

Convention on Cluster Munitions

26 August 2025

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Thirteenth Meeting of States Parties**Geneva, 16-19 September 2025**

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 Somalia'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 Federal Republic of Somalia signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on 3 December 2008 and ratified it on 30 September 2015. The Convention entered into force for it on 1 March 2016. In its initial transparency report, submitted on 11 October 2019, Somalia reported an estimated contaminated area of 600 m² across six sites, based on data collected through Non-Technical Surveys in 2015 and 2017.
2. Under Article 4 of the Convention, Somalia is 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 March 2026.

II. Consideration of the request

3. On 4 December 2024, Somalia officially submitted a request to extend its Article 4 deadline by four years, until 1 March 2030. Acting on behalf of the 13MSP President, the ISU informed States Parties of the submission on the same day. The request was made available on the CCM website and transmitted to the Analysis Group for consideration.
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 15 January 2025 to support the review of the extension 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 Somalia's extension request.

* 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.

5. Following that meeting, on 11 February the Analysis Group requested additional information/clarifications from Somalia to facilitate further consideration of its request. On 3 April Somalia submitted a revised extension request in response to the Analysis Group's feedback. On 16 May, the Analysis Group requested further additional feedback and submitted final observations to Somalia. On 26 June, Somalia submitted a revised extension request in response to the Group's final observations.

6. As indicated in the request, at the time the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) entered into force for Somalia, on 1 March 2016, 8 locations were estimated to be contaminated in the South West State, Jubaland State, and the Banadir Region. Their exact size, however, remains unknown to this date, due to limited access and the lack of comprehensive survey data. Since entry into force, an additional 6 suspected contaminated areas have been recorded across the Federal Member States of Jubaland, South West, and Galmudug. Once again, their precise extent has not been determined due to insufficient survey data, access difficulties linked to security and insufficient technical and financial resources to conduct detailed assessments.

7. Since entry into force of the Convention, Somalia has addressed a total of 350 square metres of cluster munition-contaminated land. This includes 100 m² cancelled through non-technical survey in Bangeela (2020), and 100 m² cleared in Diinsor (2016) and 150 m² in Dusamareeb (2017). Clearance operations have resulted in the destruction of three PTAB-2.5M submunitions. The request indicates outstanding suspected hazard areas consisting of eleven identified spot hazards, whose total size remains unspecified.

8. Somalia is requesting a four-year extension of its Article 4 deadline, from 1 March 2026 to 1 March 2030, due to limited access, security challenges, institutional and financial constraints.

9. While the necessary resources are in place, as well as established methodologies that are aligned with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), the ability to implement these activities remains contingent on the evolving security situation and access to the affected regions. Therefore, Somalia is unable to present reliable annual work projections. At the same time, a stabilization plan is in place to provide humanitarian support to communities living in newly liberated areas. This plan includes survey of the liberated areas and provision of risk education awareness initiatives mainly for the affected population.

10. To enhance the effectiveness of risk education efforts, Somalia revised its national EORE standards in December 2024 to align with IMAS 12.10. Risk education continues to be delivered through a combination of direct outreach and remote methods, such as radio broadcasts and audio devices, particularly targeting hard-to-reach communities.

11. The request indicates that the scale of CMR contamination is limited and can be addressed through existing operational capacity, without the need for a dedicated CMR clearance budget. A small EOD capacity of seven trained personnel with basic equipment is deemed sufficient.

12. Somalia's mine action authority (SEMA) currently relies entirely on international funding but expects to be integrated into the national budget once the pending Mine Action Bill is passed. While no national funding is currently available, SEMA has initiated outreach to potential donors, including China and UNDP, with whom previous collaboration has been successful. The extension request underscores the importance of continued international support to sustain coordination, data management, and risk education activities.

13. Gender, diversity, and environmental considerations are integrated into mine action operations, and risk education continues to reach vulnerable groups, including children, IDPs, returnees, and nomadic populations, through both direct and remote delivery. No CMR-specific victims have been recorded, but broader victim assistance needs are addressed through a national policy aligned with the CRPD.

III. Conclusions

14. The Analysis Group thanks Somalia for submitting a clear and complete 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 acknowledges Somalia’s constructive engagement with, and responsiveness to, the Group’s feedback.

15. The Analysis Group acknowledges that current challenges linked to access and security prevent Somalia from presenting a detailed work plan for the requested extension. At the same time, the Group notes with appreciation that, once access re-established, Somalia will be able to carry out planned survey and clearance activities with existing capacities and expertise and in line with the methodologies outlined in the International Mine Action Standards.

16. The Analysis Group commends Somalia for its continued commitment to protecting civilians through Explosive Ordnance Risk Education in alignment with the latest IMAS 12.10, to assisting victims and to integrating gender, diversity, and environmental considerations in its operations.

17. The Analysis Group also welcomes Somalia’s continued efforts to mobilize sufficient financial resources, both from the national government and from international organizations and other potential donors.

18. The Analysis Group notes that the Convention would benefit from Somalia 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 the security and access conditions and their impact on the implementation of survey and clearance operations, including the sharing of a detailed and costed work plan when feasible;
- (c) Updated information on its funding situation including finances allocated through the national budget and from international donors;
- (d) Other relevant information.

19. The Analysis Group notes that Somalia’s Article 7 reports for 2023 and 2024 are overdue and encourages Somalia to submit these reports as soon as possible.

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

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

21. The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Somalia 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 March 2030.

22. In granting the request, the Meeting noted that security and access difficulties currently prevent Somalia from presenting clear information on confirmed hazard areas and a detailed and costed work plan. At the same time, the Group notes with appreciation that, once access re-established, Somalia will be able to carry out planned survey and clearance activities with existing capacities and expertise and in line with the methodologies outlined in the International Mine Action Standards.

23. In granting the request, the Meeting commended Somalia for its continued efforts in conducting Explosive Ordnance Risk Education activities aligned with the latest IMAS 12.10

and in assisting victims. It also welcomed the integration of gender, diversity, and environmental considerations in Somalia's operations.

24. In granting the request, the Meeting noted with appreciation Somalia's efforts to mobilize sufficient financial resources, both from the national government and from international organizations and other potential donors.

25. In this regard, the Meeting noted that the Convention would benefit from Somalia 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 the security and access conditions and their impact on the implementation of survey and clearance operations, including the sharing of a detailed and costed work plan when feasible;

(c) Updated information on its funding situation including finances allocated through the national budget and from international donors;

(d) Other relevant information.

26. In this regard, the Meeting noted that Somalia's Article 7 reports for 2023 and 2024 are overdue and encouraged Somalia to submit these reports as soon as possible.

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