use will be available in the coming weeks.
- All information about the 13MSP is available on our website at: [http://bit.ly/1a08BUx](http://bit.ly/1a08BUx)
- All background documents including the agenda and administrative information for governments are/will be available on the ISU website at: [http://bit.ly/16shWcM](http://bit.ly/16shWcM)

Please update us on your activities throughout the month. Send it either to firoz@icblcmc.org or directly to icblnetwork@yahoogroups.com when relevant.