



Information Exchange: Article 7

“*En Camino hacia un Hemisferio Libre de Minas Antipersonales*”:
Regional Mine Action Seminar in the Américas

14-15 August 2003

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The who, what, where, when, how and why of Article 7 reports

- ❑ Who should present the reports?
- ❑ What should be included in the reports?
- ❑ When should they report?
- ❑ How should they report?
- ❑ Where should they present the reports?
- ❑ Why report?



The Who of Article 7 reports

- Each State Party should fulfill this obligation.
- It is a particularly important issue in the Américas.



The Who of Article 7 reports

Obligatory Reports:

1. Measures taken in conformity with Article 9.
2. Antipersonnel mine existence.
3. Location of mined areas.
4. Retained or transferred mines in conformity with Article 3, or transferred for their destruction; the authorized institutions for retaining or transference antipersonnel mines in conformity with Article 3.
5. Programs for the conversion or decommission of mine production installations.
6. Conformity Programs with Articles 4 and 5.
7. The antipersonnel mines destroyed in conformity with Articles 4 and 5.
8. The technical characteristics of mines produced or possessed.
9. The measures taken to make the population aware of mined areas.



The What of Article 7 reports

Obligatory Reports:

1. Measures taken in conformity with Article 9.
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Voluntary reports:

10. Issues related to the fulfillment and initiation, of which were not covered by the formal requirements of the presentation of the reports contained in Article 7.



The When of Article 7 Reports

- ❑ Initially , as soon as possible, and in any case no later than 180 days after the Convention takes effect.
- ❑ Annually, no later than April 30 of each year.



The How of Article 7 Reports

- **1999: A standard format is adopted.**
- **2000: The format is modified to create Form J.**
- **The State Parties have been urged to present their reports in an electronic format.**
- **The State Parties should ensure that they provide complete information within their capacity and ensure that no information is duplicated.**
- **2002: A suggested cover page was presented – as a compliment or substitute for the presentation of detailed forms.**



The Where of Article 7

- The reports should be presented to the Secretary General of the United Nations.
- In practice, the reports should be presented to the office of Ambassador Enrique Roman-Morey in Geneva.
- Particularly:

**AP Mine Ban Convention Article 7 Officer
(Mr. Valère Mantels, Political Affairs Officer)
United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch)
Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Fax: 41-22-917-0034
Email: MBC_Article7@un.org**



The Why of Article 7 Reports

- It is an obligation under the Convention.
- It is more than a simple transparency mechanism: The formal voice of State Parties in communicating their problems, plans, progress, and assistance priorities.
- It is the same requirement as the annual exchange of information about antipersonnel mines of the General Assembly of the OAS.



Article 7 and the Americas

- **2002: 73% of all the reports required by the State Parties in the Américas were presented.**



Article 7 and the Americas

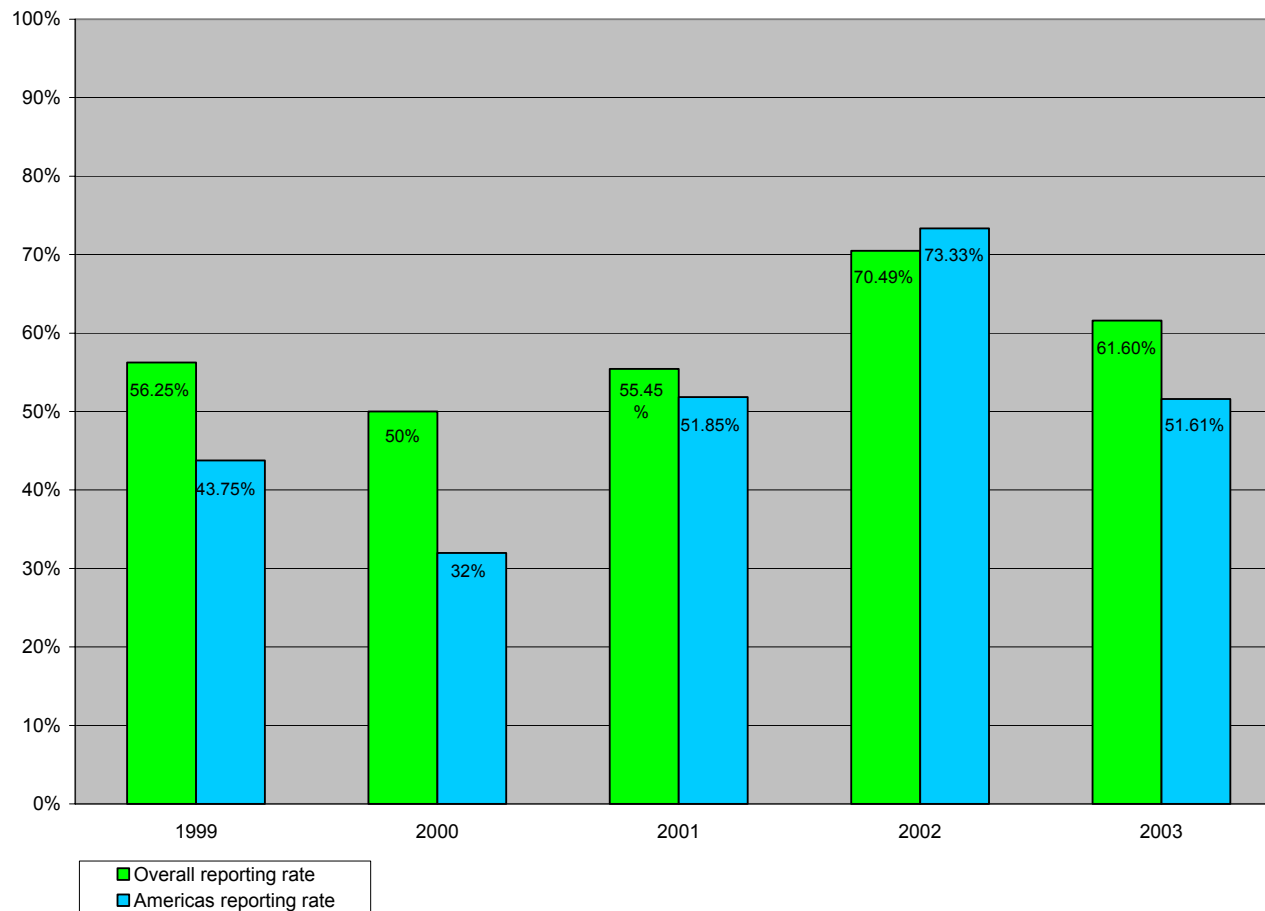
- **2002: 73% of the reports required by the State Parties were presented.**
- **2003: 51.6% of the reports required by the State Parties in the Americas where presented (to date).**



Article 7 and the Americas

Annual Reporting rates

Percentage of reports submitted by the States Parties in relation to the total number of reports required for that year.





Article 7 and the Americas

- **2002: 73% of all the reports required from the State Parties in the Américas were presented.**
- **2003: 51.6% off all the reports required from the State Parties in the American have been presented (to date).**
- **3 State Parties – Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Surinam – have not presented their initial report.**



Article 7 and the Americas

- **2002: 73% of reports required from State Parties in the Américas were presented.**
- **2003: 51.6% of reports required from State Parties in the Américas have been presented (to date).**
- **3 State Parties – Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Surinam – have not presented their initial report.**
- **12 State Parties in the Américas have not yet presented an annual update for 2003.**



Objectives for the Review Conference

- That Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Suriname present their initial reports before the 5MSP and that the 12 State Parties that have yet to present their annual update for 2003 do so.
- That the Américas seek to achieve 100% of report presentations in 2004 – with each of the 31 State Parties that should present annual reports before 30 April 2004.
- That the last State that accepted the Convention in the Américas – Guyana – present their initial report before the initiation of the First Review Conference
- That State Parties affected by mines take advantage of the opportunity to communicate, through Article 7 reports, their plans for fulfilling the obligations of Article 4 and 5.



You are not alone!

- **The Support Unit for Application of the Convention is at your service.**
- **The “IMSMA” system can help State Parties affected by mines in their preparation of certain aspects of the reports.**
- **There is a guide for the presentation of reports, developed by the non-governmental organization VERTIC with the support of Belgium.**
- **Ambassador Lint coordinates the efforts of the Contact Group of Article 7 and is willing to assist in the presentation of your reports.**
- **The Organization of American States is willing to assist.**
- **You can get in contact with the Office in Geneva of the Department for Disarmament Affairs.**



Thank you!

