

## **HI welcomes Lebanon's accession to the Mine Ban Treaty**

HI warmly welcomes the decision of Lebanon to accede to the Mine Ban Treaty, marking an important milestone as the country becomes the 162nd State Party to this life-saving convention.

This accession reflects the will to protect civilians from the devastating and indiscriminate impact of anti-personnel mines. For decades, until the more recent war, landmines and explosive remnants of war have contaminated parts of Lebanon, causing deaths and injuries, disrupting livelihoods, and limiting access to land, services, and opportunities, particularly for the most vulnerable, including persons with disabilities.

HI stands ready to support Lebanon's efforts in advancing this commitment, in close collaboration with national authorities, civil society, and affected communities. This includes clearance of contaminated areas, risk education, and comprehensive assistance to victims and survivors. Victim assistance must remain central to Lebanon's implementation of the Treaty. Survivors of mine incidents, many of whom live with long-term disabilities, must have access to inclusive and quality services, including rehabilitation, psychosocial support, and socio-economic inclusion. This accession provides an opportunity to reinforce national systems and ensure that no one is left behind.

“Lebanon's accession marks not only an important step towards a mine-free future, but also an affirmation that international rules matter. A reminder that even in times of insecurity and conflicts, states can choose to reject indiscriminate weapons, prevent generational harm and protect human dignity.”

*Anne Héry, Director Advocacy Humanity & Inclusion*