



Permanent Mission of Italy to
the Conference on Disarmament

Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC)
22nd Meeting of States Parties
Victim Assistance

2 December 2025

Chair,

At the outset, I would like to thank you and the members of the Committee on Victim Assistance for your valuable efforts in this endeavor.

Italy aligns itself with the statement of the European Union. Allow me to add some remarks in my national capacity.

We support the comprehensive approach reflected in the Siem Reap–Angkor Action Plan, highlighting the need to integrate victim assistance into broader national policies, plans, budgets, and legal frameworks, in line with the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. We should also empower synergies in victim assistance with other existing instruments, including the CCM, Protocol V of the CCW, and the CRPD.

Providing assistance to victims is more essential than ever, as growing conflicts continue to affect millions of people living in contaminated areas. Mine action remains a core component of Italy's humanitarian assistance. Over these last years, in a challenging financial context, Italy was in a position to keep steady the level of its funds at around 8.5 million per year, with a special attention to initiatives addressing the needs of the most vulnerable, including persons with disabilities.

Our projects follow a holistic approach, combining physical rehabilitation, psychosocial support, and socio-economic inclusion.

In Palestine, we partnered with the United Nations Mine Action Service to mitigate the threat of explosive remnants of war in Gaza, developing training programs on risk education and conflict preparedness, targeting the most vulnerable. We are also supporting UNMAS activities in the West Bank, assisting the Palestinian Mine Action Centre with a victim assistance strategy, data management, and quality assurance.

In Afghanistan, Mali, and Somalia, we worked with the International Committee of the Red Cross on the 2024 Special Appeal on Disability and Humanitarian Demining, promoting access to quality rehabilitation and socioeconomic inclusion for people with disabilities, including mine survivors.

Through the Italian Campaign to Ban Landmines, we continue supporting the Paola Biocca Centre in Jordan, which provides prostheses and rehabilitation to refugees, migrants, and residents, ensuring comprehensive medical and psychological support.

We recognize that this sector remains severely underfunded. Greater effort is needed to make rehabilitation technologies accessible and affordable by encouraging open markets, information sharing, and cooperation with universities and private companies. Italy welcomes further dialogue through tailored workshops on innovative financing measures.

The Italian Cooperation will continue supporting victim assistance activities and partnerships in the years ahead. Thank you, Chair, for allowing us to share our experience and reaffirm our commitment to this important humanitarian endeavour.