Informal presentations of extension requests under Article 3

Presentation of the work of the Analysis Group on Article 3
Austria on behalf of the analysis group

Peru

Mr. President.
Excellencies,
Colleagues,

I have the honor to present today the report of the Analysis Group on Article 3 extension requests on the deadline extension request of Peru. The report is contained in document CCM/CONF/2020/6. Before starting my presentation, allow me to thank fellow Analysis Group members of Australia, Montenegro and the Netherlands, as well as experts from ICRC, CMC, GICHD, and the ISU for their committed engagement and valuable inputs.

I also wish to particularly highlight Peru’s commitment and engagement throughout the preparation of the extension request, as well as in the cooperative work with the Analysis Group. We thank for the continuous engagement of Peru to with the Art.3 Stockpile coordinators and the Analysis Group. While progress on stockpile destruction in Peru had been limited in the initial 8-year deadline, Austria welcomes that is now a detailed and concrete plan how to fully implement Art.3 obligations.

Mr. President,

Peru signed the Convention on 3 December 2008, ratified on 26 September 2012 and the Convention entered into force on 1 March 2013. In its initial transparency report Peru reported a total of 676 cluster munitions containing 862,280 submunitions stockpiled and marked for the purpose of destruction. The deadline for destruction of all its cluster munitions is 1 March 2021.

In its 2014 annual report, Peru reported that Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA) had agreed on a 8-phase project over several years to destruct Peru’s cluster munitions stockpiles. In its 2015 annual report, Peru reported the discovery of additional stockpiles of 1,331 cluster munitions containing 66,894 submunitions. Between 2013 and 2019, Peru destroyed 164 cluster munitions containing 8,982 submunitions and 290 bomblets. In its 2019 annual report, Peru informed that the plan for the decommissioning and disposal of all cluster munitions was designed under the assumption that all munitions would be transported to the Punta Lobos Air Base for demilitarization and destruction. However, due to climate conditions, natural factors and logistical considerations, the transportation of all cluster munitions to the Punta
Lobos Air Base became impossible and the destruction plan had to be modified. On 2 February 2019, Peru amended its legislation to facilitate the administrative process of the destruction.

Mr. President,

On 2 April 2020, Peru submitted an official request for a 37-month extension of its Article 3 deadline up to 1 April 2024 along with the relevant annexes. On behalf of the 2RC President, the ISU informed States Parties to the Convention on the same day that Peru had submitted its extension request and made it available on the CCM website.

Following the extension request submission and in line with the Methodology for Extension requests adopted at the 9MSP, the Analysis Group engaged with the requesting State Party to clarify outstanding issues with a view to preparing the analysis including recommendations to States Parties. The Analysis Group invited representatives of the CMC, ICRC and the GICHD to a meeting to join them on 22 April 2020 in considering the request.

The Analysis Group requested additional information from Peru on 29 April 2020. On 2 June 2020, Peru submitted a revised version of the extension request that took into account the comments and observations made by the Group. The updated extension request was considered on 10 June 2020 by the Analysis Group.

Peru’s extension request declares in particular that:

(a) Peru has never used cluster munitions and remained committed to complying with its Convention obligations;

(b) the stockpiled cluster munitions under its jurisdiction and control have been marked and separated as 1,683 cluster munitions containing 129,058 explosive submunitions to be destroyed;

(c) Between 2013 and 2019, Peru has destroyed 164 cluster munitions containing 8,982 submunitions and 290 explosive bomblets;

(d) Peru plans to destroy 174 cluster munitions and all its 8,155 6kg explosive bomblets in 2020;

(e) Peru does not intend to retain any cluster munitions or explosive submunitions in accordance with Article 3, Paragraph 6.

The request highlights the reasons Peru was unable to complete destruction of its stockpiles within the initial 8-year period which included financial, technical and climatic challenges. The submitted workplan gives details on how the demilitarization and destruction processes will be conducted over the extension period in the five Peruvian airforce bases designated for the project. Peru informed that it did not have the relevant institutional, financial, technical, and expertise to destroy its stockpiled cluster munitions but that it had requested and received assistance from Norway through NPA in order to meet its Article 3 obligations.

The Analysis Group had sought clarification from Peru on the number of cluster munitions destroyed since entry into force, the destruction methods used, health and environmental
standards observed in the process, available personnel resources to implement the work plan and on the financial contingency plan in place to mitigate any shortfall in external financing. In its revised version of the extension request, Peru provided additional information in response to the preliminary assessment of the Analysis Group.

Mr. President,

To conclude, the Analysis group recommends to grant the request for a Art.3 deadline extension of 37 months until 1 April 2024.

The Analysis Group noted with appreciation that Peru did not request the maximum number of time permitted under the Convention to complete its obligations under paragraph 2 of Article 3. The Analysis Group further notes with satisfaction that the information provided in the request to the questions of the Analysis Group is comprehensive and clear.

The Analysis Group recognized with appreciation that Peru has secured the necessary funds to destroy its stockpiles and that it has also developed a national resource mobilization plan should there be a deficit in external funding.

The Analysis Group further noted that the Convention would benefit from Peru reporting annually through its Article 7 reports and at Meetings of States Parties on the following:

(a) Progress made on the destruction of its cluster munition stockpiles relative to the projections made in its extension request;

(b) Updated information on remaining stocks;

(c) Updated and detailed plans for the subsequent years;

(d) Other relevant information.

15. The Analysis Group noted that Peru indicated that the spread of the COVID-19 Pandemic had disrupted destruction activities and that the there was a quarantine in place without a clear date when the activities would resume.

I thank you.