
Strong and sustainable cooperation and assistance is instrumental for the full and speedy implementation of the convention. In the course of the meeting, we have heard States Parties describing progress and challenges on Articles 3, 4, and 5. Successful implementation rests on a well-functioning Article 6.

International donors represent the main source of financing for mine action. According to the Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor they contributed a combined total of US\$5.7 billion in the past decade. As donors designate very few of their funded projects as related only to cluster munitions, it remains complicated to report precisely the amount of funding related to this convention.

While progress is being reported, in the current climate of shrinking resources and competing priorities, there is still need to fill the gaps in resources available and to make sure they are used in the most effective way.

To do so, traditional donors must continue to finance a solid percentage of the mine action budget. In particular, the CMC calls for:

1. Greater coordination among donors for a more strategic distribution of resources to ensure all countries can implement their obligations as quickly as possible.
2. Increased assistance from a greater number of donor states. Such support can take many forms and is not limited to a financial response.
3. Strengthened national ownership of affected states in resource mobilization efforts. This includes regular and clear reporting on assistance needed and the level of national contributions, as well as the development of coherent and costed national plans. The country coalition mechanism creates a favorable space to boost such efforts. However, it can yield results only when based on true national ownership of the affected country working in partnership with donors and other relevant stakeholders.

As mentioned in Action 38 of the Lausanne Action Plan, diversifying financing models and types of partnerships offers an interesting complement to traditional mine action assistance. Impact bonds, public-private partnerships, and outcomes-based mechanisms could contribute to foster synergies with other fields such as development, education, or the environment. While designing these new ways of working, it will be essential to involve affected communities and local partners, and to build national capacities. It will also be key to clearly define the intended impacts and ways to measure them, and to identify relevant actors who can be involved and for what kind of projects that could not take shape under the traditional scheme.

We listened with great interest to the UK's presentation on innovative financing today and we will continue following these efforts closely. Innovative finance could help us make a difference in achieving tangible change. But there are no quick fixes and this will not be sufficient in itself.

The CMC welcomes new and creative efforts on mine action financing, we believe these should be perceived as additional sources of funding, while the traditional institutional funding must remain the cornerstone of mine action assistance. Today, more than ever, there is an urgent need for a renewed commitment by the donor community to continue to invest in a world free of cluster munitions where all lives and livelihood are protected.