

**Norwegian People's Aid Statement on**

**Item 10(i): Gender Mainstreaming  
Tenth Meeting of States Parties to the CCM, 30 August - 2 September 2022**

**Delivered by Santiago Ocampo Hidalgo, Programme Coordinator**

Thank you Mr. President,

We would like to begin by commending the work done on gender and diversity by the Gender Focal Points, France and Namibia, and hope to see their role permanently embedded in the machinery so as to enable continuity of efforts to mainstream gender and diversity within implementation of the Convention.

We are disappointed to have heard some statements made with regards to gender and diversity, undermining dedicated efforts to ensure the implementation of the Convention equally fulfills the needs of all affected persons without leaving anyone behind. We remind delegates that in fact gender is a varying social construct. It is our responsibility to reflect a person's social identity in our needs analysis and response to truly and completely implement the Convention. The Lausanne Action Plan supports this endeavour.

While we also applaud efforts undertaken by certain states and civil society, NPA regrets that we continue to see major shortfalls in gender and diversity mainstreaming in the sector's response to addressing cluster munition remnant contamination.

As revealed in Mine Action Review's monitoring of the Lausanne Action Plan implementation, only three of the ten affected States Parties integrate gender and diversity in their national work plans and strategies as required by Action 4 and only half include gender and diversity in survey and clearance planning and prioritization, as per Action 23. The Lausanne Action Plan should be implemented fully, including actions pertaining to gender and diversity and we hereby appeal to those affected States Parties not currently meeting these indicators to rectify this as a matter of urgency.

Action 4 of the LAP clearly asks for different needs, vulnerabilities, and perspectives of women, girls, boys, and men from diverse populations and all ages to be considered and inform the implementation of the Convention. Without a gender and diversity sensitive baseline survey, there can be no complete understanding of the context and the contamination, thus setting back any clearance response and potentially leaving out whole areas and populations, impeding fulfillment of Article 4 obligations. Without diverse representation in international disarmament fora, affected voices will remain unheard and Convention obligations thus not completely met, hindering the goal to achieve a world free from cluster munitions and stop their harm for all.

In 2022, we are allowed to be impatient and expect each of us to do their very best to ensure gender and diversity are properly considered and embedded in each step of mine action. National authorities, operators, donors, civil society and the machinery of this Convention must work together to ensure the provisions of the Convention benefit everyone equally and that no one is left behind. We encourage all parties present to reach out to and utilize the Gender and Diversity Working Group of which NPA is also a proud member and whose statement we fully align with.

Thank you.