Gender and Diversity in Mine Action Working Group (GDWG)

Terms of Reference

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this group is to promote inclusive and effective humanitarian mine action (HMA) through an intersectional approach to mainstreaming gender and other diversity factors primarily within the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) and the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM).

2. PARTICIPANTS

This working group comprises representatives from the following 13 organisations:

Amputee Self-Help Network Uganda (ASNU), Colombian Campaign to Ban Landmines (CCCM), Danish Church Aid (DCA), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), The HALO Trust, Humanity & Inclusion (HI), International Campaign to Ban Landmines-Cluster Munition Coalition (ICBL-CMC), Mines Action Canada (MAC), Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Mine Action Review (MAR), Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), and Human Security in Latin American and the Caribbean (SEHLAC).

The GDWG will be co-chaired by representatives from two members on a 6-months rotating basis. For the first six months of 2023 the co-chairs will be representatives of the GICHD and The HALO Trust.

The working group remains open to additional organisations. Any interested organisations can express their interest in joining, which will then be discussed and decided by the working group.

The working language of the GDWG is English.

3. TERM

This Terms of Reference is effective from February 2023 and will be ongoing until terminated by agreement between the parties.

4. MEETINGS

The Working Group will hold meetings every 6 weeks on Thursdays at 4 pm CET, with any additional meetings held as necessary. Meetings of specific thematic subgroups will be arranged outside of these times at a time convenient to subgroup members.

Decisions will be made by majority vote.

5. SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of the working group will be to support the mine action and disarmament sector in the implementation of gender and other diversity provisions in the Oslo Action Plan (OAP) and Lausanne Action Plan (LAP). Gender refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviours, activities, and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for all women and men. The group will proactively work to promote the intersectionality of gender with other key diversity factors including, but not restricted to, age, race, religion, ethnicity, language, sexual orientation, migrant status, gender identity, poverty, and disability.

The scope of activities will view mine action holistically to include all land release activities, EO risk education, stockpile destruction, advocacy, and victim assistance.

6. ACTIVITIES

During 2023, the GDWG will have subgroups working on the following activities:

- a. Monitor Article 7 transparency reports for mentions of gender and diversity related information and analyse extension requests
- b. Support gender focal points in APMBC and CCM machineries
- c. Draft statements on gender and diversity for APMBC, CCM and other disarmament meetings as needed.
- d. Draft and distribute a concept note for funding to sponsor survivors and experts to join treaty meetings and to attend GDWG meetings to build the group's expertise and capacity.

The subgroups will organise their work as best suited for their members and share information on progress and planned activities with the whole GDWG at the regular meetings.

Specific deliverables will be developed based on needs identified within the APMBC, CCM, and through consultations with stakeholders. The Working Group will provide support as needed to the Presidencies of the APMBC and CCM and coordinate with the ISUs as necessary. Outputs may include providing recommendations on gender and diversity mainstreaming within the treaties, hosting workshops to share good practices for states/donors/operators seeking to enhance activities in their country context, and other research/advocacy products.

The working group aims to build upon guidance set out in the UN Gender Guidelines for Mine Action Programmes and other materials already accessible within and outside the mine action sector. The working group will aim to present practical examples of transformative approaches to gender and other diversity factors in mine action related to SDG 5, Human Rights, and the Women Peace and Security agenda.

7. AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION VARIATION

This Terms of Reference may be amended, varied or modified in writing after consultation and agreement by the working group members.