
**Fourth Review Conference of the States Parties to
the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use,
Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of
Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction**

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Final document

The Final document of the Fourth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction consists of the following:

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Review of the operation and status of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction: 2014-2019

¹ Part II is issued as document APLC/CONF/2019/5/Add.1.



Part I

Organization and work of the Fourth Review Conference

A. Introduction

1. The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction states in Article 12, paragraphs 1 and 2, that “a Review Conference shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations five years after the entry into force of this Convention” and that “further Review Conferences shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations if so requested by one or more States Parties.”

2. At the First Review Conference (Nairobi, 29 November - 3 December 2004) the States Parties agreed to hold annually, until the Second Review Conference, a Meeting of the States Parties and informal intersessional meetings of the Standing Committees, and that a Second Review Conference will take place in the second half of 2009 (document APLC/CONF/2004/5, Part V, paragraph 2 (a-d)). At the Second Review Conference (Cartagena, 30 November - 4 December 2009) the States Parties decided to hold annually, until a Third Review Conference, a Meeting of the States Parties and informal intersessional meetings of the Standing Committees, and that a Third Review Conference will take place at the end of 2014 (document APLC/CONF/2009/9, paragraph 29 (i) and (ii)). The Third Review Conference (Maputo, 23 to 27 June 2014) agreed that, beginning in 2015, a Meeting of the States Parties will be convened each year at the end of November or beginning of December until the end of 2018, and that the Fourth Review Conference will be held at the end of 2019 (document APLC/CONF/2014/4, paragraph 31).

3. At the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties (Geneva, 26-30 November 2018), the States Parties agreed to hold the Convention’s Fourth Review Conference in Oslo, Norway, the week of 25 to 29 November 2019 and adopted its cost estimates. The Meeting further decided to hold preparatory meetings in advance of the Fourth Review Conference in Geneva on 24 May 2019 and on 18 September 2019 (APLC/MSP.17/2018/12, paragraph 48). In addition, the States Parties agreed to elect Ambassador Hans Brattskar, Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations Office in Geneva, President of the Fourth Review Conference.

4. To prepare for the Fourth Review Conference, in accordance with the decisions of the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties, the First Preparatory Meeting was held on 24 May 2019. The First Preparatory Meeting took note of the Concept note on Fourth Review Conference substantive documents submitted by the President and expressed general satisfaction that its content would provide useful direction to the efforts to develop the review of the general status and operation of the Convention, an Oslo Action Plan, and a political declaration. The Meeting considered and approved the Draft Agenda for the Fourth Review Conference and confirmed the Rules of Procedure, as contained in APLC/CONF/2009/3. In keeping with the practice used previously in formal meetings, the Meeting recommended that the outgoing members of the Convention’s Committees should serve as Vice Presidents of the Fourth Review Conference, namely: Belgium, Colombia, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Thailand and Zambia.

5. The Second Preparatory Meeting was held on 18 September 2019. The Second Preparatory Meeting considered and approved the updated draft Agenda for the Fourth Review Conference and the provisional programme of work of the Conference and recommended them for adoption by the Fourth Review Conference. The Meeting took note of and expressed general satisfaction with the documents submitted in preparation for the Fourth Review Conference, as well as of the status of preparation of the Implementation

Support Unit Work Plan and Budget 2020-2024. The Meeting called upon the States Parties and States not party participating in the Meetings of the States Parties and Review Conferences to the Convention to ensure prompt and full payment of their respective assessed contributions and compliance with their obligations pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention. The Meeting also took note of the proposed dates for 2020 intersessional meetings and the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties, as well as of the proposal by the President for the Convention's Committees membership and recommended them for adoption by the Fourth Review Conference.

6. As a complement to the formal preparations for the Oslo Review Conference, thematic discussions were held on 23 May 2019 to inform and provide impetus towards the development of the Oslo Action Plan.

7. The formal proceedings of the Fourth Review Conference were preceded, on 25 November 2019, by an opening ceremony which featured HRH Crown Prince Haakon of Norway, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway, Ine Eriksen Søreide, the Minister of Development of Norway, Dag-Inge Ulstein, the Mayor of Oslo, Marianne Borgen, the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Izumi Nakamitsu, who conveyed a message from United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, the Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Gilles Carbonnier, UNICEF Special Adviser, Geert Cappelaere, the Convention's Special Envoys HRH Princess Astrid of Belgium and HRH Prince Mired of Jordan, Selma Guso from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Alex Munyambabazi from Uganda representing landmine survivors, and Fay Wildhagen, artist.

B. Organization of the Fourth Review Conference

8. The Fourth Review Conference was opened on 26 November 2019 by Ambassador Hans Brattskar, Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations Office in Geneva, President of the Fourth Review Conference.

9. At its first plenary meeting on 26 November 2019, the Fourth Review Conference adopted its agenda, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/1, and its programme of work, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/2. On the same occasion, the Fourth Review Conference approved the participation in its work as observers of organizations that have been granted observer status by the Coordinating Committee under rule 1.4 of the Rules of Procedure.

10. Also at its first plenary meeting, Belgium, Colombia, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Thailand and Zambia were elected by acclamation as Vice-Presidents of the Fourth Review Conference.

11. The Fourth Review Conference unanimously confirmed the nomination of Ingrid Schøyen, Senior Adviser, Humanitarian Affairs Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, as Secretary-General of the Conference. The Conference also took note of the appointment by the United Nations Secretary-General of Peter Kolarov of the Geneva Branch of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, as Executive Secretary of the Conference, and the appointment by the President of Juan Carlos Ruan, Director of the Implementation Support Unit, as the President's Executive Coordinator.

C. Participation in the Fourth Review Conference

12. The following States Parties participated in the Conference: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and

Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

13. The following States participated in the Conference as observers, in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 3, of the Convention and Rule 1, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure of the Conference: China, Egypt, India, Lao (People's Democratic Republic), Lebanon, Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, and Viet Nam.

14. The following international organizations and institutions, regional organizations, entities and non-governmental organizations attended the Conference as observers in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 3, of the Convention and rule 1, paragraphs 2 and 3, of the rules of procedure: ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC), European Union (EU), Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), Implementation Support Unit for the Convention on Cluster Munitions, International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Organization of American States (OAS), Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), United Nations Office for Projects Services (UNOPS), and United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU).

15. The following other organizations attended the Conference as observers in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 3, of the Convention and rule 1, paragraph 4, of the rules of procedure: Centre de Perfectionnement aux Actions post-confliktuelles de Déminage et de Dépollution - Benin, Centre for International Stabilization and Recovery (CISR), EveryCasualty Worldwide, Fondation Suisse de déminage, The Halo Trust, Information Management and Mine Action Programmes (iMMAP), International Trust Fund Enhancing Human Security, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Rehabilitation science organization (ReSciO), Sir Bobby Charlton Foundation, Conflict and Environment Observatory.

16. A list of all delegations to the Fourth Review Conference is contained in document APLC/CONF/2019/INF.1.

D. Work of the Fourth Review Conference

17. The Fourth Review Conference held eight plenary meetings from 26 to 29 November 2019. During its first and third to fifth plenary meetings, the Conference reviewed the operation and status of the Convention, reviewing progress made and challenges that remain in the pursuit of the Convention's goals and in the application of the Maputo Action Plan 2015-2019 and the Maputo+15 Declaration.

18. At its second plenary meeting, the States Parties that had submitted requests for extensions in accordance with Article 5 (4) of the Convention, Argentina, Cambodia, Chad, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Tajikistan, and Yemen, presented their requests, the executive summaries

of which are contained in documents APLC/CONF/2019/WP.1, APLC/CONF/2019/WP.2, APLC/CONF/2019/WP.3, APLC/CONF/2019/WP.4, APLC/CONF/2019/WP.27 APLC/CONF/2019/WP.5, and APLC/CONF/2019/WP.7, respectively. In addition, the Netherlands, in its capacity as the Chair of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation presented the Committee's analysis of the requests, as contained in documents APLC/CONF/2019/WP.16, APLC/CONF/2019/WP.12, APLC/CONF/2019/WP.15, APLC/CONF/2019/WP.26, APLC/CONF/2019/WP.9, and APLC/CONF/2019/WP.8, respectively, as well as observations on one request, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.28.

19. Also in the context of the consideration of the operation and status of the Convention, the Conference discussed progress made and challenges that remain in the implementation of the Convention and considered, in particular, document APLC/CONF/2019/3 titled "Status of implementation of the Convention by States Parties with outstanding obligations". Updates were provided by States Parties concerned, as well as by other interested States and organizations.

20. In the context of its consideration of the operation and status of the Convention, the Conference considered the Draft Oslo Declaration on a Mine-Free World 2019, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.10, the Draft Oslo Action Plan, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.14, and the Draft review of the operation and status of the Convention, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.18 to APLC/CONF/2019/WP.21.

21. Also in the context of its consideration of the operation and status of the Convention, recalling the "Directive from the States Parties to the Implementation Support Unit (ISU)", which instructed the ISU to propose and present a work plan and budget for the activities of the ISU for the following year to the Coordinating Committee for endorsement and subsequently to each Meeting of the States Parties for approval, the Conference considered the "Implementation Support Unit 2020 Work Plan and Budget", presented by the Director of the ISU and endorsed by the Coordinating Committee, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.25.

22. Also in the context of its consideration of the operation and status of the Convention, in recalling the "Directive from the States Parties to the ISU", which tasked the ISU to report in written form as well as orally on the activities, functioning and finances of the ISU to each Meeting of the States Parties and to submit an audited annual financial report for the previous year and a preliminary annual financial report for the present year to the Coordinating Committee and subsequently to the Meeting of the States Parties, the Conference considered "Activities, functioning and finances of the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit" presented by the Director of the ISU, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.24.

23. Also in the context of its consideration of the operation and status of the Convention, the Conference considered "Reflections on the Convention's meeting programme and machinery", submitted by the President, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.11.

24. The discussion on the operation and status of the Convention, was also informed by a paper submitted by ICRC on "Views and recommendations on improvised explosive devices falling within the scope of the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention", as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.23.

25. At its sixth plenary meeting, in the context of its consideration of the financial status of assessed contributions pursuant to Article 14, the Conference considered "Financial predictability and sustainability of United Nations assessed contributions. Report and recommendations", submitted by the President, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.17.

26. Also at its sixth plenary meeting, in the context of its consideration of the 2020-2024 five-year work plan and budget of the Implementation Support Unit and recalling the decision on “Strengthening financial governance and transparency within the ISU” adopted by the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties as well as the “Implementation Support Unit Four-Year Work Plan 2016 Midterm Review” approved by the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties, the Conference considered the “Implementation Support Unit Work Plan and Budget 2020-2024”, submitted by the President, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.22.

27. Also in the context of its consideration of the operation and status of the Convention and recalling the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties’ relevant decisions on “Strengthening financial governance and transparency within the ISU”, the Meeting commended the Norwegian presidency for organising, on 26 February 2019, a successful pledging conference for the implementation of the Convention.

E. Decisions and Recommendations

28. The Conference reaffirmed the determination of the States Parties to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines and their aspiration to meet the goals of the Convention to the fullest extent possible by 2025, and adopted the Oslo Declaration on a Mine-Free World, which is contained in part II of this report.²

29. The Conference condemned the use of anti-personnel mines by any actor and, with the aim of supporting enhanced implementation and universalization of the Convention, adopted the Oslo Action Plan 2020-2024, which is contained in part II of this report.

30. The Conference took stock of the current status of implementation of the Convention, the progress made since the Third Review Conference (Maputo, 2014) in meeting the purpose and objectives of the Convention and the 2025 aspirational goal set by the States Parties, as well as the remaining challenges to reach a mine-free world and adopted the “Review of the operation and status of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction: 2014-2019”, which is contained in part II of this report.

31. In the context of its consideration of the operation and status of the Convention, the Conference took note of the status of universalization of the Convention and called upon all States that have not yet done so to accede to or ratify the Convention as soon as possible.

32. Also in the context of its consideration of the operation and status of the Convention, the Conference welcomed the update on the progress provided by Greece and its compliance with the Maputo Action Plan, and the report on the “Status of implementation of the convention by States Parties with outstanding obligations”, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/3, and took note of the information contained therein. The Meeting appealed to the States Parties which are in non-compliance with their Article 4 obligations to intensify efforts for the completion of their stockpile destruction obligations.

33. Taking into account the analyses presented by the Chair of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation, of the requests submitted under Article 5 of the Convention and the requests themselves, the Conference took the following decisions:

Decision on the request submitted by Argentina for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

² APLC/CONF/2019/5/Add.1.

(i) The Conference assessed the request submitted by Argentina for an extension of its deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5 (1), agreeing to grant the request for an extension until 1 March 2023.

(ii) In granting the request, the Conference noted that, as in its initial request for extension of its 1 March 2010 deadline, Argentina has expressed that the sole circumstance which impedes the ability of Argentina to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas that it has reported to be under its jurisdiction or control is that Argentina has indicated that it “does not exercise territorial control over the land to be demined.” The Conference further noted the importance of a State Party providing information on changes to the status of the control of mined areas, when such a State Party has indicated that matters related to control affect the implementation of Article 5 during extension periods.

Decision on the request submitted by Cambodia for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

(i) The Conference assessed the request submitted by Cambodia for an extension of its deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5 (1), agreeing to grant the request for an extension until 31 December 2025.

(ii) In granting the request, the Conference noted that, while Cambodia had not been able to complete the implementation of the principle commitment it had made to complete implementation by its deadline in 2020, as recorded in the decisions of the Second Review Conference, and while it is unfortunate that after almost two decades of intensive humanitarian demining efforts Cambodia does not have a precise definition of its remaining contamination, Cambodia has made commendable progress and has committed to increase its capacity and reinvigorate efforts to garner an understanding of the extent of the remaining challenge and fulfil its obligations during the extension period.

(iii) In granting the request, the Conference noted that Cambodia was projecting that it would need approximately five years and eleven months from the date of submission of its request to survey suspected hazardous areas and clear confirmed hazardous areas. The Conference, in recalling that the implementation of Cambodia’s national demining plan may be affected by pending survey and the agreement on work plans to address anti-personnel mines in un-demarcated border areas, requested that Cambodia submit to the States Parties, by 15 August 2022 and 30 April 2024, an updated work plans for the remaining period covered by the extension request. The Conference requested that these work plans contain an updated list of all areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, annual projections of which areas would be dealt with each year by which organizations during the remaining period covered by the request, and a revised detailed budget.

(iv) Also, in granting the request, the Conference noted that both Cambodia and all States Parties would benefit if Cambodia’s national demining plan incorporated its intentions concerning mined areas it has reported along the Cambodia - Thailand border, including by providing additional clarity on the location and status of areas suspected to contain mines along that border. The Conference noted the importance of Cambodia keeping the States Parties informed by reporting on information on and plans to deal with mined areas along Cambodia’s common border with Thailand.

(v) In granting the request, the Conference noted the importance of Cambodia ensuring that the most relevant land-release standards, policies and methodologies, in line with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), are in place and applied by all those involved for the full and expedient implementation of this aspect of the Convention, including in ensuring an evidence-based approach to the classification of land as suspected or confirmed.

(vi) The Conference further encouraged Cambodia to continue seeking improved land release and certification techniques, which could lead to Cambodia fulfilling its obligations in a shorter time frame. The Conference noted that doing so could benefit Cambodia in ensuring that the humanitarian, social and economic impacts outlined by Cambodia in its request are addressed as quickly as possible.

(vii) The Conference noted the importance of Cambodia continuing to report on its progress in a manner consistent with the IMAS by providing information disaggregated by area cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey and cleared. The Conference further noted the importance of Cambodia reporting on its remaining challenge in a manner consistent with the IMAS by providing information disaggregated by suspected hazardous areas and confirmed hazardous areas.

(viii) Also, in granting the request, the Conference noted that, while the plan presented by Cambodia is ambitious but workable, and lends itself well to be monitored, its success is contingent upon the results of ongoing survey efforts, negotiations to address un-demarcated border areas, the expansion of the demining capacity, and significant co-contribution from the State budget and stable international funding. In this regard, the Conference noted that the Convention would benefit from Cambodia informing the States Parties, by 30 April of each year, in line with its obligations under Article 7, on the following:

(a) Annual progress and results of baseline survey activities in the remaining 73 districts, disaggregated in a manner consistent with the IMAS and their impact on annual targets as given in Cambodia's work plan;

(b) Progress made relative to the commitments contained in Cambodia's annual survey and clearance plan during the extension period disaggregated in a manner consistent with the IMAS and their impact on annual targets as given in Cambodia's work plan;

(c) Progress made in implementation of the planned agreement between the Cambodia and Thailand General Border Committee regarding plans to address anti-personnel contamination in border areas;

(d) Updates regarding the deployment of 2,000 deminers by the Cambodian Armed Forces, with respect to gender balance in survey and clearance teams, timeline for recruitment, training and deployment;

(e) Efforts to mitigate the impact of anti-personnel mines to the population through mine risk education and reduction efforts as well as information on injuries and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, ensuring that these activities are age-appropriate and gender-sensitive taking into account the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities;

(f) Updates regarding resource mobilisation efforts, including resources made available in the Cambodian State Budget and national and international financing received to support implementation efforts;

(g) Updates regarding the structure of Cambodia's mine action program, including existing and new organisational and institutional capacities to respond to residual contamination following completion.

(ix) The Conference noted the importance, in addition to Cambodia reporting to the States Parties as noted above, of keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of other pertinent developments regarding the implementation of Article 5 during the period covered by the request and other commitments made in the request at intersessional meetings, Meetings of the States Parties and Review Conferences as well as through its Article 7 reports, using the Guide for Reporting.

Decision on the request submitted by Chad for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

(i) The Conference assessed the request submitted by Chad for an extension of its deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5 (1), agreeing to grant the request for an extension until 1 January 2025.

(ii) In granting the request, the Conference noted that, while it appeared that Chad had made efforts to comply with its commitments, information provided on progress made could be communicated with greater clarity and in an unequivocal manner by reporting in a manner consistent with the International Mine Action Standards, by providing information disaggregated by area cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey, and cleared. Likewise, the Conference noted the importance of Chad reporting on its remaining challenge in a manner consistent with the IMAS in a manner disaggregated by suspected hazardous areas and confirmed hazardous areas.

(iii) In granting the request, the Conference noted that, by requesting a five-year extension, Chad was projecting that it would need approximately five years from the date of submission of its request to obtain clarity regarding the remaining challenge and clear confirmed hazardous areas. In granting the request the Conference noted that a detailed annual work plan for survey and a plan for database clean-up was missing. The Conference welcomed Chad's commitment to updating its workplan to include more up-to-date information as well as its efforts to reorganize, strengthen and improve the working environment of the National High Commission for Demining (HCND).

(iv) In granting the request, the Conference noted the importance of Chad ensuring that the most relevant land-release standards, policies and methodologies, in line with the IMAS, are in place and applied for the full and expedient implementation of this aspect of the Convention including in ensuring an evidence-based approach to the classification of land as suspected or confirmed. The Conference further encouraged Chad to continue seeking improved land release and certification techniques, which could lead to Chad fulfilling its obligations in a shorter time frame. The Conference noted that doing so could benefit Chad in ensuring that the humanitarian, social and economic impacts outlined by Chad in its request are addressed as quickly as possible.

(v) The Conference, in recalling that the implementation of Chad's national demining plan may be affected by the results pending survey and the security situation, the Conference requested that Chad submit to the States Parties, by 30 April 2022 an updated work plan for the remaining period covered by the extension request. The Conference requested that this work plan contain an updated list of all areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, using terminology consistent with the IMAS, annual projections of which areas would be dealt with by which organisation during the remaining period covered by the request, matched with a revised detailed budget.

(vi) Also, in granting the request, the Conference noted that while the plan presented by Chad is ambitious and clearly states which factors could affect implementation, its success is contingent on the result of ongoing clearance efforts and on sizable amount of external funding. In this regard, the Conference noted that the Convention would benefit from Chad informing the States Parties, by 30 April of each year, in line with its obligations under Article 7, on the following:

(a) Annual progress of land release activities, disaggregated in a manner consistent with the International Mine Action Standards, including the identification of new mined areas, and their impact on annual targets as given in Chad's work plan;

(b) Updated information on the full range of practical methods used to release land, including the use of mechanical assets and animal detection systems;

(c) Updates regarding resource mobilization efforts and external financing received, and resources made available by the government of Chad to support implementation efforts;

(d) Regular updates on changes in the security situation and how these changes positively or negatively affect implementation;

(e) Efforts to mitigate the impact of anti-personnel mines to the population through mine risk education and reduction efforts as well as information on injuries and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, ensuring that these activities are age-appropriate and gender-sensitive taking into account the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities;

(f) Updates regarding the structure of Chad's mine action program, in particular the Haut commissariat national de Déminage (or HCND, the mine action authority in Chad), and;

(g) Updates on progress with the database clean up undertaken as part of the PRODECO project (Project to support mine clearance, development, and social protection of vulnerable people in northern and western Chad).

(vii) The Conference noted the importance, in addition to Chad reporting to the States Parties as noted above, of keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of other pertinent developments regarding the implementation of Article 5 during the period covered by the request and other commitments made in the request at intersessional meetings, Meetings of the States Parties and Review Conferences as well as through its Article 7 reports, using the Guide for Reporting.

Decision on the request submitted by Ethiopia for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

(i) The Conference assessed the request submitted by Ethiopia for an extension of its deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5 (1), agreeing to grant the request for an extension until 31 December 2025.

(ii) In granting the request, the Conference noted that, while Ethiopia had not been able to complete the implementation of the principle commitment it had made, as recorded in the decisions of the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties, to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and develop plans accordingly to complete implementation by its deadline in 2020, the Conference welcomed Ethiopia's commitment to reinvigorate efforts to garner an understanding of the extent of the remaining contamination, increase its capacity and fulfil its obligations during the extension period.

(iii) In granting the request, the Conference noted that Ethiopia was projecting that it would need approximately five years and six months to survey suspected hazardous areas and clear confirmed hazardous areas. The Conference, in recalling that the implementation of Ethiopia's national demining plan may be affected by outcomes of agreements on survey and clearance on its border with Eritrea, pending survey, increased cooperation and partnership with international organizations and mine clearance operators, requested that Ethiopia submit to the States Parties, by 30 April 2021 and by the 30 April 2023 updated work plans for the remaining period covered by the extension request. The Conference requested that these work plans contain an updated list of all areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, annual projections of which areas and what area that would be

dealt with each year by which organizations during the remaining period covered by the request, and a revised detailed budget.

(iv) In granting the request, the Conference noted the importance of Ethiopia ensuring that the most relevant land-release standards, policies and methodologies, in line with the International Mine Action Standards, are in place and applied for the full and expedient implementation of this aspect of the Convention including in ensuring an evidence-based approach to the classification of land as suspected or confirmed. The Conference further encouraged Ethiopia to continue seeking improved land release and certification techniques, which could lead to Ethiopia fulfilling its obligations in a shorter time frame and in a more cost-effective manner. The Conference noted that doing so could benefit Ethiopia in ensuring that the humanitarian, social and economic impacts outlined by Ethiopia in its request are addressed as quickly as possible. The Conference further noted the importance of Ethiopia continuing to report on its progress in a manner consistent with the IMAS by providing information disaggregated by area cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey and cleared.

(v) Also, in granting the request, the Conference noted that both Ethiopia and all States Parties would benefit if Ethiopia's national demining plan incorporated its intentions concerning mined areas it has reported along the Ethiopian-Eritrean border, including by providing additional clarity on the location and status of areas suspected to contain mines along the Ethiopian-Eritrean border. The Conference noted Ethiopia's commitment in keeping the States Parties informed by reporting on information on and plans to deal with mined areas along Ethiopia's common border with Eritrea.

(vi) Also, in granting the request, the Conference noted Ethiopia's interest and plan to contact and collaborate with international partners to support their implementation of Ethiopia's survey and clearance plan within their extension request. The Conference noted that the involvement of national and international non-governmental mine clearance organizations could support Ethiopia in implementing its mine clearance plans in a more efficient manner.

(vii) In granting the request the Conference noted that while the plan presented by Ethiopia is ambitious, but workable, and lends itself well to be monitored, its success is based on significant contributions from the international community and increased cooperation and partnership from international mine action organizations. In this regard, the Conference noted that the Convention would benefit from Ethiopia reporting annually by 30 April to the States Parties, in line with its obligations under Article 7, on the following:

(a) Progress made relative to the commitments contained in Ethiopia's annual survey and clearance plan during the extension period, disaggregated by area cancelled, reduced and cleared, and their impact on annual targets as given in Ethiopia's work plan;

(b) Updated information on the full range of practical methods used to release land, including the use of mechanical assets and animal detection systems. Together with relevant information on the training of national mine personnel, operators in new methodologies and quality control;

(c) Progress on the agreement of Ethiopia and Eritrea regarding plans to address anti-personnel contamination in border areas, including national institutions involved in the effort, process of the work, and annual milestones;

(d) Updates regarding resource mobilization efforts and external financing received, and resources made available by the government of Ethiopia to support implementation efforts;

(e) Updates regarding efforts to collaborate with international and non-governmental organisations to support implementation of the plan within the extension request;

(f) Efforts to mitigate the impact of anti-personnel mines to the population through mine risk education and reduction efforts as well as information on injuries and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, ensuring that these activities are age-appropriate and gender-sensitive taking into account the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities.

(viii) The Committee noted the importance, in addition to Ethiopia reporting to the States Parties as noted above, of keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of other pertinent developments regarding the implementation of Article 5 during the period covered by the request and other commitments made in the request at intersessional meetings, Meeting of the States Parties and Review Conferences as well as through its Article 7 reports, using the Guide for Reporting.

Decision on the request submitted by Eritrea for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

(i) The Conference assessed the request submitted by Eritrea for an extension of Eritrea's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with Article 5 (1).

(ii) The Conference expressed concern that Eritrea had not acted in accordance with the agreed "process for the preparation, submission and consideration of requests for extensions to Article 5 deadlines", which was established at the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties. The Conference expressed concern that the late submission of a request by Eritrea did not permit the Committee on Article 5 Implementation to carry out their mandate in full to analyze the request.

(iii) The Conference welcomed Eritrea's commitment to adhere to the process established by the States Parties and submit a request in 2020 in accordance with the process, as indicated in its request, and its positive engagement in this regard. This will permit a cooperative dialogue with the Committee on Article 5 Implementation.

(iv) The Conference noted that Eritrea had not provided updated information on implementation of its Article 5 obligations since its last extension request was granted by the Third Review Conference and has not complied with the decision of the Third Review Conference. The Conference further noted that the request submitted by Eritrea did not provide sufficient information regarding the status of implementation. The Conference therefore noted that the fact that Eritrea has not submitted updated information on implementation since it submitted its request for extension in 2014 is a matter of serious concern.

(v) The Conference noted that in order to function appropriately, the process of requesting extensions requires them to be submitted by 31 March of the same year as the Conference during which they would be considered takes place in order for an analysis of the request to be prepared and to allow for a cooperative exchange between the requesting State and the Committee on Article 5 Implementation to take place. In this context, the Conference noted that Eritrea and the Convention as a whole would benefit from a full extension request process taking place and agreed to grant Eritrea an eleven-month extension until 31 December 2020. The Conference also noted that Eritrea would benefit if it seeks assistance from the Implementation Support Unit in the preparation of their request, including by inviting the ISU for an in-country visit.

(vi) The Conference requested that Eritrea submit a request, in accordance with the established process, by 31 March 2020, for Eritrea and the States Parties to benefit from a cooperative exchange on the request. In this regard, the Conference noted that it would be beneficial if Eritrea's request includes information on:

(a) Progress made in addressing mined areas since Eritrea's extension request was granted by the Third Review Conference in 2014 in a manner consistent with the International Mine Action Standards by providing information disaggregated by area cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey and cleared;

(b) The number, location and size of the remaining mined areas in a manner consistent with the IMAS by providing information disaggregated by suspected hazardous areas and confirmed hazardous areas;

(c) Plans to clear or otherwise release these areas including annual survey and clearance milestones;

(d) Efforts to mitigate the impact of anti-personnel mines to the population through mine risk education and reduction efforts as well as information on injuries and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, ensuring that these activities are age-appropriate and gender-sensitive taking into account the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities.

(vii) The Conference noted the importance of Eritrea keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of implementation of Article 5 at intersessional meetings and Meetings of the States Parties as well as through its Article 7 reports, using the Guide for Reporting.

Decision on the request submitted by Tajikistan for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

(i) The Conference assessed the request submitted by Tajikistan for an extension of its deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with Article 5 (1), agreeing to grant the request for an extension until 31 December 2025.

(ii) In granting the request, the Conference noted that, while Tajikistan had not been able to complete the implementation of the principle commitment it had made to complete implementation by its deadline in 2020, as recorded in the decisions of the Second Review Conference, and while it is unfortunate that after almost two decades of intensive humanitarian demining efforts Tajikistan does not have a precise definition of its remaining contamination, Tajikistan has made commendable progress and has committed to increase its capacity and reinvigorate efforts to garner an understanding of the extent of the remaining contamination and fulfil its obligations during the extension period.

(iii) In granting the request, the Conference noted that Tajikistan was projecting that it would need approximately five years and eleven months to survey suspected hazardous areas and clear confirmed hazardous areas. The Conference, in recalling that the implementation of Tajikistan's national demining plan may be affected by pending survey and agreements on survey and clearance in border areas as well as the feasibility of deploying mechanical assets, requested that Tajikistan submit to the States Parties, by 30 April 2021 and by 31 October 2023, a updated work plans for the remaining period covered by the extension request. The Conference requested that these work plans contain an updated list of all areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, annual projections of which areas would be dealt with each year by which organizations during the remaining period covered by the request, and a revised detailed budget.

(iv) Also, in granting the request, the Conference noted that both Tajikistan and all States Parties would benefit if Tajikistan's national demining plan incorporated its intentions

concerning mined areas it has reported along the Tajik-Uzbek border, including by providing additional clarity on the location and status of areas suspected to contain mines along the Tajik-Uzbek border. The Conference noted Tajikistan's commitment in keeping the States Parties informed by reporting on information on and plans to deal with mined areas along Tajikistan's common border with Uzbekistan.

(v) In granting the request, the Conference noted the importance of Tajikistan ensuring that the most relevant land-release standards, policies and methodologies, in line with the International Mine Action Standards, are in place and applied for the full and expedient implementation of this aspect of the Convention, including ensuring an evidence-based approach to the classification of land as suspected or confirmed. The Conference further encourage Tajikistan to continue seeking improved land release and certification techniques, which could lead to Tajikistan fulfilling its obligations in a shorter time frame. The Conference noted that doing so could benefit Tajikistan in ensuring that the humanitarian, social and economic impacts outlined by Tajikistan in its request are addressed as quickly as possible.

(vi) The Conference noted the importance of Tajikistan continuing to report on its progress in a manner consistent with the IMAS by providing information disaggregated by area cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey and cleared. The Conference further noted the importance of Tajikistan continuing to report on its remaining contamination in a manner consistent with the IMAS by providing information disaggregated by suspected hazardous areas and confirmed hazardous areas.

(vii) Also, in granting the request, the Conference noted that, while the plan presented by Tajikistan is ambitious but lends itself well to be monitored, its success is contingent upon the results of ongoing survey efforts, negotiations to address its border area, the expansion of the demining capacity and significant contribution from the State budget and stable international funding. In this regard, the Conference noted that the Convention would benefit from Tajikistan informing the States Parties, by 30 April of each year, in line with its obligations under Article 7, on the following:

(a) Progress made relative to the commitments contained in Tajikistan's annual survey and clearance plan during the extension period disaggregated by area cancelled, reduced and cleared and their impact on annual targets as given in Tajikistan's work plan;

(b) Progress on the agreement between the Governments of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan regarding survey and clearance of areas on their common border, including information on the national institutions involved in the effort;

(c) Updates regarding the identification, recruitment, training and deployment of an additional 90 deminers and support personnel, including information on the gender and diversity of newly recruited personnel in line with Tajikistan's "Gender and Diversity Mine Action Strategy";

(d) Updates regarding resource mobilisation efforts, including resources made available from Tajikistan's state budget and external financing received to support implementation efforts;

(e) Updated information on its full range of practical methods used to release land, including reporting outcomes concerning the feasibility and deployment of mechanical assets;

(f) Efforts to mitigate the impact of anti-personnel mines to the population through mine risk education and reduction efforts as well as information on injuries and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, ensuring that these activities are age-appropriate and gender-sensitive taking into account the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities;

(g) Updates regarding the structure of Tajikistan's mine action program, including existing and new organisational and institutional capacities to respond to residual contamination following completion.

(viii) The Conference noted the importance, in addition to Tajikistan reporting to the States Parties as noted above, of keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of other pertinent developments regarding the implementation of Article 5 during the period covered by the request and other commitments made in the request at intersessional meetings, Meetings of the States Parties and Review Conferences as well as through its Article 7 reports, using the Guide for Reporting.

Decision on the request submitted by Yemen for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

(i) The Conference assessed the request submitted by Yemen for an extension of its deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5 (1), agreeing to grant the request for an extension until 1 March 2023.

(ii) In granting the request, the Conference noted the difficult circumstances faced by Yemen in its efforts to implementing the decisions of the Third Review Conference to garner an understanding of the extent of the remaining contamination and carry out clearance to fulfil its obligations during the extension period. The Conference further noted Yemen's commitment to strengthen and increase its capacity to address the current contamination and obtain clarity regarding the remaining contamination.

(iii) Also, in granting the request, the Conference noted that, by requesting a three-year extension, Yemen was projecting that it would need approximately three years from the date of submission of its request to obtain clarity regarding the remaining contamination, produce a detailed plan and submit a further extension request. The Conference noted that it is positive that Yemen is requesting only the period of time necessary to strengthen its capacity and gather and assess data on contamination and other relevant information with a view to develop a meaningful forward-looking plan.

(iv) In granting the request, the Conference noted the importance of Yemen's efforts to update its National Mine Action Standards and its standard operating procedures. In this regard, the Conference highlighted the importance of Yemen ensuring that the most relevant land-release standards, policies and methodologies, in line with the International Mine Action Standards, are in place and applied for the full and expedient implementation of this aspect of the Convention, including in ensuring an evidence-based approach to the classification of land as suspected or confirmed hazardous area. The Conference noted that doing so could benefit Yemen in ensuring that the humanitarian, social and economic impacts outlined by Yemen in its request are addressed as effectively as possible. The Conference further noted the importance of Yemen continuing to report on its progress in a manner consistent with IMAS by providing information disaggregated by area cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey and cleared.

(v) Also, in granting the request, the Conference noted that, while the plan presented by Yemen is ambitious but workable and states clearly which factors could affect the pace of implementation, its success is contingent upon strengthening of Yemen's capacity, increased security, access, recruitment of additional survey teams and a significant contribution of international funding. In this regard, the Conference noted that the Convention would benefit from Yemen informing the States Parties, by 30 April, in line with its obligations under Article 7, on the following:

- (a) Progress and results of its mine action emergency response efforts;
- (b) Progress in the establishment of a prioritization system;

- (c) Progress in updating its National Mine Action Standards and Standard Operating Procedures;
- (d) Progress made in strengthening its information management system;
- (e) The outcome of survey efforts and how additional clarity obtained may change Yemen's understanding of the remaining implementation challenge;
- (f) Progress made in addressing mined areas during the extension period disaggregated in accordance with the IMAS by area cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey and cleared;
- (g) Efforts to increase survey and demining capacity, including efforts carried by Yemen to expand partnerships with international non-governmental organizations and commercial companies and the result of these efforts;
- (h) Resources obtained relative to needs expressed in the request, including resources provided by the Government of Yemen itself;
- (i) Progress made in the establishment of YEMAC (Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre) branches in Taiz and Marib;
- (j) Changes in the security situation and how these changes positively or negatively affect implementation, and;
- (k) Efforts to mitigate the impact of anti-personnel mines to the population through mine risk education and reduction efforts as well as information on injuries and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, ensuring that these activities are age-appropriate and gender-sensitive taking into account the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities.

(vi) The Conference noted the importance, in addition to Yemen reporting to the States Parties as noted above, of keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of other pertinent developments regarding the implementation of Article 5 during the period covered by the request and other commitments made in the request at intersessional meetings and Meetings of the States Parties as well as through its Article 7 reports, using the Guide for Reporting.

34. Also in the context of its consideration of the operation and status of the Convention, the Conference took note of the "Reflections on the Convention's meeting programme and machinery", submitted by the President, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.11. In considering a meeting programme that would best meet the needs of the States Parties during the period following the Fourth Review Conference, the Conference took the following decisions:

- (i) to convene annually, until the Fifth Review Conference, a Meeting of the States Parties for up to five days at the end of November or beginning of December;
- (ii) to hold the Fifth Review Conference at the end of 2024;
- (iii) to continue to include in the agenda of the annual Meetings of the States Parties and the Fifth Review Conference an agenda item on the "Status of the assessed contributions received pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention";
- (iv) to continue to hold intersessional meetings annually in Geneva for a minimum of two days of plenary meeting;
- (v) to maintain the informal nature of the intersessional meetings and consider adding on an annual basis, either (a) a thematic segment during the two-day intersessional meetings, or (b) a day of thematic discussions, to allow that topics relevant to the Convention be addressed, including the status of implementation of the Oslo Action Plan. The President of the annual Meeting of the States parties will consider and decide on these options in

consultation with the Coordinating Committee. Further to provisions of the 2011 agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD concerning implementation support for the Convention, the Conference expressed its appreciation for the GICHD's ongoing support for intersessional meetings, which has allowed to ensure the respect for multilingualism at the intersessional meetings.

(vi) to amend the mandate the President of the annual Meetings of the States Parties to include the following:

- (a) take the lead on matters related to the United Nations assessed contributions received pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention; and
- (b) propose, if deemed necessary, one or more members of the Coordinating Committee to provide support on any issue of the President's mandate, which may require particular attention, including on financial matters;

(vii) to amend each Committee's mandates to include the following:

- (a) review relevant information provided by the States Parties on the implementation of the commitments contained in the Oslo Action Plan;
- (b) consider matters related to gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities in every aspect of its work;

(viii) to amend the Committees' working methods to include the following:

- (a) each Committee will appoint a focal point among its members to provide advice on gender mainstreaming and ensure that the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities are taken into account in the implementation of the Oslo Action Plan;
- (b) the Committees will increase and strengthen their coordination, including by examining implementation by States parties in a more holistic manner, and by considering the submission of joint conclusions on the status of implementation of the Convention by States Parties at the Meetings of the States Parties/Review Conferences.

(ix) to amend the mandate of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance to include the following:

- (a) to also address all matters under Article 1.2 of the Convention in cases where a State Party has not submitted an Article 7 report detailing progress in implementing relevant obligations each year;
- (b) to support States Parties in their efforts to implement and report on matters contained in Article 9 of the Convention; and
- (c) to encourage the States Parties to submit annual Article 7 reports.

35. The Conference decided:

(a) to hold the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties in Geneva, Switzerland, during the week of 16 November 2020 and to elect Ambassador Osman Abufatima Adam Mohammed of Sudan, Deputy Permanent Representative, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., Permanent Mission of Sudan to the United Nations, Geneva, President of the Eighteenth Meeting;

(b) to hold the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties in the Netherlands, in 2021 and to elect Ambassador Robbert Jan Gabriëls of the Netherlands, Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament, Geneva, President of the Nineteenth Meeting;

(c) to hold the 2020 intersessional meetings during the week of 18 May 2020³;

(d) to adopt the estimated costs of the Eighteenth and the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/4.

36. The Conference welcomed the interest expressed by States Parties to serve as new members of the Committees and decided on the following membership of the Convention's Committees:

(a) Committee on Victim Assistance: Chile and Italy until the end of the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties (18MSP) Sweden and Thailand until the end of the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties (19MSP);

(b) Committee on Article 5 Implementation: Austria and Canada until the end of the 18MSP and Norway and Zambia until the end of the 19MSP;

(c) Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance: Turkey and the United Kingdom until the end of the 18MSP and Colombia and Germany until the end of the 19MSP;

(d) Committee on Cooperative Compliance: Iraq and Switzerland until the end of the 18MSP and Panama and Poland until the end of the 19MSP.

37. Also in the context of its consideration of the operation and status of the Convention, the Conference approved "Implementation Support Unit Work Plan and Budget 2020-2024", submitted by the President, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.22. The Conference encouraged the States Parties in a position to do so to contribute to the Implementation Support Unit Work Plan and Budget 2020-2024.

38. Also in the context of its consideration of the operation and status of the Convention, recalling the "Directive from the States Parties to the ISU" and the relevant decision by the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties, the Meeting approved the "Implementation Support Unit Work Plan and Budget 2020", as endorsed by the Coordinating Committee and as contained in document APLC/CONF/2019/WP.25. In the context of the "Directive from the States Parties to the ISU", the Meeting also approved the "Interim report on the 2019 activities, functioning and finances of the Implementation Support Unit", as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.24, and the ISU's 2018 audited financial statement, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.6.

39. Also in the context of its consideration of the operation and status of the Convention and recalling the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties' decision on "Strengthening financial governance and transparency within the ISU", the Conference approved the apportion of the 2018 ISU Trust Fund surplus in a manner that ensures that (a) the financial security buffer contains an amount equivalent to one year of expenditures related to core support as provided for in the ISU yearly budget and that (b) any additional surplus be allocated to implement the 2020 ISU Work Plan.

40. Also in the context of its consideration of the operation and status of the Convention, the Conference emphasised the importance of all States Parties reporting updated information annually in accordance with Article 7. The Conference encouraged States Parties to make use of the tools developed to facilitate reporting, including the Guide to Reporting, as well as to seek the support of the Implementation Support Unit in the preparation of their reports.

41. In the context of its consideration of the financial status of assessed contributions pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention, the Conference requested States in arrears to pay outstanding amounts in full at the earliest possible date.

³ Unless more suitable dates can be identified.

42. Also in the context of its consideration of the financial status of assessed contributions pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention, based on the recommendations contained in the document on “Financial predictability and sustainability of United Nations assessed contributions”, submitted by the President, as contained in APLC/CONF/2019/WP.17, the Conference took the following decisions:

- (a) to continue to implement the following measures:
 - (i) a 15% contingency line is included in the cost estimates of the Meetings of the States Parties and Review Conferences in order to help ensure greater financial predictability and liquidity for the planning and holding of meetings;
 - (ii) monthly reports on the status of financial contributions are issued and posted on the website of the United Nations Office at Geneva and, in addition, are circulated to all States Parties by the Implementation Support Unit;
 - (iii) an agenda item on the “Status of the assessed contributions received pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention” is included in all Convention-related meetings.
 - (iv) United Nations Office at Geneva and United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) deliver presentations on the status of assessed contributions to inform States on the financial status of the Convention and support them in making informed decisions, including for consideration of cost saving measures in the case of insufficient funding, and to encourage States to pay their dues in compliance with Article 14 as early as possible and well ahead of the three- months deadline.
 - (v) UNODA regularly updates the Convention’s Coordinating Committee on the financial situation.
- (b) the Conference:
 - (i) requests UNODA to continue to distribute monthly updates on the status of assessed contributions with States Parties to further build awareness and encourage timely payment;
 - (ii) requests the United Nations to close the accounts for each financial period within 12 months of the conclusion of that financial period, at which time a final balance will be determined and any credits or debits arising shall be applied to the calculation of the contributions in the next invoice;
 - (iii) requests the United Nations to send individualised digital invoices to States;
 - (iv) requests the United Nations to prepare a multi-year cost-estimate that covers a two-year period for the approval by the States Parties and to issue invoices based on these estimates at least 90 days before the start of the financial period, to encourage early payment and improve the liquidity in the first half of each year;
 - (v) decides that arrears for unpaid contributions should remain the amount of the initial assessment invoiced to the relevant State Party for the year in question, unless expenditures are higher than initial cost estimates. Currently the State Party in arrears receives a final invoice reflecting its share of the actual costs which in the majority of cases is lower than the estimated costs. This effectively rewards a State Party for paying after the end of the financial year.
 - (vi) encourages each State whose contributions are in arrears for two or more years to enter into a payment schedule with the President of the Convention, supported by the United Nations, to permit it to clear outstanding arrears, taking into account its financial circumstances;

(vii) requests States in a position to do so to notify the President at the beginning of the year when they expect their assessed contribution to be paid. The President will keep the UN informed to ensure sound financial planning;

(viii) requests the President, for the purpose of financial planning throughout the year, to contact States that have not paid their assessed contribution by 30 April to ask States in a position to do so to clarify when it will be paid;

43. The Conference reiterated that measures aimed at addressing the financial difficulties deriving from the outstanding assessed contributions pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention should be without prejudice to the principle of multilingualism and should not affect, in particular, the provision of interpretation and translation in all official UN languages at the official meetings of the Convention.

Documentation

44. The Conference strongly encouraged the States Parties to follow, to the furthest extent possible, the 8-4-4 weeks submission pattern for pre-session document for future Meetings.

45. A list of documents submitted to the Fourth Review Conference is contained in the annex to this report. These documents are available in all official languages through the United Nations Official Documents System (<http://documents.un.org>).

F. Adoption of the Final Document and closure of the Fourth Review Conference

46. At its final plenary meeting, on 29 November, the Conference adopted its final document, which is being issued as document APLC/CONF/2019/5. At its closing plenary meeting, the Conference expressed its heartfelt thanks to the Government and people of Norway for their hospitality and outstanding efforts in organizing the Fourth Review Conference.

Annex

List of documents

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
APLC/CONF/2019/1	Provisional agenda. Submitted by the President
APLC/CONF/2019/2	Provisional programme of work. Submitted by the President
APLC/CONF/2019/3 [English only]	Status of implementation of the convention by States parties with outstanding obligations
APLC/CONF/2019/4 [English only]	Estimated costs for the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Meetings of the States Parties to the Convention on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines and on their destruction
APLC/CONF/2019/5	Final document
APLC/CONF/2019/5/Add.1	Final document. Addendum
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.1	Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the Convention. Executive summary. Submitted by Argentina
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.2	Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the Convention. Executive summary. Submitted by Cambodia
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.3	Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the Convention. Executive summary. Submitted by Chad
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.4	Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the Convention. Executive summary. Submitted by Ethiopia
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.5	Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the Convention. Executive summary. Submitted by Tajikistan
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.6 [English only]	Trust fund ISU APMBC - Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, Geneva
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.7	Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the Convention. Executive summary. Submitted by Yemen
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.8	Analysis of the request submitted by Yemen for an extension of the deadline for completing the

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
	destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the convention
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.9	Analysis of the request submitted by Tajikistan for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the convention
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.10	Draft Oslo Declaration on a mine-free world 2019. Submitted by the President of the Fourth Review Conference
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.11	Reflections on the convention's meeting programme and machinery. Submitted by the President of the Fourth Review Conference
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.12	Analysis of the request submitted by Cambodia for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the convention
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.13	Sample model for a national mine action platform (NMAP) - submitted by the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance (Sweden, Thailand, Turkey and the United Kingdom)
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.14	Draft Oslo Action Plan
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.15	Analysis of the request submitted by Chad for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the convention
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.16	Analysis of the request submitted by Argentina for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the convention
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.17	Financial predictability and sustainability of UN assessed contributions. Submitted by the President
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.18	Draft review of the operation and status of the Convention on the prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on their Destruction: 2014-2019 - introduction, universalizing the convention, destroying stockpiled
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.19	Draft review of the operation and status of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on their Destruction: 2014-2019 - clearing mined areas and assisting the victims
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.20	Draft review of the operation and status of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on their Destruction: 2014-2019

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
	- measures to ensure compliance and measures to ensure compliance
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.21	Draft review of the operation and status of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on their Destruction: 2014-2019
	- transparency and the exchange of information and ISU
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.22	Implementation Support Unit Work Plan and Budget 2020-2024. Submitted by the President
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.23 [English only]	Views and recommendations on improvised explosive devices falling within the scope of the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.24 [English only]	Activities, functioning and finances of the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit. Submitted by the Director of the Implementation Support Unit
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.25	Implementation Support Unit 2020 Budget and Work Plan
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.26	Analysis of the request submitted by Ethiopia for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the Convention
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.27	Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the Convention. Executive summary. Submitted by Eritrea
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.28	Observations on the request submitted by Eritrea under article 5 of the convention
APLC/CONF/2019/WP.29/Rev.1 [English only]	How to implement and monitor gender mainstreaming in the APMBC. Practical recommendations. Submitted by Finland, on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxemburg, Montenegro, The Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Romania, Slovenia, Sudan, Sweden, United Kingdom and Uruguay
APLC/CONF/2019/INF.1 [English, French, Spanish only]	List of Participants
APLC/CONF/2019/MISC.1 [English only]	Explanation of Position on the “State of Palestine”. Submitted by Australia, the Czech Republic, Germany and the Netherlands
APLC/CONF/2019/MISC.2 [English only]	Interpretative Statement of the Delegation of the Holy See to the Fourth Review Conference of the Convention on Anti-Personnel Landmines