
**Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention
on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling,
Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel
Mines and on Their Destruction**

14 November 2011

Original: English

Eleventh Meeting
Phnom Penh, 28 November – 2 December 2011
Item 10 of the provisional agenda
**Consideration of the general status
and operation of the Convention**

**Achieving the aims of the Cartagena Action Plan:
The Phnom Penh Progress Report 2010-2011**

**Submitted by the President-Designate of the Eleventh Meeting of the
States Parties***

**Section #2
Mine Clearance**

III. Mine clearance

1. The 10MSP's Geneva Progress Report recalled that there are 54 States Parties that originally had formally reported that they had to fulfil the obligation contained in Article 5, paragraph 1 of the Convention. Of these, by the close of the 10MSP, 16 had reported that they had fulfilled their obligation to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under their jurisdiction or control. Therefore, at the close of the 10MSP, there were 38 that had to still fulfil this obligation.

2. Since the 10MSP, Nigeria – at the 20 June 2011 meeting of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies – informed the States Parties that it had completed implementation of Article 5. In making its announcement, Nigeria noted that its efforts to comply with Article 5 of the Convention involved surveying over 150,000 square kilometres in 11 of Nigeria's States and, that in the course of complying with Article 5, a total of 820 anti-personnel mines, 325 anti-vehicle mines and 17,516 other explosive hazards were destroyed. Nigeria also noted that the fact that the main challenge faced by Nigeria concerned unexploded ordnance points to how valuable this Convention is in ensuring that not only landmines are dealt with by affected countries, but that all other explosive remnants of war are dealt with.

3. There are now 37 States Parties that formally indicated that they must still fulfil the obligation contained in Article 5, paragraph 1 of the Convention: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Chile,

* Late submission.

Colombia, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania, Mozambique, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zimbabwe. In addition, on 22 June 2011, Germany informed the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies that it suspected that there may be anti-personnel mines in areas under the jurisdiction or control of Germany.

4. At the Cartagena Summit, it was agreed that States Parties that have been granted an extension to their initial Article 5 deadline will complete implementation of Article 5 as soon as possible but not later than their extended deadlines, ensure progress toward completion proceeds in accordance with the commitments made in their extension requests and the decisions taken on their requests, and report regularly on such progress.¹ Since the 10MSP, States Parties continued efforts to act in accordance with their Cartagena Summit commitments.

5. **Argentina** indicated in its request that, as it “does not exercise territorial control over the land to be demined,” the plan submitted as part of the request is a “schematic plan”. Argentina has pointed out that this plan will be developed in detail and will be implemented as soon as Argentina does exercise control over the areas in question or when both Argentina and the United Kingdom “reach agreement over making progress in such planning.” Since the 10MSP, there has been no change regarding the exercise of control over the areas in question.

6. **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, in its request, committed to have released a total of 493.70 square kilometres of suspected area between 2009 and 2011. Bosnia and Herzegovina has reported that between 2009 and May 2011, a total of 343.67 square kilometres had been released. Additionally, in its extension request, Bosnia and Herzegovina committed to develop a survey method for releasing “priority risk category III areas”, to be reviewed during the first revision of the strategic plan in 2012; distribute a list of locations for humanitarian demining by administrative units in Bosnia and Herzegovina including the size of the suspected areas; distribute plans for technical survey and clearance which include the size and location of the areas to be addressed and the organizations that will carry out the activities in accordance with annual mine action plans, and; adopt a new mine action law to create conditions for stable and continuous funding of mine action from local government budgets and donor support, and, see that the Bosnia and Herzegovina Ministry of Finance and Treasury will ensure shortfall of funds.

7. **Cambodia** committed in its request to clear, in 2009 and 2010, a total of 78,027,793 square metres of area containing anti-personnel mines, and, in 2011, to clear an additional 40,188,176 square metres of area containing anti-personnel mines. Cambodia has reported the release (i.e., through clearance and other means) in 2009 and 2010 of 135,258,400 square metres of area containing anti-personnel mines and/or anti-vehicle mines and/or other explosive remnants of war. Also in its extension request, Cambodia indicated that an estimated 648.8 square kilometers of area containing anti-personnel mines covering 122 districts would require full clearance and that by the end of 2011 it would have completed Phases 1 and 2 of a Baseline Survey in 61 districts to define a new baseline. By November 2011, Cambodia has completed the Baseline Survey in 60 districts and more districts will be completed by the end of 2011. Cambodia further reported that the Baseline Survey to date had resulted in the identification of 9,435 suspected hazardous areas (i.e., areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines and/or anti-vehicle mines and/or other explosive remnants of war) in 23 districts totaling 714,320,976 square metres. In

¹ Cartagena Action Plan, Action #13.

addition, in its extension request, Cambodia committed to develop annual clearance plans based on the outcomes of the Baseline Survey. This task is pending completion of the Baseline Survey in late 2012.

8. **Chad** committed in its request to conduct reconnaissance and technical survey to assess the mine problem in the entire country (excluding Tibesti) and carry out clearance of high impact areas known to contain mines and unexploded ordnance particularly in areas where operators have started demining operations; create a new demining section or acquire mechanised means to resume demining operations in the minefield surrounding the Wadi Doum base in 4 areas with a combined area of 4 million square meters over a period of five years; over an estimated period of two years update its database; on completion of the reconnaissance, carry out demining of areas known to contain mines and unexploded ordnance, and; resume operations in the north-east of the country. In 2011, Chad reported that the technical investigation has covered four regions (N'Djamena, Sila, Salamat, Hadjer-Lamis) and the majority of two others (Borkou, Ennedi), and, that technical survey must now be implemented in three regions (Ouaddai, Tibesti Wadi Fira). Chad indicated that operations have located a total of 32,743,108 square meters of suspected area, located and destroyed 1,298 anti-personnel mines and 1,261 anti-vehicle mines, cleared 1,027,506 square meters and marked 49 million square meters.

9. Chad further reported that since 2010 its database has been up to date, that quality control work in Wadi Doum began in March 2011, that survey operations and demining stopped in Wadi Doum in mid June 2011 that it expected that the operator would transmit the full report to the UNDP in July 2011. Chad also reported that it has created a local demining capacity in the Tibesti region and that four EOD teams have been deployed in the east and north. In addition, Chad reported that it will submit a reliable and revised plan in 2012 based on the results of the technical survey which will form part of its third extension request to be submitted no later than 31 March 2013.

10. **Colombia** committed in its request to releasing, in 2011, 2,602,034 square metres of suspected hazardous area in 14 municipalities using a combination of national squads and civilian organisations. In addition, Colombia committed to carry out activities and establish methodologies to better understand the level of contamination in the country. In June 2011, Colombia reported that 288,495 square metres in 12 municipalities had been released by that date in 2011 with 196 improvised explosive devices with anti-personnel mine characteristics and 24 UXO having been located and destroyed. Colombia also reported that the Colombian Congress approved Law 1421 of 2010 which authorizes the adoption of national standards and methods to regulate humanitarian demining activities by non-governmental organizations. Colombia reported that the decree for regulating activities of NGOs and national standards was at an advanced stage of development.

11. **Croatia** committed in its request to release approximately 173 square kilometres of suspected hazardous area in 2009-2010 and approximately 119 square metres in 2011. Croatia has reported having released approximately 132.5 million square metres in 2009-2010 through mine clearance and mine search projects and general survey activities. In addition, Croatia committed to develop methodologies enabling better quality analysis of the mine contamination situation in forested areas; to have removed the danger from areas for reconstruction of houses and infrastructure by the end of 2010 and from areas allocated for agricultural production and cattle breeding by 2013, and; to demining around houses planned for reconstruction and return of displaced person by 2010.

12. **Denmark**, in its request, committed, in the first half of 2010, to carry out a tender process and set up operations, and, from July 2010 to December 2011, carry out surface probing, sifting of dikes and dunes, clearance of beaches, clearance of low marshlands and clearance of high marshland. From January to June 2012, Denmark would carry out quality control. In 2011, Denmark reported that the clearance of the last remaining mined areas will

be conducted by the Danish Consortium Damasec J. Jensen Group and that the contractor aimed to complete clearance well before December 2011. Demark also indicated that, by June 2011, 155 hectares have been cleared resulting in the destruction of 4,045 mines. Of these 155 hectares, 66 hectares had been released for public access. Another 89 hectares were cleared but public access was still restricted in order to complete quality control and to maintain the safety distance from the ongoing clearance. Thirty-one (31) hectares remained to be cleared. Demark also confirmed that implementation would be complete by 1 July 2012 deadline.

13. **Ecuador** committed in its request to release 21,365 square metres in the province of Morona Santiago during the period of October 2009 to September 2010 and to release an additional 10,150 square metres in the same province during the period October 2010 to September 2011. At the 10MSP, Ecuador reported that 15,795.35 of the 21,365 square metre planned had been cleared with the remaining area released without the use of manual demining. Ecuador further reported that a total of 22 objectives had been concluded of which seven were planned for the period of October 2009 to September 2010 and fifteen corresponded to new areas identified and other areas planned for the period between 2011 and 2013.

14. **Jordan** committed in its request to complete clearance of its Northern Border Mine Clearance Project, amounting to 10,355,967 square metres of mined area, by the end of 2011. In June 2011, Jordan reported that as of the end of May 2011, almost 74 percent of the North Border Project's clearance phase had been completed, as well as 28 percent of the verification phase. Jordan further reported that manual clearance is expected to be completed by the end of 2011. In 2010, Jordan also reported on its Jordan Valley Sampling and Verification Project indicating that 190 suspected hazardous areas with a total of 12.5 million square meters of the original 267 have been identified in the Jordan Valley in need of Quality Assurance and Verification. In 2011, Jordan reported that 51 suspected hazardous areas with 2.6 million square metres have been verified and 405,000 square metres having been sampled.

15. **Mauritania** committed in its request during the period of 2010 to 2011 to release seven areas measuring 9,315,000 square meters. In 2011, Mauritania reported that mine clearance operations in the region of Daklet Nouadhibou have destroyed 271 mines and that a total of 9 areas measuring 11,670,000 square meters would be demined during the period of 2010 to 2011 instead of the seven planned for the same period.

16. **Mozambique** committed in its request to having addressed 383 areas totalling 4,807,920 square metres during the period 2008 to 2010 and to having addressed an additional 28 areas totalling 2,574,239 square metres in 2011. In June 2011, Mozambique reported that during the 2008 to 2010 period it had completed 499 tasks totalling 12,794,957 square metres. This included 321 tasks totalling 7,262,989 square metres of the totals of 541 areas and 12,164,401 square metres identified as the baseline in the extension request, and 178 tasks related to 5,531,968 square metres of new areas identified since the request was submitted. Mozambique also reported that as of December 2012, 323 tasks totalling 10,560,399 square metres remained including 220 tasks representing 4,901,412 square metres from the original baseline and 103 presenting 5,658,987 newly identified suspected hazardous areas.

17. Mozambique also committed in its request to clear a 11 kilometre stretch of mine belt near the Cabora Bassa Dam, to clear approximately power pylons mined in Maputo Province, and to survey the Mozambican-Zimbabwean border in order to estimate clearance implications. In June 2011, Mozambique reported the completion of mine clearance in areas surrounding the Chicamba Dam. Mozambique also reported the completion of the survey of the border with the results indicating the existence of 22 mine fields totalling 3.2 million square metres with 2.9 million square metres of this inside Mozambique.

18. **Peru** committed in its extension request (a) in 2008 to complete the clearance of 153, 600 square metres remaining in the ETECEN-Huancazo high tension towers, complete clearance of 7,800 square metres remaining around retransmission antennas and electric substations (Antena Cuto Cuto – Junin, Antena Yahuaspuquio – Junin, Antena Huamurca – Huarochiri and Estacion Zapallal – Lima) and complete clearance of 2,265.52 square metres in one objective on the border with Ecuador, (b) in 2009 to complete the clearance of two police bases (Anti Drug Base – Santa Lucia, and Anti Terrorist Base – Tulumayo) and the clearance of 8,700 square metres in two objectives on the border with Ecuador, (c) in 2010 to complete the clearance of 11,167 square metres in three maximum security prisons (Castro Castro – Lima, Yanamayo-Puno and Huacariz – Cajamarca) and clearance of 19,000 square metres in four objectives on the border with Ecuador, and, (d) in 2011 to complete clearance of four areas totalling 29,800 square metres in Sector Santiago and in Sector Cenepa on the border with Ecuador. In 2010 Peru reported that over the course of 2009 a total of 1,622 square metres were cleared on the border with Ecuador and that a total of 813.20 square metres were cleared around maximum security prisons Castro-Castro and Yanomayo. In 2011 Peru reported that clearance work was currently underway in the maximum security prisons with Castro Castro complete and with a 7,021.14 square metres cleared and 5,304 mines destroyed. Peru also reported that over the course of 2010 one area was addressed on the border with Ecuador measuring 17,349.28 square meters culminating in the destruction of 78 anti-personnel mines and that in 2011 (up to June) a total of 18,636.73 square meters has been cleared culminating in the destruction of 314 anti-personnel mines.

19. **Senegal** indicated in its request that it was not realistic or credible at present to make projections about the areas which will have to be demined or those which will be “ruled out” through clearance techniques as the total suspected areas are not yet known and that the program will implement a range of land release techniques in order to concentrate on areas in which the presence of mines is actually confirmed. These techniques were to be used over the period of October 2008 – April 2009 in the 41 localities suspected of being lightly contaminated in order to confirm contamination or to delete them from the list of suspected areas. Senegal reported in 2009 that (a) a general survey of eleven localities resulted in eight areas being proposed for cancellation and three for technical survey, (b) a general survey took place on the Djifanghor – Boulome trail where suspicion has been removed and (c) demining was completed in Bacounoume, Etafoune, Darsalame and Kaguitte with a total of 34,417 square metres cleared and a total of 97,668 square metres remaining to be addressed. In 2010 Senegal reported (a) that general survey took place in three suspected areas in the district of Dioulacolon/Koda with two of these being cancelled, (b) general survey also took place in 37 areas in the department of Goudomp, (c) general survey took place in 12 suspected areas in Gouraf, and (d) the sites of Kaguitte and Sindone have been completed and operations were continuing in the town of Gouraf with a total of 43,672.22 square meters having been cleared. In terms of quality control, Senegal reported in 2010 that a total of five areas had been verified and accepted totalling 58,672.7 square metres and that quality control operations would continue.

20. Senegal also reported in 2010 that new general surveys in the department of Ziguinchor, Bignona Oussouye, Bounkiling and Kolda would be initiated and that land release through non-technical means would be initiated with the recruitment of a second operator. Senegal reported in 2011 that non-technical survey in the Sedhiou regions visited 73 areas with 62 proposed for cancellation and eleven proposed for technical survey, and, that non-technical survey in the Kolda region visited four areas with three being verified and one being downgraded. Senegal also reported a total of 16 areas released in previously inaccessible areas measuring 2,762,172 square metres (eight having been released through non technical methods and eight through technical methods). In 2011 Senegal summarised annual achievements as follows: 48,421.42 square metres cleared in 2008, 38,237.34 square

metres cleared in 2009, 26,002.49 square metres being cleared in 2010 and 8,276.24 square metres cleared in 2011, and, the discovery of 17 areas in 2008, 94 areas in 2009, 20 areas in 2010 and 15 areas in 2011.

21. **Tajikistan** committed in its request to release, during the period 2009 to 2011, 123 areas in the Tajik-Afghan border region totalling 6.1 million square metres and 26 areas totalling 2.4 million square metres in the Central Region. In addition, Tajikistan committed to complete re-survey operations in the six remaining districts in the Tajik-Afghan border region and five districts in the Central Region by December 2009 and start wide-range technical survey operations in April 2009. In 2010, Tajikistan reported that over the course of 2009 resurvey operations in the Tajik-Afghan border region were completed and that a total of 5,735,000 square meters was released. In June 2011, Tajikistan indicated that in 2010 a total of 22 areas measuring 1.8 million square metres were cleared on the Tajik-Afghan border region and that, in 2011, two areas had been cleared measuring 360,000 square metres.

22. **Thailand** committed in its request to have released, during the period 2009 to 2011, 128,073,803 square metres of suspected hazardous area. In addition, Thailand committed to develop Standard Procedures for Area Reduction and to implement a new national annual demining plan. In 2009 Thailand reported having identified a safe area of around 2,000 square kilometres with quality control procedures having been carried out on around half of this safe area. Thailand also reported that the total area in 2009 of located mine fields is 60,098,393 square metres, cleared is 1,789,686 square metres and the reduced area is 235,887,421 square metres waiting to be handed over. Thailand reported that in 2010, since the Second Review Conference, Thailand has been able to reduce 4.3 square kilometres, employing both the Locating Minefield Procedure and the manual clearance method. In June 2011, Thailand reported that since the 10MSP it has demined an area of 2.2 square kilometres, reducing the total minefield clearance area to 546.8 square kilometres.

23. **Uganda** committed in its request in 2009 to release a total of 15,000 square metres in Ngomoromo and 12,500 square metres in Agoro Mountains, in 2010 to complete the clearance of 52,500 square metres in Ngomoromo and 85,000 square metres in Agoro Mountains and in 2011 to complete the clearance of 52,500 square metres in Ngomoromo and 32,500 square metres in Agoro Mountains. In addition, Uganda committed to increase the current demining capacity with 40 additional deminers and to acquire additional demining team equipment and vehicles. In 2010, Uganda reported completion, in March 2010, of the initial surveyed 4 kilometre minefield stretch at Ngomoromo with a total of 141,082 square metres cleared and 224 anti-personnel mines destroyed. In 2011, Uganda reported a total of 73,673 square metres cleared in the Agoro minefields and 117 anti-personnel mines destroyed. Uganda also reported on training and deployment of an additional 39 deminers, raising the capacity to 107.

24. The **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** committed in its request to initiate the clearance of three mined areas, develop a Statement of Requirement and tender; establish a Mine Action Coordinating Committee; develop appropriate national mine action standards, and; provide as soon as possible, but not later than 30 June 2010, a detailed explanation of how demining is proceeding and the implications for future demining in order to meet the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland's obligations in accordance with Articles 5.4 b) and c) of the Convention, including the preparation and status of work conducted under national demining programs and financial and technical means available. In 2011 the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported completion of a four-site pilot project resulting in the removal of 568 anti-vehicle mines and 678 anti-personnel mines, as well as two sub-munitions and nine other unexploded ordnance in a total area of 345,880 square meters. The United Kingdom of

Great Britain and Northern Ireland indicated that a second phase for the pilot project would be carried out in the Stanley Common Fence areas, an area which was used extensively for recreational purposes before the 1982 conflict. The successful contract would use land release processes in accordance with IMAS to confirm the presence of the minefields and accurately define their extent, fence them on all sides and then confirm that the other land within the designated area is free from ERW and safe for release to public use. The identification of the exact location and extent of the minefields will be useful for subsequent clearance programmes. Procurement processes are now under way for a main contractor to undertake this land release and a Demining Programme Office to provide quality control and assurance, and community confidence building measures.

25. **Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)** committed in its request to clear 15 mined areas measuring eight hectares in Puesto Naval de Guafitas, Puesto Naval de Puerto Paez and Puesto Naval de Atabapo during the period 2010-2011. In 2011 Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) indicated that the new Demining Committee of the National Bolivarian Armed Forces has reprogrammed the timeline for demining and that as per the new timeline the mined area measuring two hectares in Puesto Naval de Rio Arauca Internacional (programmed for 2012) was cleared in 2010. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) also reported the clearance of Puerto Naval Guafitas (six mined areas measuring two hectares) with work concluding in April 2011. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) also reported that in 2011 an inspection of Puesto Naval de Puerto Paez took place but the area could not be cleared due to flooding. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) reported that the Committee has adapted machinery that is currently available for use in this type of situation and that this action and experience acquired allows Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) to declare that the goals and objectives of the extension request will be accomplished in a shorter time period (by the first semester of 2013).

26. **Yemen**, in its request, committed in 2009 to carry out technical survey in one affected community in Shabwah governorate with one suspected hazardous area measuring a total of 45,438,386 square metres with a total of approximately 1,540,361 square metres expected to be marked as requiring clearance and to carry out clearance in a total of 1,370,388 square metres in Lahij, Ibb, Hadhramoot, Al Dhalee, Shabwah and Amran from a total of 7,658,734 square metres marked for clearance from previous years. In 2010 Yemen committed to the clearance of a total of 2,055,582 square metres from the total area marked in Ibb, Hadhramoot, Al Dhalee, Saada, Al-Jawf, Mareb and Shabowah and in 2011 to clear a total of 2,055,582 square metres in Ibb, Hadhramoot, Al-Jawf, Mareb and Shabowah.

27. **Zimbabwe** committed in its request (a) within 12 to 24 months, to train and equip a limited survey capacity and to improve the efficiency of its demining capacity, (b) within 12 months, to undertake the non-technical survey of the four remaining "unknown" areas (Rushinga, Lusulu, Mukumbura & Kariba) amounting to 6.75 square kilometres as well as undertaking further survey of the cordon sanitaire between Crooks Corner and Sango border post; (c) within 12 months, to carry out mine risk education activities in high impact areas; (d) within 18 months, to relocate ZIMAC out of military cantonment area; and, (e) within 24 months, to undertake development on Zimbabwe national mine action standards in accordance with internationally accepted norms. Zimbabwe also indicated that, following the two year process of survey, retraining, consolidation of resources and fundraising, it intended to submit a further extension request containing a clear and effective plan for the final removal of all the remaining minefields (amounting for now to 201.32 square kilometres in total) as required under Article 5.

28. Since the 10MSP, Zimbabwe reported that: (a) there has not been much progress on the resurveying of the known minefields and actual mine clearance; (b) a total of 800 mines were cleared from the minefield located in the South Eastern part of the country bordering South Africa and Mozambique between April and June 2011; (c) a number of meetings

have taken place among Zimbabwean authorities and between Zimbabwean authorities and international organizations to raise awareness on the negative impact of mines; and, (d) that the ICRC and the HALO Trust have visited a minefield to evaluate the impact of landmines. Zimbabwe recommitted to relocate from its mine action centre to an area where it will be easily accessible to all, to establish another demining squadron, to resurvey all known minefields and suspected hazardous areas, and, to continue with mine clearance and mine risk education.

29. At the Cartagena Summit, it was agreed that States Parties that have reported mined areas under their jurisdiction or control will do their utmost to identify, if they have not yet done so, the precise perimeters and locations, to the extent possible, of all areas under their jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or are suspected to be emplaced, and report this information.² It was also agreed that these States Parties will do their utmost to ensure that all available methods are applied where and as relevant, by developing and implementing applicable national standards, policies and procedures for releasing land through technical and nontechnical means that are accountable and acceptable to local communities, including through the involvement of women and men in the acceptance process, and, that such States Parties would provide information on the areas already released, disaggregated by release through clearance, technical survey and nontechnical survey.³ As well, it was agreed that these States Parties will do their utmost to take full national ownership of their Article 5 obligations by developing, implementing and regularly reviewing national mine action strategies and associated policies, plans, budget policies and legal frameworks, inform the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance on their implementation, and provide annually, in accordance with Article 7, precise information on the number, location and size of mined areas, anticipated particular technical or operational challenges, plans to clear or otherwise release these areas. Since the 10MSP, States Parties continued efforts to act in accordance with their Cartagena Summit commitments.

30. **Afghanistan** reported in 2011 that, to date, a total of 4,786 “hazards” suspected to contain anti-personnel mines remain to be dealt with totalling 344 square kilometres. In addition a significant number of hazards suspected to contain other explosive remnants of war remain.

31. **Algeria** reported that, to date, approximately eight million mines have been destroyed and 66,928,200 square metres cleared and that approximately 7,368,000 square meters remain to be addressed in the west (852,000 square meters in Tlemcen and 6,516,000 square meters in Naama) and a total of 17,740,000 square meters remains to be addressed in the east (4,220,000 square meters in El-Taref, 2,320,000 square meters in Guelma, 5,000,000 square meters in Souk-Ahras and 6,200,000 square meters in Tebessa). In its extension request submitted in 2011, Algeria has indicated that completion of Article 5 implementation is expected by 1 April 2017.

32. **Angola**, at the 10MSP, reported 111 areas had been technically surveyed but were pending clearance measuring 54,659,261 square metres. Angola further reported: that 629 areas had been cleared measuring 267,771,233 square metres; that 12 areas were in the process of being cleared measuring 1,164,556 square metres; 44 areas which were not subject to technical survey had been or were being cleared measuring 18,431,652 square metres, and; 2,515 areas were pending technical survey in order to confirm or refute the presence of anti-personnel mines.

² Cartagena Action Plan, Action #13.

³ Cartagena Action Plan, Actions #15 and #17.

33. **Bhutan** reported in its initial transparency report the existence and location of two mined areas in Gobarkunda and Ngamglam sub districts, both in Samdrupjonkhar Dzongkhag along their southern border containing a total of 50 MNM 14 mines and 53 M16 mines. Bhutan has subsequently reported that it has every expectation that it will be in a position to make a formal declaration on full compliance of its obligations under Article 5 well before its 1 February 2016 deadline.

34. **Burundi** reported that, to date, of the 238 areas originally registered, 91 percent have been cancelled following general survey with only two areas being considered dangerous, one of which has been confirmed as containing mines. In addition, eleven areas were confirmed dangerous in two provinces located in the northwest of the country. Of these eleven areas, four have been released with a total area of 1,100 square meters culminating in the destruction of one 82mm mortar round, one F1 grenade and one POMZ-2M Mine. Burundi further reported that its aim was to clear and release the remaining areas in 2011 pending sufficient funding.

35. **Chile** reported that, to date, of a total of 199 areas measuring 23,207,281 square metres, a total of 30 areas have been demined and certified totalling 4,586,746 square meters. In addition, 24 areas have been cleared but are pending certification totalling 4,796,613 square metres. A total of 144 mined areas are pending clearance measuring 13,823,922 square metres. In its extension request submitted in 2011, Chile has indicated that completion of Article 5 implementation is expected by 1 March 2020.

36. **Congo**, in its initial transparency report, indicated that its border region with Angola, in the southwest of the country, was suspected to contain mines. Since that time, Congo has not yet indicated that it has still not obtained the information necessary to confirm or refute this suspicion and that it would need to request an extension.

37. **Cyprus** reported that, to date, 2,135 anti-personnel mines in 13 minefields have been effectively removed and destroyed with a total of 2,183 anti-personnel mines in five minefields in the vicinity of Dali and Potamia villages remaining to be destroyed by Cyprus' 1 July 2013 deadline. Cyprus also reported that with the support of the UN a total 78 mined areas were cleared in the buffer zone, with the destruction of more than 27,000 mines, releasing almost ten kilometres of land and that as of April 2011 one minefield laid in the buffer zone remains to be cleared.

38. **The Democratic Republic of the Congo** reported that, since the start of the demining programme in 2002, a total of 7.5 square kilometres have been subject to clearance and verification activities resulting in the locations and destruction of 3,331 mines (anti-personnel and anti-tank mines) and that 82 areas are currently classified as suspected or confirmed mined areas (70 suspected, 12 confirmed) measuring a total of 14.13 square kilometres. It also reported that General Mine Action Surveys (GMAS) and General Mine Action Assessments (GMAA) will further offer clarity concerning the remaining challenge and that 100 territories will be subjected to GMAS or GMAA with activities having commenced in approximately 25 of these territories. In 2011, the Democratic Republic of the Congo requested a 26 month extension (until 1 January 2015) to provide it with the time necessary to survey all suspected hazardous areas with a view to determining with greater precision the extent of the remaining challenge and to elaborate a plan of action.

39. **Eritrea** reported that it is carrying out mine clearance and UXO destruction in different parts of Eritrea according to the priority demands of communities culminating in the clearance, during the period of 2001-2011, of 79 areas measuring 54,735 square metres and the destruction of 10,296 anti-personnel mines, 998 anti-tank mines and 69,401 UXO. Eritrea indicated that of the 411 communities identified as impacted, 146 have been addressed and 265 are pending re-survey in order to identify the level of contamination. In

its extension request submitted in 2011, Eritrea has indicated that this resurvey will take place during the three year extension period.

40. **Ethiopia** reported that of the 1,916 suspected hazardous areas that were subject to a landmine impact survey (LIS), only 182 with a total area of 37 square kilometres have been confirmed as mined areas. Of this total, 166 have been cleared with a total area of 26 square kilometres and 16 minefields measuring eleven square kilometres remain to be cleared in the coming years. In addition, 363 suspected hazardous areas remain to be technically surveyed with a total of 6 square kilometres expected to require clearance.

41. **Gambia** reported that it has no known mined areas and hence does not have an obligation under Article 5. Nevertheless, Gambia indicated that the nature of the border region, particularly on the southern border with the Senegalese Region of Cassamance where armed conflict has taken place in the last two decades, is such that people move freely from one side to another thus exposing them to landmines as was the case in an area bordering the Gambian village of Gillanfari in Foni Bintang District. Gambia also reported that it continues to collaborate to deliver mine risk education in communities in the affected areas and has a well trained and fully equipped humanitarian demining team which is always ready to respond to any emergencies.

42. **Iraq**, in information provided to the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance in May 2009, indicated that the total area of contamination was still unknown and reported 3,673 areas in which anti-personnel mines were suspected to be emplaced or which were suspected to be hazardous. In information provided on the application of the Cartagena Action Plan, Iraq reported that it does not have accurate information on the exact locations in which anti-personnel mines were emplaced because no inclusive locating procedure has been yet undertaken. Iraq further indicated that the only source of information it currently has available is the survey that was carried out in 13 of the 18 districts during the period 2004-2006.

43. **Serbia** reported that, to date, 3,997 anti-personnel, 842 anti-tank and 300 UXO have been destroyed in areas totalling 6,197,791 square meters. Serbia indicated that toward the end of 2009 knowledge was obtained that mines were emplaced along the administrative line with Kosovo and Metohija. Serbia indicated that a survey resulted in suspected hazardous areas totalling 3,800,000 square meters in the municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo.

44. **Sudan** [...].

45. **Turkey**, in its initial Article 7 transparency submission, reported 15 areas in which anti-personnel mines were known to be emplaced and seven areas in which antipersonnel were suspected to be emplaced. The report contained a table listing each area linked to a province, the types and quantity of mines it contained as well as the date of emplacement when known. The total number of emplaced mines in the known areas was reported to be 921,080. In 2010, Turkey indicated that its western borders with Greece, Bulgaria and Georgia were mine-free and that mine clearance along its southern border constituted a priority with around two thirds of the mines emplaced along this border. In 2011, Turkey reported that a total of 25,092 of the 977,407 emplaced anti-personnel have been cleared and that areas remain to be addressed on its southern border, particularly on its border with Syria which includes 613,766 mines remaining to be cleared.

46. At the Cartagena Summit, the States Parties recalled the decisions taken at the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties (7MSP) to establish a process for the preparation, submission and consideration of requests for extensions of Article 5 deadlines, noted the suggested outline provided by the ISU to assist requesting States Parties in organising the content of their requests and expressed the view that the Article 5 extensions process has led to the establishment of an orderly and predictable calendar for submitting, analysing

and considering extension requests. With respect to such requests, at the Cartagena Summit it was agreed that States Parties that have reported mined areas under their jurisdiction or control but due to exceptional circumstances need to request an extension to their ten-year deadline will inform the States Parties of these exceptional circumstances in due time, develop the extension request in line with the recommendations made by the 7MSP and utilise the opportunity for informal dialogue with the group mandated to analyse the extension request.⁴

47. At the 10MSP, the States Parties recalled the importance of the timely submission of extension requests to the overall effective functioning of the Article 5 extension process and, in this context recommended that all States Parties that wish to submit requests do so no later than 31 March of the year when the request would be considered (i.e., the year prior to the State Party's deadline). Since the 10MSP, requests were received by the President from Algeria (on 31 March 2011), Chile (on 14 April 2011), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (on 31 March 2011), and Eritrea (on 31 March 2011). In keeping with the decisions of the 7MSP, the President informed the States Parties of the receipt of these requests and instructed the ISU to make these requests available to all interested actors on the Convention's web site.

48. Further to the commitments made at the Cartagena Summit, representatives of each requesting State Party and the group mandated to analyse the extension requests engaged in informal dialogue with a view to the analysing group seeking a better understanding of the requests and to offer advice and suggestions to requesting States Parties. This cooperative process resulted in requesting States Parties clarifying many questions about their requests and with some (Algeria, on 17 August 2011, the Democratic Republic of the Congo on 11 September 2011 and Eritrea, on 11 August 2011), submitting revised, improved requests.

49. The 10MSP, in noting that the Republic of Congo has an Article 5 deadline on 1 November 2011 and that it had not whether it would be able to comply by its deadline, noted the importance of the Republic of the Congo providing clarity on this matter as soon as possible. As of 9 November 2011, the Republic of Congo had not provided clarity on this matter. By not having submitted and having been granted a request for an extension of its deadline, the Republic of the Congo has been in violation of its Article 5 obligations as of 1 November 2011.

50. It was noted that the following States Parties with Article 5 deadlines that occur in 2012 did not submit requests for extensions: Denmark, Guinea-Bissau, Jordan and Uganda. It was also noted that the following States Parties with deadlines in 2013 will submit extension requests in 2012: Angola, Afghanistan and Zimbabwe. It was further noted that two additional States Parties, Cyprus and Gambia, have deadlines that occur in 2013.

51. At the 10MSP, the President of the Second Review Conference reported that the Article 5 extension request process places a heavy burden on the representatives of those States Parties that are mandated to analyse the requests.⁵ In her report to the 10MSP, she recommended that, to further assist the States Parties in continuing to effectively lead this process, the President, with the support of the ISU, should consider ways and means (e.g., seminars, workshops, etc.) to increase the knowledge and expertise of the analysing group with respect to the technical subject matter contained within Article 5 requests. In follow up to this recommendation, the 10MSP President, with the assistance of the ISU and with financial support provided by Norway, convened a workshop on 7 March 2001, the

⁴ Cartagena Action Plan, Action #21.

⁵ APLC/MSP.10/2010/WP.16.

purpose of which was to increase the knowledge and build the capacity of representatives of States Parties mandated to analyse requests.

52. While there was widespread appreciation for the 7 March 2011 workshop for representatives of States Parties mandated to analyse requests, it was noted that the engagement in and contributions to the analysis process from most States Parties mandated to carry out the task remained less than anticipated and hoped for. It was suggested that the States Parties reflect on how they can enable the necessary in-depth analysis and discussion of the requests in order to ensure that high quality requests continue to be the norm.

53. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies were proactive in promoting advances in Article 5 implementation. In order to contribute to this progress and with a view to providing a constructive and enabling environment in which States Parties that are in the process of implementing Article 5 may benefit from the experiences of their peers, the Co-Chairs convened a one-day workshop for national demining directors/national focal points for Article 5 implementation. This workshop took place on 18 March 2011 in Geneva – immediately following the United Nations’ annual meeting of national demining directors and their advisors. All States Parties in the process of implementing Article 5, as well as a variety of other experts, were invited. The workshop was carried out in close cooperation between the Co-Chairs, the ISU, the ICBL, and 25 participating States Parties who supported the discussions with their knowledge and experience. The workshop featured a constructive exchange of experiences and views on two main topics: clarity regarding the size, location, and nature of each State Party’s remaining Article 5 implementation challenge; and, strengthening national ownership.

54. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies also sought to advance Article 5 implementation by experimenting with new ways of using the June 2011 intersessional work programme. Pursuant to the 10MSP decision to see that time during the week of meetings of the Standing Committees would be allocated to more intensively focus on national contexts or to otherwise support progress in the application of the Cartagena Action Plan, the Co-Chairs used a small-group format to provide an interactive forum for in-depth cooperation discussions on the progress made and the road ahead for two States Parties (Cambodia and Mozambique) that are fulfilling commitments made in their Article 5 extension requests.

55. Also at the June 2011 meeting of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies, the Co-Chairs recalled that the Cartagena Summit the States Parties noted that they “have come to see that the lessons derived from fulfilling Article 5 obligations are applicable in addressing related challenges associated with other explosive remnants of war” and that “in many instances, the organisational structures, the capacities that have been built and the standards that have been established largely as a result of the need to implement Article 5 are also being applied to address weapons contamination more broadly.”⁶ In this context, the Co-Chairs initiated a discussion on questions such as: Following completion, how have States Parties made best use of the materiel and human resources which have been at their disposal for Article 5 implementation? How have they adapted coordination and management structures developed for Article 5 implementation and applied the knowledge gained from Article 5 implementation to address other challenges? How should States Parties prepare for completion?

⁶ Review of the Operation and Status of the Convention, 2005-2009, paragraph 97.

56. At the Cartagena Summit, the States Parties agreed to ensure that all available methods for the full and expedient implementation of Article 5 (1) are applied where and as relevant, by developing and implementing applicable national standards, policies and procedures for releasing land through technical and non-technical means that are accountable and acceptable to local communities, including through the involvement of women and men in the acceptance process.⁷ In this context, in early 2011 the GICHD launched the *Guide to Land Release – Technical Methods* and an outreach programme to assist States Parties in the process of further developing and improving the release of land through technical survey. Since the 10MSP, the GICHD has assisted Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Mozambique and Tajikistan in the development of a national policy and national mine action standards that included chapters on releasing land through non-technical and technical means.

⁷ Cartagena Action Plan, Action #15.