Recommendations for states with mine/ERW victims

Implementation
Meeting the needs of mine/ERW victims can be done through a variety of approaches, including through programs that support economic development or promote human rights, as well as those that specifically ensure that mine/ERW victims have access to the services they need.

- Assess the needs of all victims, including the family members of survivors and people killed, as well as affected communities, and map existing resources and services that might address these needs
- Connect victims to all effective and relevant programs, initiatives and activities, and provide targeted and non-discriminatory victim assistance to fill the gaps for those needed programs and services that do not exist for anyone in a country
- Implement fully national victim assistance plans and/or national disability plans

Coordination, representation and reporting

- Ensure that government victim assistance focal points have the support and capacity to effectively represent victim assistance nationally and internationally, including to ensure victims’ needs and rights are adequately reflected in broader national plans and in setting priorities with donor states
- Promote the participation of victims and/or their representative organizations, including disabled peoples’ organizations, in coordinating victim assistance supported through programs targeted to victims as well as through broader frameworks, such as inclusive development, transitional justice and human rights mechanisms, among others
- Report on the resources dedicated to assisting victims or persons with similar needs in the communities where victims live, even if these resources are not precisely quantifiable
- For states indicating that the needs of survivors are mostly addressed by the CRPD, show that survivors adequately benefit from these efforts and report on progress in upholding the rights of survivors through the implementation of relevant plans in both victim assistance and CRPD reporting
Recommendations for donors

Support targeted victim assistance where needed and effective
- Fund the effective implementation of national victim assistance plans, as well as disability action plans and other plans and policies that have been shown to positively impact victims
- Dedicate victim assistance funding to fill gaps in service delivery that are needed by mine/ERW victims and/or to ensure access to existing services available to a broader population
- Invest in initiatives that most effectively support survivors and their representative organizations, including disabled peoples’ organizations

Track how the state is fulfilling its duty to support victim assistance
- Demonstrate how development contributions enable states with mine/ERW victims or organizations in the country to assist mine/ERW victims, or how the funds reach the most vulnerable victims and those people in most need in all places where victims live, including rural and remote areas
- If it is not possible to determine if mainstream funding is reaching victims, demonstrate that the reasoning for providing such broader funding took into account the needs of victims
- Require recipients to ensure that support has a sustained impact on victims, regardless of the modalities through which services are provided

Recommendations for donor states and states with victims
- Promote the norm of victim assistance to ensure that victims’ specific needs are addressed in all possible fora and frameworks, and to enhance the increasing recognition by all states, including states not party to the relevant disarmament treaties, of the obligation to assist victims
- Report on progress on victim assistance to the same standards at all disarmament treaty meetings, regardless of differences in specific language on victim assistance of different treaties
- In CRPD statements and other fora, raise the specific needs of victims and highlight the links being made in practice between implementation of the CRPD and victim assistance, so that mine/ERW victims and persons with disabilities can access services on an equal basis with others