

**Organization for Defending Victims of Violence**



Landmines still claim lives in Iran

**Mr. President,**

30 Years after the Iran- Iraq war, Landmines still Kill and Maim Civilians in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Men, women and children fall victims to the buried danger. The most recent mine blast was reported in late 2017, in which an anti-tank mine explosion left two women and one man killed. In October 2017, another mine blast in a western Iranian province killed one person and injured two other people while demining the region. In another incident the same month, an Iranian soldier was killed in a mine explosion near Saqqez city. Three months earlier, four military personnel died in a mine blast in Kordestan province.

**Mr. President,**

Being seriously concerned with the situation of border civilians, including children, who lose their life and health in land blasts, the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV):

1. Calls on the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health to invite the developed countries to offer the necessary technical support to Islamic Republic of Iran to remove the contaminated lands from landmines.
2. Calls on all countries of the Middle East to join CCW (Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons) in order to prevent mine blast incidents in the future.
3. Calls on all regional NGOs, concerned with landmines to cooperate with CMC (Cluster Munitions Coalition) in order to help collect land mines and prevent further mine casualties.
4. Islamic Republic of Iran has been deprived of IMZMA demining software due to the economic sanctions. ODVV holds the sanctioning countries responsible for the deaths and injuries of mine victims and calls on the countries to offer the victims with adequate compensation.