



Mine Action Review Statement

(delivered by NPA on behalf of Mine Action Review)

Item 10(c): Clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants and risk education Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the CCM, 11–14 September 2022

Thank you, Mr. President and thank you to Guyana and Norway as coordinators on clearance and risk education.

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

In 2022, a **global total of more than 170 square kilometres** was cleared of cluster munition remnants. This is an increase of more than 12% on the previous year and a new annual record. More than 102,400 submunitions were destroyed during clearance, survey, and spot tasks.

Clearance in CCM affected States Parties in 2022 totalled almost 74km², an increase of 6% on the previous year.

We warmly congratulate **Bosnia and Herzegovina** in its fulfilment of its Article 4 obligations. While it has taken the programme many years to reach completion, we believe that its elaboration of a detailed and costed work plan in its final extension request helped Bosnia and Herzegovina finally cross the finish line.

Previously unknown CMR were discovered by a member of the public in Bosnia and Herzegovina, just last month, and swiftly surveyed and tasked to NPA for clearance. The scale and nature of historical cluster munition use in Bosnia and Herzegovina means that it is likely that previously unknown CMR will continue to be periodically discovered, post completion. This residual contamination, if and when it is discovered, must be addressed and reported under the Convention. We encourage BHMIC to elaborate plans for how it intends to deal with **residual risk**. These should specify which national entity or entities are responsible for addressing residual cluster munition remnants and under which circumstances, and should ensure provision is made for long-term access to the national information management database.

We also congratulate **Lebanon**, which was the top scoring country in Mine Action Review's assessment of the performance of national survey and clearance programmes in 2022. We hope Lebanon's good performance is rewarded by donors for it is a concern that the programme is facing significant international funding shortfalls just as it approaches the final few years to completion.

We are also concerned that **Chad** has yet to receive the international support it requires to survey the remaining province of Tibesti, which is required in order for it to fulfil its Article 4 obligations.

We welcome **Chile's** plans to finally start clearance of CMR this year, having become a State Party 12 year ago, and only having released cluster munition-contaminated areas through survey up to now.



But on another compliance issue, we are increasingly concerned that yet again, **Somalia** did not conduct any cluster munition clearance in 2022 following several years without clearance. We urge Somalia and its implementing partners and donors to ensure that sufficient focus is given to Somalia's obligations under the CCM in order to identify and release cluster munition-contaminated areas. We welcome Somalia's announcement this afternoon that it plans to focus on scaling up survey of cluster munition remnants.

Lastly, we have not yet heard clearance updates from two affected States Parties so far this week: Afghanistan and Chad, and would welcome updates on their progress to implement Article 4.

Thanks you.