

Convention on Cluster Munitions

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Item 9 of the agenda

Presentation of requests for extension of deadlines submitted under Article 4 of the Convention and of the analysis of these requests

Analysis and Draft Decision of Chile's Deadline Extension Request under Article 4.1 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions

Submitted by the Analysis Group for Article 4 Extension Requests – Italy, France, Netherlands, and Switzerland*, **

I. Background

1. The Republic of Chile signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on 3 December 2008 and ratified it on 16 December 2010. The Convention entered into force for it on 1 June 2011. In its initial transparency report, submitted in September 2012, Chile reported a total of 96,883,600 m² of cluster munition contaminated area in three regions of the country.

2. Under Article 4 of the Convention, Chile was obliged to clear and destroy or ensure the clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants (CMR) located in cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible and no later than 1 June 2021. On 10 July 2020, Chile submitted its first extension request to the President of the Second Review Conference, requesting a 12-month extension. The request was granted, extending the deadline to 1 June 2022. On 23 June 2021, Chile submitted its second extension request to the President of Part 2 of the Second Review Conference, requesting an additional 12-month extension. The request was granted, setting a new deadline of 1 June 2023. On 22 April 2022, Chile submitted its third extension request to the President of the Tenth Meeting of States Parties, seeking a further three-year extension. The request was granted, extending the deadline to 1 June 2026.

II. Consideration of the request

3. On 13 December 2024 Chile submitted a fourth official request for a two-year and four-month extension of its Article 4 deadline to the President of the Thirteenth Meeting of States Parties (13MSP) for the request to be considered at the meeting.

On behalf of the 13MSP President, on 13 December the ISU informed States Parties to the Convention that Chile had submitted a fourth extension request. The request was made available on the CCM website and transmitted to the Analysis Group for consideration.

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.

** The present document was submitted after the deadline in order to reflect the most recent information.

4. The Analysis Group invited representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC), the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), Mine Action Review, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), and the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) to a meeting on 28 January 2025 to join them in considering the request.

As per established practice, the Analysis Group used the procedure established in the document "Methodology for requests of deadline extensions under Articles 3 and 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions" (CCM/MSP/2019/12) that was adopted at the 9MSP to analyse the extension request.

5. Following that meeting, on 19 February the Analysis Group requested additional information/clarifications from Chile to facilitate further consideration of its request. On 2 April Chile submitted additional information and clarifications to the Analysis Group's initial feedback. On 14 May the Analysis Group requested further additional feedback and submitted final observations to Chile. On 10 June, Chile submitted an updated extension request, reviewing the duration of the requested extension period.

6. At the time the Convention entered into force for Chile, on 1 June 2011, a total area of 96,883,600 m² was identified as contaminated. Since then, no areas have been newly discovered or contaminated. From the Convention's entry into force, Chile has released a total area of 96,883,600 m² with the following breakdown: 32,272,476 m² cancelled through Non-Technical Survey; 41,926,490 m² reduced through Technical Survey and 1,435,872 m² cleared. A total of 229 cluster munitions and submunitions have been destroyed, disaggregated by type and number in the request.

7. The area remaining to be addressed totals 21,248,762 m² in three locations (Pampa Chaca-Arica; Delta-Zapiga and Barrancas-Iquique).

8. Chile is requesting a deadline extension of 2 years and six months, until 1 December 2028, due to the lack of financial resources and technical means. Chile's work plan comprises two phases. In the first half of 2026, Chile will focus on acquiring detection and protective equipment, and on retraining and monitoring demining personnel. The request clarifies that clearance cannot begin before June 2026 due to current equipment and funding constraints. Starting from July 2026, Chile will clear the three remaining contaminated military sites, provided the necessary resources are secured. The land release methodology is aligned with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS).

9. At Pampa Chaca Este, the Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Unit will consist of two sections, each with 15 EOD specialists. Subject to resource availability, a third squad of 15 EOD specialists will be added to this site in the second half of 2027. At the Barrancas and Delta ranges, the Air Force EOD Unit will comprise one section with 13 EOD specialists.

10. Based on field tests, an average productivity rate for an EOD operators' team is estimated at 5,000 m² per day, though actual progress depends on the availability of EOD specialist personnel and funding. The request presents projected progress per year for each site.

11. Chile's national funding mainly covers personnel salaries, risk allowances, health services, transportation, and Convention fees. However, the 2025 budget does not include funding for essential protection and detection equipment or other operational costs for Cluster Munition Remnants (CMR) destruction, due to competing national priorities.

12. Chile requires an estimated USD 2,682,063 in international assistance to fulfil its obligations under Article 4 of the Convention. This budget is primarily for the acquisition of new protection and detection equipment, and operational/administrative expenses. The request indicates clearly that an amount of USD 1,854,337 will be required to start work in 2026. To date, no international assistance has been received by Chile to implement Article 4.

13. Chile is developing a resource mobilization plan to secure the financial, technical, and human resources needed to implement Article 4. The plan will consider both national capacities and potential international assistance.

14. The request indicates that no cluster munition victims have been recorded in Chile. Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) activities, therefore, are not foreseen during the requested extension. Chile also reports no economic or environmental impacts of the extension.

15. Chile is prioritizing gender mainstreaming across sectors, including defence, recognizing the importance of women's participation in decision-making for effective governance. Chile remains committed to the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda and will soon publish its Third National Action Plan, developed through a two-year inter-ministerial process. Covering actions through 2030, the plan expands beyond peace operations to include gender considerations in climate-related emergencies and efforts against organized crime, particularly human trafficking.

III. Conclusions

16. The Analysis Group commends Chile for submitting a clear and comprehensive extension request, which meets the criteria outlined in the "Methodology for requests of deadline extensions under Articles 3 and 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions" document (CCM/MSP/2019/12) adopted at the 9MSP. It also commends Chile for its constructive engagement with the Analysis Group and responsiveness to feedback.

17. The Analysis Group welcomes the progress achieved by Chile to date, particularly efforts to sustain operations despite national funding challenges, and notes Chile's official request for international assistance and the donor meeting held in Santiago in January 2025.

18. However, the Analysis Group expresses concern that the activities planned for the requested extension rely heavily on international support, while no international assistance has yet been received to support the implementation of Article 4 of the Convention. Additionally, the resource mobilization strategy lacks sufficient detail.

19. The Analysis Group acknowledges the challenges that have limited the Chilean government's ability to allocate more resources to clearance efforts. Nevertheless, Chile is encouraged to strengthen its national funding commitments, which will be critical to demonstrating the feasibility of meeting the 1 December 2028 deadline.

20. The Analysis Group commends Chile for not requesting the maximum time allowed under the Convention to fulfil its Article 4 obligations and that Chile has provided a detailed work plan with clear annual targets that would allow for easy monitoring over the requested extension period.

21. The Analysis Group notes that the Convention would benefit from Chile reporting annually through its Article 7 reports and at Meetings of States Parties or Review Conferences on the following:

- (a) Progress made on the implementation of the work plan provided in its extension request;
- (b) Updated information on resource mobilization efforts, both within the national Government and with international partners;
- (c) Other relevant information.

22. The Analysis Group notes the importance, in addition to Chile reporting to the States Parties as noted above, of Chile keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of other pertinent developments as necessary.

IV. Draft Decision on the Article 4 Extension Request submitted by Chile

23. The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Chile for an extension of its deadline for completing the clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants in accordance with Article 4.1 of the Convention, agreeing to grant the request for an extension until 1 December 2028.

24. In granting the request, the Meeting welcomed Chile's efforts to sustain operations despite national funding challenges, as well as Chile's official request for international assistance and the donor meeting held in Santiago in January 2025.

25. In granting the request, the Meeting noted with concern that the activities planned for the requested extension rely heavily on international support, while no international assistance has yet been received to date. The Meeting also noted that the resource mobilization strategy presented by Chile could be usefully elaborated further.

26. In granting the request, the Meeting encouraged Chile to strengthen its national funding commitment as a critical demonstration of the feasibility of fulfilling Article 4 obligations within the new deadline.

27. In this regard, the Meeting noted that the Convention would benefit from Chile reporting annually through its Article 7 reports and at Meetings of States Parties or Review Conferences on the following:

- (a) Progress made on the implementation of the work plan provided in its extension request;
- (b) Updated information on resource mobilization efforts, both within the national Government and with international partners;
- (c) Other relevant information.

28. The Meeting also noted the importance, in addition to Chile reporting to the States Parties as noted above, of Chile keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of other pertinent developments as necessary.
