

CCM 6MSP

Statement by Sweden

Agenda item 8 (d)

Mr President,

I would like to thank the coordinators for their commitment to and work on the issue of victim assistance. Sweden believes that the national ownership and the political will of the cooperation partner countries is key to achieving sustainable development. In our view, it follows that international cooperation on mine action needs to be fully integrated into the development dialogue. This is the way to tackle remaining challenges such as uncleared land and assistance to survivors. This is also a way for mine action to regain momentum, to ensure that necessary resources can be mobilized.

Sweden doesn't distinguish between the development aid that we provide to mine or cluster munitions victims and the support we provide to the health care sector as a whole in affected countries. Swedish support to sustainable health care, infrastructure and personnel, and to medical education, training and services in such countries, and as part of their own development strategies, exceeded altogether 100 million EUR over a recent five-year period.

It is gratifying to see that the rights perspective increasingly is becoming an integral part of the mine or cluster munitions survivor agenda. This perspective has been instrumental in moving the accessibility agenda forward in many countries worldwide. We would like to emphasize the linkage with the UN Convention of the Rights of persons with disabilities, which sets a wider framework to address comprehensively the needs of survivors and their full and equal participation in society.

Thankyou Mr President.