

Convention on Cluster Munitions

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Item 9 of the provisional agenda

**Presentation of deadline extension requests
under Articles 3 and 4 of the Convention
and of the analysis of these requests.**

Analysis of Chad's request of deadline extension under Article 4.1 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions*

**Submitted by the Analysis group for Article 4 extension
requests – Italy, Lebanon, Norway, and Switzerland**

I. Background

1. The Republic of Chad signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on 3 December 2008 and ratified it on 26 March 2013. The Convention entered into force for Chad on 1 September 2013. Under Article 4 of the Convention, Chad was obliged to clear and destroy, or ensure the clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants (CMR) located in contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control, by 1 September 2023.
2. On 21 October 2021, Chad informed that all areas contaminated by cluster munitions under its jurisdiction had been cleared and released, except for the Province of Tibesti, as most of that region still needed to be surveyed to assess the extent of remaining cluster munition contamination.
3. On 31 March 2022, Chad informed the CCM Implementation Support Unit (ISU) of its challenges in securing funding to conduct the remaining survey and potential clearance activities. The ISU recommended that Chad submit an extension request as it was unclear if it would be able to comply with its Article 4 obligations within its deadline.
4. Chad submitted its first request to extend its Article 4 deadline, at the Tenth Meeting of States Parties (10MSP) to the CCM. The 10MSP granted Chad an extension of thirteen months until 1 October 2024.
5. On 22 June 2023, during the 26th International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors and United Nations Advisers (NDM-UN26), Chad informed the CCM ISU of its intention to submit a second extension request due to its inability to meet all Article 4 obligations by the current deadline. Subsequently, meetings were held between the ISU and Chad on the margins of the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties (11MSP) to discuss submission timelines and the analysis process. Additional discussions took place during the Twenty-First Meeting of States Parties of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) to delve deeper into Chad's extension request and the challenges towards meeting its CCM obligations.

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



6. Chad submitted its draft second extension request to the CCM ISU on 21 November 2023 for an initial assessment to ensure the request did not lack any critical components. A revised draft was submitted by Chad on 9 January 2024.
7. The ISU provided further comments to this revised draft and on 10 June 2024 Chad submitted its second extension request. The ISU shared the request with the Analysis Group for its assessment.
8. In its second extension request, Chad reported that it will conduct non-technical survey in the five districts of the Tibesti Province and that it is likely cluster munition remnants will be discovered. Chad highlighted that limited international financial support was the main justification for the new request for a two-year extension of its deadline, through 1 October 2026.

II. Consideration of the request

9. The Analysis Group invited representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC), Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), Mine Action Review, and Mines Advisory Group, and Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) to a meeting on 2 February 2024 to jointly assess the request.
10. As per established practice, the Analysis Group used the procedure outlined in the document "Methodology for requests of deadline extensions under Articles 3 and 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions" (CCM/MSP/2019/12), adopted at the 9MSP, to analyse Chad's extension request.
11. Following the meeting, on 15 March the Analysis Group provided informal feedback and guidance to Chad. Specifically, it noted that some additional information on several key elements needed to be included in the extension request, such as the implementation plan for non-technical survey (NTS) and its methodology in the Tibesti Province; the resource mobilization plan; clear information on the circumstances that have impeded Chad's ability to fulfil its obligation in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 6.g of the Convention, as well as gender and diversity considerations.
12. In the margins of the 27th International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors and United Nations Advisers (NDM-UN27) on 30 April 2024, the ISU met with the Coordinator of the National High Commission for Mine Clearance of Chad to further discuss the Analysis Group's feedback and provide any additional information required from Chad.
13. On 17 May 2024, Chad sent a detailed response to the questions and comments posed by the Analysis Group.
14. The Article 4 Analysis Group convened for a second time on 24 May 2024, to consider Chad's responses. Following this meeting, the Group sent additional feedback to Chad on 3 June 2024, welcoming the additional information provided and requesting further clarifications to be included in the extension request. The Group encouraged Chad to incorporate additional information provided in its response to the 15 March communication in a revised extension request submission.
15. On 10 June 2024, Chad submitted an official request for a two-year extension of its Article 4 deadline up to 1 October 2026, to the President of the Twelfth Meeting of States Parties (12MSP). On behalf of the 12MSP President, the ISU informed States Parties to the Convention that Chad had submitted its extension request and made it available on the CCM website.
16. Chad has reported that non-technical survey is necessary to accurately assess the extent of cluster munition contamination in the Tibesti Province. In addition to lack of financial resources, Chad also lists the following challenges: insufficient data collection and reporting; unfavourable weather conditions for several months each year, causing frequent disruptions; and poor road conditions. In addition, Chad has reported the risk that changes in the security situation might limit access to certain suspected areas of the Tibesti Province. Previous surveys in parts of the Tibesti Province need to be updated as well due to subsequent conflicts.

17. Chad plans to deploy five non-technical survey teams to better identify the contaminated areas. Despite financial challenges, Chad plans to mobilize resources with support from international donors and the Chadian government. The Chadian government has committed to contributing approximately 1,331,520 Euros annually for salaries and operational costs. The operational budget for these teams is estimated at around 115,038 Euros. The Chad State will provide communication means and additional cash contributions amounting to some 15,244 Euros. Chad is requesting international donors to contribute the remaining funds required to cover the total operational budget and any additional expenses, which amounts to 115,038 Euros for the operational costs of the survey teams.

18. Chad is requesting a two-year extension from 1 October 2024, with the aim to complete non-technical survey in the Tibesti Province. This second extension period will be used to mobilize funding and resources for survey teams, and to conduct non-technical survey of Tibesti Province. Based on the findings of the planned non-technical survey, Chad will then prepare a comprehensive work plan and potentially request a further extension, to address any cluster munition-contaminated areas identified during survey.

III. Conclusions

19. The Analysis Group welcomes Chad's commitment to submitting an extension request in line with the criteria outlined in the "Methodology for requests of deadline extensions under Articles 3 and 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions" document (CCM/MSP/2019/12) adopted at the 9MSP.

20. The Analysis Group reiterates its acknowledgement that Chad is "making every effort to identify all cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control" as stipulated in Article 4.2(a) by planning to conduct non-technical survey of the Tibesti Province. In line with its first extension request submission, and in order for Chad to be able to declare completion under Article 4 of the Convention, it is imperative to verify if there is cluster munition contamination in the Province of Tibesti.

21. The Analysis Group commends Chad for requesting a short interim extension to mobilize resources and survey the remaining suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) in Tibesti province in order to properly assess the extent of contamination. If evidence of cluster munition remnant contamination is discovered during non-technical survey, Chad will develop a comprehensive work plan for addressing the contamination and for the completion of its Article 4 obligations.

22. The Analysis Group notes with appreciation Chad's commitment to support its national mine action structure and provide for salaries and operational costs to support the non-technical survey teams.

23. The Analysis Group notes that Chad has encountered several recurring challenges, including the lack of financial and technical support to carry out the non-technical survey of Tibesti Province as planned. In this regard the Analysis Group notes with concern that Chad has not yet identified potential international implementation partners and states. At the same time, the Analysis Group notes that, according to Article 6.1 of the Convention, in fulfilling its obligations under this convention each State Party has the right to seek and receive assistance.

24. Furthermore, the Analysis Group reiterates its request to Chad to provide a regular update on its resource mobilization activities and status in the form of a quarterly report to the States Parties beginning three months after the request is granted.

25. In addition to quarterly updates on resource mobilization, the Analysis Group notes that the Convention would benefit from Chad reporting annually through its Article 7 reports and at the Thirteenth Meeting of States Parties (13 MSP) on the following:

- (a) Progress made relative to resource mobilization and non-technical survey activities;
- (b) Updated information on the remaining cluster munition contamination based on the findings of the non-technical survey;

- (c) A detailed work plan and budget for the subsequent year;
- (d) Other relevant information.

26. The Analysis Group notes the importance, in addition to Chad reporting to the States Parties as above, of keeping the State Parties regularly apprised of other pertinent developments as necessary.

IV. Draft Decision on the Article 4 Extension Request submitted by Chad

27. The Meeting of State Parties assessed the request submitted by Chad for an extension of its deadline for completing the clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants in accordance with Article 4.1 of the Convention and agrees to grant the request for an extension of two years until 1 October 2026.

28. In granting the request, the Meeting notes that the non-technical survey (NTS) of the Tibesti Province will inform the extent of the remaining cluster munition contamination to be cleared.

29. The extension period will be used to mobilize funding and resources for survey teams. Based on the findings, Chad will prepare a comprehensive work plan and potentially request a further extension, to address any identified contaminated areas.

30. In granting the request, the Meeting strongly recommends that Chad regularly reports to State Parties on its resource mobilization activities and status, so that the Group is informed of the extent to which non-technical survey efforts can be carried out.

31. In granting the request, the Meeting recalls Article 6 of the Convention, according to which, in fulfilling its obligations under this Convention, each State Party has the right to seek and receive assistance.

32. In granting the request, the Meeting recommends that Chad regularly reports to State Parties on the outcomes of the NTS and provides a costed work plan that includes risk education activities, and a resource mobilization plan.

33. In granting the request, the Meeting recalls the obligation for Chad to annually provide updated information through its Article 7 report, and the Meeting of States Parties or Review Conference, noting that the Convention would benefit from Chad reporting specifically on the following:

- (a) Progress made on resource mobilization activities;
- (b) Progress made on non-technical survey activities in the Tibesti Province;
- (c) Updated information on the remaining cluster munition contamination based on the findings of the non-technical survey;
- (d) A detailed, updated work plan and budget for the subsequent year;
- (e) Updated information on land released through survey and clearance;
- (f) Any obstacle(s) identified to the fulfilment of its Article 4 obligation within the timeframe granted in its Extension Request.

34. In addition to reporting as requested above, the Meeting noted the importance of Chad keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of any other pertinent developments regarding the implementation of its Article 4.1 obligations during the period covered by the request, as necessary.