

Mine Action Review Statement on Chad's Article 4 Statement

Item 3(c): Clearance and destruction of cluster munitions remnants and risk education **CCM Intersessional Meetings, 16-17 May 2022**

Thank you, Mr President.

Firstly, please allow me to thank all ten affected States Parties for their important updates on Article 4 implementation.

Mine Action Review would now like to provide some comments on Chad's presentation and upcoming Article 4 Extension Request.

We welcome the fact that while Chad has finished clearance of the last known area of cluster munition contamination, it acknowledges that further non-technical survey is necessary. This is required in order for it to fully meet the Article 4 obligation to make "every effort to identify all cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control".

We therefore welcome that Chad plans to submit an extension request and encourage it to do so ASAP, to enable States Parties and the Article 4 Analysis Group to consider it and provide feedback, well ahead of the Tenth Meeting of States Parties.

Mine Action Review encourages Chad to provide the following information in its Article 4 extension request:

- A concrete work plan on how it intends to conduct non-technical survey, in how many locations, and how long it expects the survey to take, with the planned capacity.
- Information on whether the current security conditions will permit Chad to be able to survey all the areas suspected to have cluster munition contamination, or whether any are currently inaccessible.
- A resource mobilization plan to enable Chad to secure international funding to permit it to conduct the required non-technical survey in Tibesti province. We encourage donors to provide the financial support Chad requires to help it fulfill its Article 4 obligations.
- Chad should also provide information on how it plans to ensure that gender and diversity considerations are integrated into its survey and clearance programme.

We suggest Chad considers requesting an extension period only for the amount of time needed to secure funding and complete non-technical survey. Upon completion of non-technical survey, Chad will have gained a more accurate understanding of what, if any, cluster munition contamination remains and it will be able to submit a final extension request for the technical survey and clearance of all remaining contamination identified.

Furthermore, Chad should demonstrate it has met its Article 4 obligations elsewhere in the country in regions where there was previously suspected or confirmed cluster munition contamination, by providing

a summary of the size and location of all cluster munition-contaminated areas cancelled through non-technical survey; reduced through technical survey; and released through clearance.

Chad should disaggregate contamination and land release data relating to cluster munition remnants, from data relating to explosive remnants of war (ERW) other than cluster munition remnants or to mines.

Lastly, given the nature and extent of contamination, and the vast swathes of land in question; it is essential that Chad establishes sustainable national capacity to address previously unknown cluster munition remnants discovered post-completion (i.e. residual contamination).

Thank you.