



Mine Action Review Statement

Item 9: Presentation of deadline extension requests under Article 4 of the Convention and of the analysis of those requests

Tenth Meeting of States Parties to the CCM, 30 August - 2 September 2022

Thank you, Mr. President.

I am delivering this statement on behalf of Mine Action Review.

Mine Action Review would like to thank the Article 4 Analysis Group, comprising Guyana and Sweden, together with Germany and Montenegro, and the ISU, for their concerted efforts to analyse the three extension requests submitted and considered this year. The efforts of the Analysis Group have helped ensure good quality and clarity of information in the requests, including importantly, inclusion of concrete work plans. It has been a pleasure for Mine Action Review to support the work of the Analysis Group, together with ICBL, GICHD, and ICRC, and we appreciate the collaborative approach adopted.

We welcome that Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and Chile now have concrete and detailed work plans for the completion of clearance. We look forward to celebrating BiH's fulfillment of its Article 4 clearance obligations soon and well ahead of the next Meeting of States Parties. We hope that Chad receives the international support and assistance it requires, in order to conduct non-technical survey of Tibesti province and meet the convention's requirement to make every effort to identify all cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control. Depending on the results of the survey and the provision of required funding, Chad could well be one of the next States Parties that we welcome across the finish line.

Finally, we would like to use this opportunity to remind affected States Parties that as per Article 4, paragraph 6h of the Convention, States Parties submitting an extension request should set out among others, the environmental implications of the proposed extension. Environmental considerations are rightly gaining increased attention in the mine action sector. All affected States Parties and their implementing partners should take the environment into consideration during all stages of the survey and clearance process – from planning and prioritization, during land release operations, and in post-clearance assessments – in order to minimise potential harm from demining activities. For the first time this year, Mine Action Review has included a separate subsection on environmental policies and action in every country report, which we hope is of interest and benefit to the mine action community.

Thank you.