

Agenda Item 10(d)
Risk Reduction Education
Statement by MAG

Check against delivery.

Thank you Mr President,

this separate agenda item on risk reduction education is evidence of the innovative nature of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and its critical function in the protection of people and communities, during and after hostilities.

Cluster munitions do not only still kill and maim civilians, as reported by the 2025 Cluster Munition Monitor, but they also heavily condition the lives and livelihood of people, preventing human development and the full enjoyment of human rights of many people in many ways, from preventing safe and dignified returns to annulling economic opportunities, including those of the informal economy sector, which often offer income sources to women.

Risk education and other community liaison activities are critical to support all people in danger to protect themselves, especially in times where they might be exposed to the dangers of these weapons. This year, drawing on the work done by the EORE Advisory Group, including GICHD and IOM, MAG published an initial study on how mine action, especially risk education operations, can protect people on the move and ensure their right to life and dignity.

Risk education is also often the only type of activity that operators can undertake in time of active hostility abiding by the humanitarian principles, actively contributing to the protection of civilians in time of conflict. We strongly encourage States Parties to consider risk education as a self-standing activity aimed at protecting civilians, including when assistance is provided.

Mr President,

as in every area of mine action, even risk education benefits from innovative approaches, not only at a technological level, but also at the psychological and sociological ones. MAG, along with our partners, is proud of combining the technical, sociological and psychological aspects in all our activities of risk education and community liaison, including our work on digital explosive ordnance risk education activities, which often prove to be effective in reaching out different types of audience, including those of younger ages.

MAG remains available to continue to implement and innovate risk education and the related obligations of the CCM to protect life and human dignity whenever needed.

I thank you, Mr President.