



**Sri Lanka Statement on Victim Assistance
APMBC Intersessional Meetings
Geneva, Switzerland | 15–18 June 2026**

Mr. President,

Sri Lanka remains firmly committed to fulfilling its obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and advancing the implementation of the Seam Reap Action Plan, particularly in the area of Victim Assistance.

As a State Party to both the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Sri Lanka recognizes the importance of ensuring that survivors of anti-personnel mines and explosive ordnance are able to access the services and opportunities necessary to lead dignified and productive lives.

While significant progress has been achieved in mine clearance and reducing the threat posed by explosive ordnance, survivors continue to face challenges related to medical care, rehabilitation services, assistive devices, livelihood support, housing assistance, psychosocial wellbeing, and access to social protection programmes.

In line with Sri Lanka's National Mine Action Completion Strategy 2023–2027, the National Mine Action Centre, through the National Victim Assistance Committee, initiated a Victim Assistance Needs Assessment Survey in 2024. The survey focuses on victims recorded in the national IMSMA database since 2010 and aims to identify priority needs and gaps in service provision.

To date, a 20 percent sample assessment covering 41 of the 207 recorded victims residing in the Northern and Eastern Provinces has been completed. Preliminary findings highlight gaps in disability and rehabilitation services, limited livelihood and housing support, weak referral mechanisms, and the need for stronger integration of

mine and explosive ordnance victims into mainstream government welfare and disability programmes.

Sri Lanka recognizes that sustainable victim assistance requires a transition from stand-alone support mechanisms to mainstream inclusion within national systems. Accordingly, our priorities include strengthening inter-ministerial coordination, improving data collection and monitoring systems, enhancing referral pathways among relevant service providers, and promoting the inclusion of survivors within national disability, housing, livelihood, and social protection programmes.

As part of these efforts, a psychosocial wellbeing programme for mine and explosive ordnance victims is scheduled to be implemented in Kilinochchi District in July 2026 in collaboration with the Regional Director of Health Services.

Mr. President

Sri Lanka is honoured to serve on the Committee on Victim Assistance for the period 2025–2026. Through this role, we remain committed to sharing experiences, promoting good practices, and supporting collective efforts to strengthen victim assistance implementation under the Convention.

At the national level, the National Victim Assistance Committee, chaired by the Director of Mine Action, continues to function as the principal coordination mechanism for stakeholder engagement, policy coherence, and monitoring of victim assistance activities. We remain committed to further strengthening this mechanism to ensure effective and sustainable support for survivors.

Sri Lanka expresses its appreciation to donor states, international organizations, and implementing partners for their continued support and cooperation.

We reaffirm our commitment to ensuring that no mine or explosive ordnance victim is left behind and to advancing their full inclusion in society through coordinated and sustainable national efforts.

I thank you, Mr. President.