



MAG Statement

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Thank you, Chair.

I hope that by now delegations are familiar both with MAG's expertise and our motivation in calling for disarmament processes informed and driven by communities and states in the greatest need. I would like to briefly reiterate our support for this process, gratitude for the inclusion of civil society, and recognition of our essential partnerships with other civil society members as well as states, regional organisations, research institutions, and UN bodies.

References to the importance of needs-driven assistance remain welcome, as is the focus on sustainability included in objectives 2 and 4. It is our view that these objectives would be strengthened by specific recognition of the role of regional organisations. While objective 3 references regional and sub-regional mechanisms, again, the role of regional organisations could be explicitly referenced.

These bodies should not be viewed solely as coordinators of international cooperation and assistance or conduits for information exchange. Especially where their mandate is enshrined in legislation such as the ECOWAS Convention or the Inter-Governmental Agreement between Caribbean States that established CARICOM IMPACS, their role should not be treated as optional or incidental but rather as fundamental to sustainability and contextualisation. We welcome the extensive engagement underpinning the working paper submitted by Brazil, Ghana, Jamaica, Singapore, and Switzerland, that covers this issue well, and we would underline that where regional organisations lack resources or capacity, this should be seen as a reason to invest in, rather than bypass, them.

With further reference to contextualised assistance, we would like to highlight practicalities that as a community we ignore at our peril and the cost of limited resources. These include logistics, climate, conflict analysis, sustainable training plans, and proper technical assessment, examined in conjunction with states and not on their behalf. Recognising the differing needs between states affected by conflict, recovering from conflict, and facing other situations of violence is critical, both in terms of understanding the impact on populations and tailoring technical interventions. In addition, the intersection faced by many states between ammunition safety and security challenges and climate and the environment is largely overlooked, both generally and in the text. This issue includes both mitigation of the environmental impact of ammunition management, and consideration of climate-related issues in planning and prioritisation. This could be addressed by including concrete examples of contextualisation in objective 2.

Mr. Chair,

The draft Framework is already an impressive technical document, although we believe recognition of the human elements could still be strengthened. Further, the Framework must be linked to others to avoid silos and duplication. We believe that references to human rights, the SDGs, the Women, Peace and Security agenda, and gender mainstreaming must be highly visible. In this regard, we suggest that the impact of unplanned explosions in paragraph 3 is repeated in paragraph 2 on diversion, where, for example, the enjoyment of human rights and public health is not currently mentioned.

MAG has seen first-hand, especially in Africa and the Middle East, the consequences of ammunition diversion fuelling the fabrication of IEDs and the impact on safety, security, and stability. For this reason, we support retention of references to these interrelated issues.

National and regional ownership can only be achieved through an inclusive approach to both policy and programming. With regards to follow up, we must consider how to facilitate ongoing and meaningful engagement from developing countries and the global south. It is essential to recognise the significant expertise that exists in these states and regions, to draw upon it, and share the responsibility of amplifying voices that can be side-lined in multilateral processes.

MAG would like to conclude by congratulating you and your team for your remarkable work to date, as well as the many States and other experts who have contributed to the drafting and shaping of the Global Framework.

Thank you, Mr Chair.