

Norwegian People's Aid Statement on

**Item 9: Statement on 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

Delivered by Kristina Đurić, Senior Policy Advisor

Thank you Mr. President,

As this is the first time my delegation is taking the floor, please allow me to congratulate you on the Presidency and your dedication to the Convention and for effort you, the Secretariat and the ISU have put into the 10th Meeting of the States Parties, with special thanks to Sheila Mweemba for her dedication over the years as the President of the ISU.

NPA would like to make a brief comment on the Bosnia and Herzegovina's Article 4 extension request, in our capacity as an international clearance NGO that has been on the ground from the start, supporting the national authorities on the road towards Bosnia and Herzegovina becoming free from cluster munition and landmine contamination.

While the path to completion has been long, we welcome that this will be the final extension request required and we look forward to congratulating Bosnia and Herzegovina on fulfillment of its Article 4 obligations within the next year and hopefully well in advance of the requested deadline. NPA welcomes the concrete and detailed completion work plan which Bosnia and Herzegovina submitted as part of its extension request, which is essential to help ensure it crosses the finish line. From when the first clearance operations started in 2012 until the end of 2021, NPA has released over 11.7km² of cluster munition contaminated area across the country, including through joint cancellation with BHMAL. We will continue our cluster munition clearance operations with full commitment, to help BHMAL achieve its completion plan and finish clearance well in advance of the requested one-year deadline. Our goal is to ensure that communities can use land free from the deadly threat posed by cluster munition remnants enabling safe and sustainable development opportunities for all.

Thank you.