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Consideration of requests submitted under Article 3 and Article 4 of the Convention

Analysis and Draft Decision of Chad's Deadline Extension Request under Article 4.1 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions *

**Submitted by the Analysis group for Article 4 Extension Requests -
France, Mexico, Switzerland and The Netherlands (Kingdom of)**

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. Pursuant to Article 4.1 of the Convention, Chad was required to clear and destroy, or ensure the clearance and destruction of, all cluster munition remnants located in cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 September 2023.
2. On 21 October 2021, Chad informed States Parties that all known areas contaminated by cluster munition remnants under its jurisdiction had been cleared and released, with the exception of the Province of Tibesti. Chad explained that, owing to conditions that were not conducive to conducting a comprehensive non-technical survey in the Province, including security concerns and financial constraints, it remained unable to determine whether cluster munition contamination existed in Tibesti and, consequently, could not declare completion of its obligations under Article 4 of the Convention.
3. In 2022, Chad submitted its first request for an extension of its Article 4 deadline, informing States Parties that it required additional time to mobilise the financial resources necessary to conduct a non-technical survey in the Province of Tibesti. The Tenth Meeting of States Parties (10MSP) granted Chad a first extension until 1 October 2024, recognising that the proposed survey was necessary to determine whether cluster munition contamination remained in the Province and to enable Chad to establish the remaining scope of its Article 4 obligations.
4. In 2024, Chad submitted a second extension request, indicating that the planned non-technical survey had not yet been carried out. Chad informed States Parties that, despite continued efforts, it had been unable to secure the financial and technical resources required to implement the survey. The Twelfth Meeting of States Parties subsequently granted Chad a second extension of its Article 4 deadline until 1 October 2026 to enable continued resource

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mobilisation and the implementation of the planned non-technical survey in the Province of Tibesti.

5. During the extension period, Chad remained engaged in the implementation of the Convention and continued its efforts to mobilise the financial and technical assistance required to undertake the planned non-technical survey in the Province of Tibesti. In its current request, Chad indicates that, while the security situation in the Province is stable and under the control of the State, the mobilisation of adequate financial and technical resources remains the principal challenge affecting implementation. Chad further indicates that, until the planned survey is completed, it remains unable to determine the extent of any remaining cluster munition contamination or to prepare a realistic and comprehensive work plan for the completion of its Article 4 obligations.

6. On 7 July 2026, Chad submitted its official third request for an extension of the deadline under Article 4.1 of the Convention, requesting an extension of four years, until 1 October 2030. Chad indicates that the requested extension period is intended to enable the mobilisation of the financial and technical resources necessary to conduct a non-technical survey in the five departments of the Province of Tibesti. Chad further indicates that, should cluster munition contamination be identified during the survey, it will prepare a comprehensive work plan and budget for the remainder of the extension period. If no cluster munition contamination is identified upon completion of non-technical survey of the Province of Tibesti, Chad will be able to declare completion of its Article 4 obligations.

II. Consideration of the request

7. The Analysis Group invited representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC), the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), Mine Action Review and other relevant implementation partners to a meeting to jointly consider Chad's request.

8. As with previous extension requests, the Analysis Group assessed Chad's request in accordance with the Methodology for requests of deadline extensions under Articles 3 and 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM/MSP/2019/12), adopted by the Ninth Meeting of States Parties, in order to ensure a consistent, transparent and objective assessment.

9. Following its initial review, the Analysis Group provided Chad with informal comments and guidance to assist in the preparation of its extension request. The Group encouraged Chad to provide additional information, where appropriate, concerning the proposed implementation methodology, work plan, resource mobilisation strategy and the circumstances affecting Chad's ability to fulfil its obligations under Article 4 of the Convention. Chad subsequently submitted additional information and revised its request accordingly.

10. Chad's third extension request indicates that the Province of Tibesti remains the only area requiring non-technical survey to determine whether cluster munition remnant contamination exists. Chad reiterates that all known cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction have been addressed and that, in the absence of a comprehensive non-technical survey in Tibesti, it remains unable to determine the extent of any remaining contamination or to declare completion of its obligations under Article 4 of the Convention.

11. The Analysis Group notes that the principal challenges affecting implementation continue to relate primarily to the mobilisation of adequate financial and technical resources required to undertake the planned non-technical survey in the Province of Tibesti. Chad further reports that the remoteness of the province, difficult climatic conditions, limited infrastructure and the need to update information in areas affected by subsequent armed conflict continue to present operational challenges. In this regard, the Analysis Group notes that, while previous extension requests highlighted political-military and security-related constraints affecting access to parts of the Tibesti Province, Chad now indicates that the security situation is stable and under the control of the State. Based on the information provided by Chad, the Analysis Group notes that the principal obstacles to implementation

now appear to relate primarily to the mobilisation of the financial and technical resources required to undertake the planned survey activities.

12. Chad has provided additional information concerning the proposed methodology for the planned non-technical survey, including the deployment of trained survey teams, the application of National Mine Action Standards aligned with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), internal quality management procedures, community liaison, the integration of gender considerations during community interviews and the incorporation of explosive ordnance risk education activities. Chad further indicates that the survey will be undertaken in the five departments of the Province of Tibesti and that, should cluster munition contamination be identified, a comprehensive work plan and budget will subsequently be developed for the remainder of the extension period. If cluster munition-affected areas are identified during non-technical survey, Chad may be able to subsequently release these through technical survey and clearance by the end of the extension period, depending on the extent of any potential contamination identified and available resources. If no cluster munition contamination is identified during the non-technical survey, Chad will be able to declare completion of its Article 4 obligations.

13. Chad further reports that it will continue to implement its mine action programme through the National High Commission for Demining (HCND), maintain its National Mine Action Standards and provide national personnel, equipment and financial contributions in support of the planned survey activities. Chad also indicates that it will continue its efforts to mobilise international financial and technical assistance, including through engagement with donor States and potential implementation partners, recognising that such support remains essential for the implementation of the proposed activities.

III. Conclusions

14. The Analysis Group welcomes Chad's continued engagement with the Convention and its commitment to fulfilling its obligations under Article 4. The Group notes that Chad has prepared its extension request in accordance with the Methodology for requests of deadline extensions under Articles 3 and 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM/MSP/2019/12) and has continued to engage constructively with the Analysis Group throughout the preparation of its request.

15. The Analysis Group reiterates its acknowledgement that Chad continues to make every reasonable effort to identify all cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control, as provided for in Article 4.2(a) of the Convention. The Group notes that the Province of Tibesti remains the only area requiring non-technical survey to determine whether cluster munition contamination exists. Until this survey is conducted, Chad remains unable to determine the extent of any remaining contamination or to declare completion of its Article 4 obligations.

16. The Analysis Group welcomes the additional operational detail provided in Chad's request, including the proposed non-technical survey methodology, quality management arrangements, community liaison procedures, integration of gender considerations, and the continued application of National Mine Action Standards aligned with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). The Group considers that these elements strengthen the operational basis for the implementation of the planned survey once the necessary resources become available.

17. The Analysis Group notes that, compared with Chad's previous extension requests, the circumstances affecting implementation have evolved. While previous requests highlighted political-military and security-related constraints affecting access to parts of the Tibesti Province, Chad now reports that the security situation is stable and under the control of the State. Based on the information provided, the Analysis Group notes that the principal obstacles to implementation now relate primarily to the mobilisation of adequate financial and technical resources required to undertake the planned non-technical survey and to the logistical challenges associated with operating in a remote and geographically demanding environment.

18. The Analysis Group notes Chad's continued commitment to supporting its national mine action programme through the National High Commission for Demining (HCND), including the provision of national personnel, equipment and financial contributions within its available capacities. The Group further notes Chad's continued efforts to mobilise international assistance and recalls that, in accordance with Article 6.1 of the Convention, each State Party has the right to seek and receive assistance in fulfilling its obligations under the Convention.

19. Recognising that this is Chad's third extension request under Article 4, the Analysis Group notes that the requested extension period is intended to provide sufficient time for the mobilisation of financial and technical resources, as well as for the implementation of the planned non-technical survey under the operational conditions described by Chad. The Group further notes Chad's indication that, should cluster munition contamination be identified during the survey, a detailed work plan and budget will subsequently be developed for the remainder of the extension period and land release conducted accordingly. If no cluster munition contamination is identified upon completion of non-technical survey of the Province of Tibesti, Chad will be able to declare completion of its Article 4 obligations. The Analysis Group encourages Chad to continue maintaining close dialogue with States Parties and potential partners throughout the extension period in order to facilitate international cooperation and assistance.

20. In addition to reporting annually through its Article 7 transparency reports and at Meetings of States Parties or the Review Conference, the Analysis Group encourages Chad to continue its regular engagement with the ISU, including when the relevant national authorities are in Geneva. The Analysis Group notes that the Convention would benefit from Chad providing updates on:

- (a) Progress made in mobilising financial and technical resources;
- (b) Progress achieved in conducting the non-technical survey in the Province of Tibesti;
- (c) Updated information on any cluster munition contamination identified through survey activities;
- (d) Progress made in land released through survey and clearance, where applicable;
- (e) A detailed and updated work plan and budget for the subsequent implementation period, including any revised resource mobilisation strategy;
- (f) Any obstacles affecting implementation of Chad's Article 4 obligations within the extension period;
- (g) Any other relevant information concerning the implementation of Article 4.

21. The Analysis Group notes the importance, in addition to the reporting requested above, of Chad continuing to keep States Parties regularly apprised of any other significant developments concerning the implementation of its Article 4 obligations during the extension period, as appropriate.

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

22. The Third Review Conference 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 agreed to grant the request for an extension of four years, until 1 October 2030.

23. In granting the request, the Conference noted that the requested extension period is intended to enable Chad to mobilise the financial and technical resources necessary to undertake the planned non-technical survey in the Province of Tibesti, to determine the extent of any remaining cluster munition contamination in areas not yet surveyed, and to release any identified cluster munition contaminated areas.

24. The Conference further noted Chad's indication that, should cluster munition contamination be identified during the non-technical survey, it will prepare a comprehensive work plan and budget for the remainder of the extension period. If no cluster munition contamination is identified, Chad will be able to declare completion of its Article 4 obligations.

25. In granting the request, the Conference welcomed Chad's continued commitment to implementing its obligations under the Convention and recognised its continued engagement in seeking to mobilise national and international resources to support implementation.

26. In granting the request, the Conference recalled Article 6.1 of the Convention, according to which, in fulfilling its obligations under the Convention, each State Party has the right to seek and receive assistance.

27. In granting the request, the Conference encouraged Chad to continue its efforts to mobilise international financial and technical assistance and to maintain dialogue with potential implementation partners and donor States in support of the implementation of its Article 4 obligations.

28. In granting the request, the Conference recommended that Chad continue to provide regular updates to States Parties on progress achieved in resource mobilisation and implementation of the planned non-technical survey, and for technical survey and clearance if evidence of cluster munition remnant contamination is found, including any developments affecting the implementation of its work plan.

29. In granting the request, the Conference recalled Chad's obligation to provide updated information annually through its Article 7 transparency reports and at Meetings of States Parties or Review Conferences, noting that the Convention would benefit from Chad reporting in particular on:

- (a) Progress made in mobilising financial and technical resources;
- (b) Progress achieved in conducting the non-technical survey in the Province of Tibesti;
- (c) Updated information on any cluster munition contamination identified through survey activities;
- (d) Progress made in land released through survey and clearance, where applicable;
- (e) An updated work plan and budget for the subsequent implementation period, including any revised resource mobilisation strategy;
- (f) Any obstacles affecting implementation of its Article 4 obligations during the extension period;
- (g) Any other relevant information concerning the implementation of Article 4.

30. In addition to the reporting requested above, the Conference noted the importance of Chad continuing to keep States Parties regularly apprised of any other significant developments concerning the implementation of its Article 4 obligations during the period covered by the extension request, as appropriate.