



## **Overview of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (“Ottawa Convention”)**

**Regional Workshop on Development Challenges of Mine  
Clearance and Victim Assistance in South East Asia**

**Kerry Brinkert  
Manager, Implementation Support Unit  
k.brinkert@gichd.ch**

**30 August 2004  
Bangkok**

© GICHD, 2004



## **The AP Mine Ban Convention**

<b>What is it all about?</b>	<b>What are its main elements?</b>
<b>How does it work?</b>	<b>What is its status?</b>

© GICHD, 2004



## What is it all about?

***A “(determination) to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines.”***

- Preamble to the AP Mine Ban Convention

© GICHD, 2004



## Putting an end to the suffering: Four core aims

<b>The universal acceptance of a AP mine ban</b>	

© GICHD, 2004




## Putting an end to the suffering: Four core aims

	<b>Destroying existing stockpiles</b>

© GICHD, 2004



## Putting an end to the suffering: Four core aims

	
<b>Clearing mined areas</b>	

© GICHD, 2004



## Putting an end to the suffering: Four core aims



© GICHD, 2004



## Putting an end to the suffering: Four core aims



© GICHD, 2004



## What are the main elements?

<b>Prohibited actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ AP mine use</li><li>□ AP mine production</li><li>□ AP mine retention</li><li>□ AP mine transfers</li><li>□ Assistance others in any prohibited act</li></ul>
<b>Required actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Destruction of stockpiles</li><li>□ Clearance of mined areas</li><li>□ Assistance to victims</li><li>□ Annual transparency report</li><li>□ Measures to prevent / suppress prohibited acts</li></ul>

© GICHD, 2004



## How does it work?

### Important principles:

- Necessity to work in an efficient and coordinated manner
- Agreement to work together in a spirit of cooperation
- Emphasis on partnership

© GICHD, 2004



## How does it work?

A variety of mechanisms exist to facilitate implementation:

- Mechanisms that exist in the text of the Convention
- Mechanism that have been established through decisions of the States Parties
- Mechanisms that have emerged on an informal basis

© GICHD, 2004



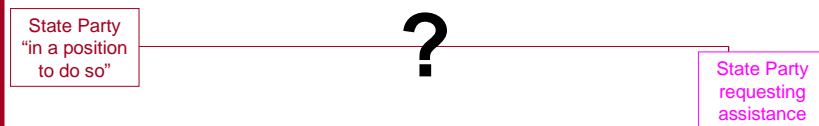
## Implementation Mechanisms

In the Convention's text:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ <b>Article 6:</b> Contains rights to seek and receive assistance and responsibilities to provide it.</li><li>□ <b>Annual meetings:</b> Mandated to discuss cooperation and assistance in accordance with Article 6.</li><li>□ <b>Review Conferences:</b> Intended to review implementation and assess future challenges.</li></ul>
Established by formal decisions:	
Emerged informally:	

© GICHD, 2004



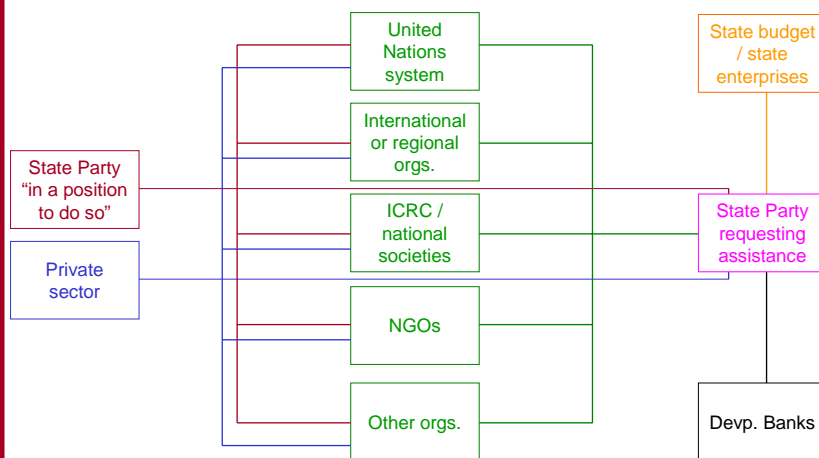
## Implementation mechanisms: Article 6



© GICHD, 2004



## Implementation mechanisms: Article 6



© GICHD, 2004



## Implementation Mechanisms

In the Convention's text:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ <b>Article 6:</b> Contains rights to seek and receive assistance and responsibilities to provide it.</li><li>□ <b>Annual meetings:</b> Mandated to discuss cooperation and assistance in accordance with Article 6.</li><li>□ <b>Review Conferences:</b> Intended to review implementation and assess future challenges.</li></ul>
Established by formal decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ <b>Intersessional Work Programme:</b> Four Standing Committees meeting twice a year.</li><li>□ <b>Coordinating Committee:</b> Effective coordination between annual meetings.</li><li>□ <b>Implementation Support Unit:</b> An efficient means to support ongoing State Party activity.</li></ul>
Emerged informally:	

© GICH, 2004



## Implementation Mechanisms: Implementation Support Unit

- Independent advice and support to the Convention's President, President-Designate, Co-Chairs and Contact Group Coordinators.
- Support to Coordinating Committee.
- Advice, information and support to individual States Parties on implementation matters.
- Coordination with actors that are relevant and supportive of the States Parties' aims and efforts.
- Information to all whom are interested (including States not parties) – documentation centre, web site, et cetera.

© GICH, 2004



# Implementation Mechanisms: Implementation Support Unit



## AP Mine Ban Convention Documentation Centre



## Web sites



© GICHD, 2004

# Implementation Mechanisms



<p>In the Convention's text:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ <b>Article 6:</b> Contains rights to seek and receive assistance and responsibilities to provide it.</li> <li>□ <b>Annual meetings:</b> Mandated to discuss cooperation and assistance in accordance with Article 6.</li> <li>□ <b>Review Conferences:</b> Intended to review implementation and assess future challenges.</li> </ul>
<p>Established by formal decisions:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ <b>Intersessional Work Programme:</b> Four Standing Committees meeting twice a year.</li> <li>□ <b>Coordinating Committee:</b> Effective coordination between annual meetings.</li> <li>□ <b>Implementation Support Unit:</b> An efficient means to support ongoing State Party activity.</li> </ul>
<p>Emerged informally:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ <b>Contact groups:</b> To promote universalization, transparency reporting, resource mobilization</li> <li>□ <b>Sponsorship Programme:</b> To ensure full participation</li> </ul>

© GICHD, 2004



## The status of the Convention

### Universalization:

- 143 States have ratified / acceded.



© GICHD, 2004



## The status of the Convention

### Stockpile destruction:

- More than 37 million mines destroyed.
- About 10.2 million mines remain to be destroyed.



© GICHD, 2004



## The status of the Convention



### Mine clearance:

- 49 States Parties have reported mined areas.
- 2 have completed clearance obligations.



© GICHD, 2004



## The status of the Convention



### Victim assistance:

- 22 States Parties reported hundreds / thousands of survivors.
- All likely need outside assistance.

© GICHD, 2004



## The status of the Convention: Other important matters

- **Cooperation and assistance**
- **Transparency and the exchange of information**
- **Ensuring compliance**

© GICHD, 2004



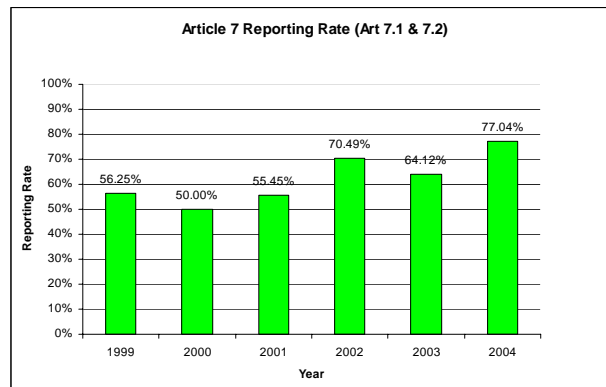
## The status of the Convention: Cooperation and assistance

- **1997-2003: Over US\$ 2.2 billion generated for matters consistent with achieving the Convention's aims.**
- **...but...cooperation and assistance concerns more than this.**
- **5MSP: Mine-affected States Parties, the UN, the World Bank, regional development banks, NGOs called upon to integrate mine action into all relevant humanitarian and development activities.**

© GICHD, 2004



## The status of the Convention: Transparency / exchange of information



© GICHD, 2004



## The status of the Convention: Ensuring compliance

### 5MSP:

- “We acknowledge our individual responsibility as States Parties to apply the measures that we are obliged to take in accordance with article 9 of the Convention to prevent or suppress prohibited activities.”

### Status:

- 37 States Parties have adopted legislation
- 18 consider existing laws sufficient
- 31 in the process of adopting legislation

© GICHD, 2004



## The status of the Convention

1999: Entry into force of Convention

2004: First Review Conference

2009: First deadlines for clearance

© GICHD, 2004



## Opportunities in advance of Nairobi

- Communicate your plan to complete your clearance obligations by your deadline and your priorities for external assistance.
- Establish national victim assistance 2005-2009 targets / plans:
  - ◆ medical services, physical rehabilitation, psychological and social support, economic reintegration and disability laws.
- Ensure a 100% transparency reporting rate in the region.
- Encourage States that have not yet done so to join the Convention.
- Enhance regional cooperation to advance the implementation of the Convention.

© GICHD, 2004



## AP Mine Ban Convention: Concluding thoughts

- The Convention is about States seizing responsibility: State security + human security.
- The Convention's focus is on AP mines: Nevertheless, it has been a catalyst to address humanitarian problems caused by all mines and UXO.
- The Convention is a living example of multilateralism at work and of the value of collective action.

© GICHD, 2004



## Thank you!



© GICHD, 2004