



REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

3rd MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES OF THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

Statement of Mozambique on Victim Assistance

by the Head of Delegation,
Mr. Elias Jaime Zimba, Minister Plenipotenciary,
Charge D’Affairs a.i
Permanent Mission of Mozambique to
the United Nations

Mr. President,

Under the Convention on Cluster Munitions, Mozambique has a new obligation to identify and assist the victims of cluster munitions. According to National Institute of Statistic’s 2007 census, there are 475,011 people with disabilities in Mozambique, (249,752 men and 225,259 women) which corresponds to 2% of the population. At the moment, we are unaware how many victims of cluster munitions are included in the general data on people living with disabilities. We are already aware that a significant number of these people are landmines victims. Further survey work will need to be

conducted to determine how many are victims of cluster munitions.

Like landmine victims, cluster munitions victims will be assisted in the overall framework of assistance to people with disability that is provided by the Ministries of Health, Women and Social Affairs, Education and Labor through implementation of a multi-sectoral plan of action on disability. This will be done in accordance with our obligations under the convention on the Rights of People with Disability, the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

In 2011, the evaluation of the 2006 -2010 National Plan of Action for the Area of Disability presented good results in the areas that were planned.

The evaluation concluded that the establishment of the National Council for People with Disability in 2009 improved coordination and monitoring of the National Action Plan. This Council includes representative of Government ministries, the public health sector and civil society and was very active in the monitoring process. The Council played a key role in the establishment of provincial councils in each of the 11 provinces of Mozambique.

In 2011, the following actions were implemented aimed at improving the quality of life for Persons with Disabilities:

- 46 were men and 21 were women with physical and hearing impairment were trained for the labor market in management for small business, crafts and trades;
- In 2011 the orthopedic services carried out 1020 new case of people with disability. Of these, 65 were victims of landmines including 46 women and 19 men;
- 4.021 assistance devices were produced, 1.656 repaired and 906 distributed;
- Training of teachers were conducted for the inclusive schools in the use of well-adjusted computers;
- Training courses are being run for middle technicians in orthopedic, middle technicians of social work and graduation course of social work in order to reinforce the assistance for people with disabilities;
- Information, education and communication material to prevent and mitigate HIV-AIDS for people with disabilities were prepared and provided.

- In the scope of Basic Social Security Programs, 12.676 people with disability were assisted, of which 5.526 were women and 7.150 were men.

The evaluation of the 2006 - 2010 National Plan of Action for the Area of Disability also provided recommendations for the second National Plan of Action for the period of 2012 to 2019. The Plan was produced with the involvement of civil society, private sector, associations of people and the Network of the Associations of Victims of Landmines, private sector, religious Confessions and International partners.

The National Plan of Action for the Area of the Disability was approved by the Government of Mozambique last week on the 4th of September.

The plan will guide actions in the next priority areas of intervention:

1. Education;
2. Health and Rehabilitation;
3. Prevention and Combat to the HIV-AIDS;
4. Basic Social Security;
5. Publishing of policies and other legal instruments.

In each area, special attention will be checked for the victims of cluster munitions, landmines, children and women with disability.

In implementing activities under the previous National Action Plan on Disabilities, Mozambique faced the following challenges to implement the activities I previously mentioned:

- Insufficient financial and qualified human resources;
- Weak co-ordination of activities between the sectors and less information about the activities that each one carries out.

The implementation of the activities envisioned in the new National Action Plan will face the same problems and will require external assistance.

Mr. President,

As you have heard today, Mozambique is still in the early days of implementing of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. We remain committed to implementing our victim assistance obligations under the Convention on Cluster Munitions as well as the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

However, additional resources will be required to conduct the survey work and research needed to determine the exact scope of the work ahead. As always, we would be grateful for any assistance from other States Parties and the international community to aid us in meeting the tremendous challenges we still face in meeting our obligations under these Conventions.

Thank you.

Oslo, 12 September 2012