

Mine Action Review Statement on Agenda item 9: Presentation of requests for extension of deadlines submitted under Article 4 of the Convention and of the analysis of these requests.
CCM Meeting of States Parties,
16-19 September 2025

As this is the first time Mine Action Review is taking the floor, we wish to express our appreciation, Mr. President, for the Philippines' distinguished leadership of 13MSP. We also warmly thank Italy and France for their dedicated efforts to support Article 4 implementation, as well as the Netherlands and Switzerland as fellow Analysis Group members, and we extend our gratitude to colleagues of the CCM ISU for their tireless commitment to support the Convention.

As Mine Action Review already provided detailed comments on the extension requests during the Intersessional Meetings earlier this year, and in light of our role in providing expert support to the Article 4 Analysis Group in its review of those requests, we have not repeated our comments on the five extension requests. Nonetheless, we wish to reiterate our appreciation to the affected States Parties for their presentations yesterday and for their constructive and collaborative engagement with the Article 4 Analysis Group, which has contributed to the strengthening of the five final extension requests under consideration this week.

If these five States, all of which have only light or medium contamination, are to fulfil their Article 4 obligations and achieve completion within the extension periods requested, they will each need international support.

We strongly encourage Afghanistan, Chile, Mauritania, and Somalia to establish **Country Coalitions** to strengthen and coordinate Article 4 implementation, and for donor States to actively support the establishment of such coalitions and work together with affected States and implementing partners to support completion, as called for by France and HAMAP in the case of Mauritania. Lebanon's *Mine Action Forum* provides an excellent example of a successful Country Coalition, from which other affected States could draw valuable lessons, as does Lao PDR's *UXO Sector Working Group*. Mine Action Review stands ready to discuss and support any affected State considering the establishment of a country coalition, and to share our experience of such initiatives.

As **Afghanistan** was not able to present its extension request to the plenary, we encourage States Parties present to read the comprehensive extension request online on the CCM website. We also encourage potential donors to note that DMAC makes clear in its request the different modalities through which donors can support the mine action programme in Afghanistan, including supporting national mine action organizations directly or through International Trust Fund (ITF), or through supporting international operators. It is also important that donors put funding of the essential planning and coordination functions performed by the UN Mine Action Technical Cell (MATC) on a stable and sustainable basis.

Lastly, we hope that the convention community can find a way to enable DMAC to provide substantive updates to States Parties at future treaty meetings, on key provisions such as victim assistance and clearance, even if virtually.

Thank you.