Observations and Comments of the CCM Article 4 Analysis Group on the Extension Request submitted by Chile in accordance with Article 4.5 of the Convention

The Analysis Group takes note of the Article 4 extension request prepared by Chile. The Analysis Group deeply regrets that limited progress has been made in implementing Article 4.1 of the Convention which requires each State Party to undertake “to clear and destroy, or ensure the clearance and destruction of, cluster munition remnants located in cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control” and that “such clearance and destruction shall be completed as soon as possible but no later than ten years” from the date of entry into force of the Convention for it.

While the Analysis Group acknowledges that the clearance of landmine contamination was prioritized by Chile, it wishes to stress that the clearance of cluster munition contamination, as set out in Article 4 is an obligation under the Convention that needs to be implemented, as soon as possible, regardless of humanitarian, social, environmental or other implications and legal obligations.

Additionally, the Analysis Group also observed the absence of a number of key elements which require further elaboration and clarification by the requesting State. In accordance with Article 4.5. b, Chile is required to provide a detailed explanation of the reasons for the proposed extension, including the financial and technical means available to it and required by the State Party for the clearance and destruction of all cluster munition remnants during the proposed extension.

Therefore, the Analysis Group requests that Chile submits an updated extension request by Friday, 13 March 2020 containing additional information or further clarification on the following points:-

1. The inclusion of a detailed work plan for the extension period which would include:

   (a) Clear year by year clearance targets for easy monitoring over the requested extension period indicating the allocation of assets per year to justify the 5-year extension requested;
   (b) Clarity on the actual contaminated area to be addressed during the extension;
   (c) Clear plans for TS during the extension period;
2. The Request would benefit from the provision of additional information on the available resources during the extension period, in particular:

(a) how many personnel will be assigned to the work?
(b) How much area can they cover?
(c) How quickly can it be done (productivity)?
(d) What existing national capacities are available?
(e) Clear financial resources available to implement the work plan;
(f) Information on sustainable national resources to be allocated to ensure completion of clearance;
(g) include a contingency plan in case of insufficient resources.

3. Clarification on how the contaminated area was estimated or calculated (page 12);

4. Additional information on how the exact amount needed for the work to be undertaken during the extension period was arrived at and on what basis it was made;

5. Need to provide more information on how contaminated the area to be addressed (heavy, medium or light). In addition as a training area, it is likely to include contamination by other munitions. What type are these?

6. Need to clarify how the clearance operation would be conducted since the contaminated areas are located in active military ranges. Would these ranges be closed during the clearance operation?

7. Provide additional information on how the precise contaminated area, number of cluster munitions and submunitions to be cleared as listed on page 12 where estimated;

8. The need for consistency in the presentation of figures throughout the Request, specifically the figures and the currency used in the table on pages 6, 9 and 13;