

Statement by Norway on behalf of the Analysis Group for

Article 4 Extension Request by Chad

Madam President,

Thank you for giving me the floor.

This statement is delivered on behalf of the Article 4 Analysis Group on the extension request by Chad. The current members of the Analysis Group are the Coordinators for Article 4, Norway and Italy, and the Coordinators for International Cooperation and Assistance, Lebanon and Switzerland. We want to express our gratitude to the ISU and the following organisations that contributed to the work in the Analysis Group: GICHD, the ICRC, the Cluster Munition Coalition, Mines Advisory Group, Mine Action Review and Norwegian People's Aid.

Madam President,

Chad submitted its draft second extension request to the ISU on 21 November 2023 for an initial assessment, followed by the submission of a revised draft on 9 January 2024. Based on comments provided by the ISU, Chad submitted another revised extension request which was assessed by the Analysis Group. Chad has requested an extension of 2 years until 1 October 2026. The analysis group notes with concern that in the two years since Chad's first extension request was granted at the 10MSP, Chad has been unable to secure international assistance for the requisite non-technical survey of Tibesti region and therefore no progress has been made in furthering progress in Article 4 implementation on the ground in Chad during this period.

Madam President,

The only remaining cluster munition remnant-contaminated area in Chad is suspected to be located in the five districts of the North-Western region of Tibesti. In its extension request, Chad has reported that it will conduct non-technical survey in this region during the extension period and that it expects to discover cluster munition remnants. Chad has highlighted lack of financial support, unfavorable weather and road conditions and insufficient data collection and reporting as the main reasons for delays in survey and clearance activities, and therefore the need to request another extension. The changing security situation has also been highlighted as a potential limiting factor.

The Analysis Group welcomes that following several assessments and inputs on the extension request provided to Chad by the Analysis Group, Chad included more detailed information in its extension request about the implementation plan for non-technical survey and its methodology in the Tibesti Region. According to the extension request, Chad plans to deploy five teams to identify the contaminated areas, comprising four non-technical survey teams and one risk education and victim assistance team. Chad has committed national funds and resources to support Article 4 implementation, but requires international funding in order to conduct the non-technical survey. Chad indicates that it would need approximately 115 000 Euros to cover the deployment of the five teams. Based on the findings of the non-technical survey, Chad will prepare a comprehensive work plan and if required, request a further extension to conduct clearance of any cluster munition remnant contamination identified during the survey. The Analysis Group notes with some concern that Chad has not yet identified partners that could provide the international financial support it requires to implement its Article 4 work plan through non-technical survey in Tibesti.

The Analysis Group commends Chad for requesting a short interim extension to mobilize resources for non-technical survey in the Tibesti region. We also appreciate Chad's commitment to support the national mine action authority through the provision of financial support covering salaries and some of the operational costs for the non-technical survey teams. The Analysis Group also appreciates Chad's high level of engagement with the ISU and the Analysis Group.

Madam President,

Given all of this, the Analysis Group recommends that the Meeting grants Chad its request for an extension of 2 years until 1 October 2026. In granting this request, the Meeting strongly recommends that Chad regularly reports to States Parties on its resource mobilization activities and—if funding for the NTS is secured and can commence—that Chad shares the outcomes of the non-technical survey, including information about the remaining cluster munition contamination, and land released through survey and clearance. We encourage Chad to provide a costed work plan and budget that includes risk education activities, and a resource mobilization plan. The Analysis Group also encourages Chad to continue to be transparent about any obstacles to the fulfilment of its Article 4 obligations.

I thank you, Madam President.