

# Bios: Landmine Survivors and Others Available For Interview

Interviewable campaigners and landmine survivors are listed here under the following thematic or geographic regions:

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At this important world Summit, the **International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL)** will be represented by over 350 delegates.

**They come from over 80 countries, from Afghanistan to Zambia**, and all have interesting personal stories, perspectives and a variety of expert knowledge on the landmine issue. Spokespeople will provide interviews on the status of countries in all geographical regions and thematic areas related to the Mine Ban Treaty.

**Interviews can be arranged in various languages:** English, French, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish, Swahili, Russian, Arabic, Khmer, Thai and more. Below is a small sample of some of the spokespeople available for interviews.

**To request an interview** please write to [media@icbl.org](mailto:media@icbl.org) or contact Sue Wixley + 254 (0) 735-337-396 or Nancy Ingram + 254 (0) 735-475-200.

## I. ICBL AMBASSADORS AND REPRESENTATIVES

### *Jody Williams*

Founding Coordinator of the ICBL and now ICBL Ambassador, Williams was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize with the ICBL in 1997. She is one of only eleven women to have received the prize and only the third woman in the U.S.

### *Tun Channareth*

A landmine survivor and activist from Cambodia, Tun Channareth received the Nobel Peace prize on behalf of the ICBL in 1997. He is one of the ICBL's Ambassadors. He speaks English and Khmer.

### *Song Kosal*

Kosal lost her leg as a small girl in Battambang Cambodia. She has campaigned against landmines since the age of 12 and in 1997 launched the Youth Against War Campaign. Kosal is currently ICBL Ambassador. She speaks English and Khmer.

### ***Liz Bernstein***

ICBL's Coordinator for seven years and currently based in Ottawa, Bernstein has lived and worked in Cambodia, Thailand and Mozambique. She speaks English, French, Khmer and Thai.

## **II. LANDMINE MONITOR**

### ***Stephen Goose***

Editor-in-chief of the ICBL's Landmine Monitor report and the Executive Director of the Arms division at Human Rights Watch. Goose is also the official Head of the ICBL delegation.

## **III. VICTIM ASSISTANCE**

### **Margaret Arach Orech**

A landmine survivor from Uganda, Orech co-coordinates the ICBL's working group on victim assistance and works on victim assistance programmes in Uganda.

### ***Sheree Bailey***

Bailey is the Thematic Coordinator for Victim Assistance research for the Landmine Monitor report and works with Handicap International Belgium. She speaks English.

## **IV. MINE CLEARANCE**

### ***Sara Sekkenes***

Sekkenes works for Norwegian Peoples Aid and chairs the ICBL's working group on mine action. She has worked on NPA's demining projects in Angola and the Balkans. She speaks English and currently works in Mozambique.

## **V. MINE RISK EDUCATION**

### ***Habbouba Aoun***

Aoun coordinates the Landmines Resource Centre in Beirut and does the Landmine Monitor report on the Lebanon. She speaks Arabic, English and French.

### ***Stan Brabant***

Brabant works for Handicap International Belgium on mine clearance and mine risk education projects in Afghanistan, Cambodia and elsewhere. He serves as Landmine Monitor Research Coordinator for mine risk education and speaks Dutch, English, and French.

## **VI. YOUTH**

### ***Alicia Berthiaume***

Berthiaume is a senior program officer with Canada's Youth Mine Action Ambassador Program and co-coordinator of the first-ever international youth capacity building symposium, ***In our Lifetime***, whose aim is to build up and train the next generation of mine ban movement. Thirty-nine youth from 23 countries will participate and are available for interviews.

## VII. AFRICA

### *Mereso Agina*

Agina is the National Secretary of the Maendeleo Ya Wanawake - Kenya's largest and oldest women's organisation with over five million members. She represents the Kenyan Coalition Against Landmines (KCAL), a member of the ICBL's Coordinating Committee since June 1997 and Landmine Monitor's Research Coordinator for Anglophone Africa. KCAL is hosting the ICBL in Nairobi for the first Review Conference on the Mine Ban Treaty and the most important diplomatic meeting on the Treaty since the 1997 negotiations.

### *Charles Ndayiziga*

Ndayiziga is the Coordinator of the Burundi Campaign to Ban Landmines. In addition, he is also the Coordinator for the Prevention of Conflict and AlertCenter, a local non-governmental organisation (NGO) working to promote peace in Burundi. He speaks French.

## VIII. AMERICAS

### *Charlie Avendaño*

Coordinator of Landmine Monitor research in the America's region, Avendaño works for Mines Action Canada. He speaks English, Spanish and French.

### *Edgar Moreno*

Colombia landmine survivor and paralympic gold medallist in cycling. Moreno has ridden his bike as physical, social and psychological therapy in his recovery.

## IX. ASIA-PACIFIC

### *Purna Shova Chitrakar*

Chitrakar has coordinated NGO efforts to ban mines in Nepal since 1995. In June 2003 she met with Nepalese armed opposition groups, and others, to persuade them to give up landmines.

### *Yukie Osa*

Osa works for one of the ICBL's members in Japan, Association to Aid Refugees, and has set up landmine projects in Cambodia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, travelled to Afghanistan and does the Landmine Monitor report for China.

### *Om Prakash Bhadrecha*

India landmine survivor and Raising the Voices graduate fluent in English. Bhadrecha organized a successful hunger strike to pressure the Indian government to provide compensation to landmine victims as a result of the 2002 mining of the Indian and Pakistan border.

## X. EUROPE

### *Sylvie Brigot*

ICBL's Government Relations Officer, Brigot has worked on the landmine issue since 1994 and is based in Paris. She speaks French and English.

### ***Aleksander Kechman***

Bosnian landmine survivor, fluent in English. Kechman was a member of Bosnia-Herzegovina's the 2004 Gold Medal paralympic Volleyball team.

## **XI. FORMER SOVIET UNION**

### ***Roman Dolgov***

Dolgov provides the Landmine Monitor research for Russia and countries of Central Asia and speaks English and Russian.

### ***Aleksandr Patargyn***

A Ukrainian landmine survivor, Patargyn is also an ex-commander in the Ukraine military. He currently works as the head of a war of the Ukrainian Peacekeepers Veterans Association helping other war-disabled veterans.

## **XII. MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA**

### ***Saba'a Al-Jarady***

Al-Jarady is a female landmine survivor from Yemen. She speaks on her experience as a female survivor and issues related to women and disability.

### ***Moaffak Al-Khafagi***

An Iraqi landmine survivor who serves as the head of an indigenous disability organization in Iraq, Al-Khafaqi speaks specifically on the challenges and needs of landmine survivors in Iraq.

### ***Ayman Sorour***

Sorour is the director of the Landmines Struggle Center (LSC), the only NGO working directly on the mines and UXO problem in Egypt. Sorour is the Landmine Monitor researcher for Egypt, and other countries of the Middle East. He speaks Arabic, English and French.