Meeting 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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Sixteenth Meeting Vienna, 18-21 December 2017 Item 13 of the provisional agenda Consideration of requests submitted under Article 5

Conclusions Committee on Article 5 implementation (Chile, Costa Rica, Switzerland and Zambia)

Addendum

Conclusions on the implementation of Article 5

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Chad

I. Progress in implementation

1. Chad reported that in 2016, demining activities were carried out in Zouar, Zouarké in Tibesti destroying 94 anti-personnel mines. Chad further reported that 649,432 square metres were demined and "verified". The Committee concluded that, while indicating that some demining had taken place in 2016, information provided did not indicate precisely which of the 123 remaining areas have been addressed and progress did not include information on demining activities in the Borkou and Ennedi regions as indicated by Chad's plan of action 2014-2019. The Committee concluded that Chad could significantly clarify progress in implementation by reporting in a manner that permitted comparability with the information in this plan.

2. The Committee concluded that progress in implementation could be more clearly presented if Chad used terminology contained within, and in a manner consistent with the IMAS. The Committee also concluded that Chad could provide increased clarity concerning progress by employing the Guide to Reporting adopted by the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties.

II. Clarity regarding remaining challenge

3. The Committee concluded that Chad provided some clarity on its remaining challenge, including a summary table with mine affected locations. The Committee recalled that Chad, in its provisional plan of action 2014-2019, indicated that, as of May 2014, 123 areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines totalling 104,542,233 square metres remained to be addressed and that part of northern Tibesti remained to be surveyed. In this regard, Chad reported that in 2015, 14 new hazardous areas had been identified as a result of non-technical survey activities in Tibesti and in the south of the country. Chad further reported that, as of the end of May 2015, 123 areas were known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines.

4. The Committee concluded that, with survey activities ongoing, Chad's remaining challenge could be further clarified by presenting more precise information on the exact number (127 or 123), respective geographical locations and sizes of all areas required to be addressed, including by providing a detailed list of the newly discovered areas as well as further efforts by Chad to survey, identify and release mined areas. The Committee further concluded that Chad could considerably increase the clarity concerning the remaining challenges by employing the Guide to Reporting adopted by the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties.

III. National plans for clearance and survey

5. Further to the decisions of the 2013 Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties (13MSP), in May 2014 Chad provided a provisional plan leading towards completion by its 1 January 2020 deadline, with this plan summarising which activities would take place in each region during various periods of time leading to 1 December 2019, and at what cost.

6. The Committee recalled that the risk factors mentioned in Chad's provisional plan, including political stability and security, remain factors that may affect the implementation of Chad's plan for completion. The Committee further noted that survey results will affect implementation of Chad's plan.

7. The Committee noted that success in implementing Chad's provisional plan would require that Chad mobilises significantly more external resources than in the recent past. Other than a contribution from the European Union (PADEMIN project), Chad has not reported on any other external contribution and the Committee noted that information on Chad's efforts to mobilise other resources and the results of these efforts would be welcome.

8. Given ongoing survey activities, unknown effects of risk factors and lack of clarity regarding resource mobilisation the Committee concluded that an updated work plan, including detailed geographical milestones to be achieved in the years leading to Chad's deadline on 1 January 2020 is necessary.

IV. Efficient and expedient implementation

9. In its 2013 extension request, Chad provided a detailed description of its land release methods, noting that these are undertaken in accordance with the IMAS. The Committee noted that since Chad submitted its request the IMAS on land release have been amended and may contain approaches to further enhance efficient and expedient implementation. The Committee also noted that Chad did not use the IMAS terminology (e.g. SHA, CHA) in its transparency report and instead used terminology not found in the IMAS (e.g. "verified"). The Committee strongly recommended the consistent use of IMAS terminology including in art. 7 reports and the clarification of non-standardised terminology.

10. The Committee concluded that Chad may benefit from ensuring, in a manner consistent with Action #9 of the Maputo Action Plan 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 the Convention. The Committee concluded that information on any amendments made to Chad's standards in accordance with Action #9 of the Maputo Action Plan would be welcome.

V. Actions in accordance with plans in extension requests and decisions on them

11. The Committee recalled that the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties (13MSP) requested that Chad inform States Parties, by the end of 2015, of the results of the mid-term evaluation of its strategy, including, if necessary, providing an updated strategy that takes into account new information. In addition, the 13MSP requested that Chad inform States Parties on an annual basis of issues concerning clarity on the remaining Article 5 challenges, efforts to diversify funding, efforts to address inadequacies in information management, and of developments in the conditions which had previously impeded the timely implementation of the Convention by Chad and which continued to affect the fulfilment of Chad's obligations. The Committee that information on these actions and factors remain outstanding.

VI. Mine risk reduction

12. In 2016, Chad reported on the actions it has taken to effectively exclude the population from CHAs and SHAs, including through MRE programmes in a region (région du lac) that has not been reported previously to contain CHAs or SHAs. The Committee concluded that clarity on this issue would be welcome. The Committee further concluded that Chad had provided information on the beneficiaries of these actions disaggregated according to gender.

Senegal

I. Progress in implementation

13. In its initial extension request submitted in 2008, Senegal indicated that its original challenge amounted to 149 suspected hazardous areas, including 85 areas totalling approximately 11,183,359 square metres, 47 areas including 73.45 linear kilometres of roads or paths and 17 areas of an unknown size. At the time, Senegal also indicated that 231 localities had not been visited, 171 of which were inaccessible and 60 localities had been abandoned.

14. In its extension request submitted in 2015, Senegal reported that since its initial extension request, of the 149 suspected hazardous areas, 131 areas had been released through non-technical and technical survey and clearance. Senegal had also reported that of the 171 inaccessible localities 54 were cancelled and of the 60 abandoned localities 33 localities were addressed. In addition, Senegal reported that further non-technical surveys were conducted in 298 localities resulting in 288 localities being cancelled.

15. Senegal reported that since 2015, it cleared 9 areas totalling 61,637 square metres, including 3,043 square metres in 2015 and 58,594 square metres in 2016. 19 anti-personnel mine were found. In addition, Senegal reported the clearance of 39,735 square metres up to 31 March 2017. Senegal further reported that non-technical surveys were conducted in 72 of the 79 localities that were planned to be visited. As a result, 67 localities were cancelled, 5 confirmed hazardous areas (14,670.99 linear metres) were identified and 7 remain inaccessible.

16. The Committee concluded that since the submission of its last extension request, Senegal has provided some clarity with regards to progress in implementation. The Committee concluded that greater comparability with annual milestones of progress provided in extension requests would be welcome.

II. Clarity regarding remaining challenge

17. Senegal reported that 52 confirmed hazardous areas, including 41 totalling 529,027.276 square metres and 11 with an unknown size remain to be addressed. In addition, Senegal indicated that non-technical surveys need to be undertaken in 144 localities in 2019. The area remaining to be addressed has been estimated at 1,300,000 square metres.

18. The Committee concluded that with further survey activities planned during the period of the extension request and a number of localities remaining inaccessible at present, Senegal's remaining challenge will need to be further clarified when additional information becomes available.

III. National plans for clearance and survey

19. In 2017, Senegal submitted an updated work plan which indicates that 17 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) totalling 169,770.825 square metres will be addressed in 2017, 24 CHAs totalling 343,856.451 square meters and 11 CHAs of an unknown size will be addressed in 2018. The plan also indicates that during 2018, the remaining 144 localities will be subject to non- technical surveys. The areas which will have been identified as CHAs further to the surveys will be addressed in 2019-2020.

20. The Committee noted that the plan does not include a detailed budget for the activities presented and relies in part on the mobilisation of external financial contributions. The Committee concluded that regular updated information on efforts by Senegal to mobilise resources and outcomes of these efforts would be welcome. Senegal reported that in 2015-2016, Senegal received external support from the USA and that Senegal's own annual contribution amounted to 800,000,000 FCFA.

21. The Committee noted that Senegal's plan may be affected by the security situation and accessibility of areas which are due to be surveyed and that these factors may influence the implementation of the plan. The Committee concluded that information acquired by additional surveys will affect the implementation of the plan. The Committee concluded that it would welcome regular updated information on the security situation as well as on the results of any surveys.

IV. Efficient and expedient implementation

22. In its 2015 extension request, Senegal indicated that it developed National Mine Action Standards based on the United Nations' International Mine Action Standards

(IMAS). These provide information on its land release methods and specify criteria used to cancel land through non-technical and technical survey. Senegal reported that it updated its National Mine Action Standards in 2013 with the support of experts.

V. Actions in accordance with plans in extension requests and decisions on them

23. The Committee recalled that the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties (14MSP) had requested that Senegal provide updates with respect to a variety of commitments made and milestones contained in its extension request. The Committee noted that Senegal submitted information on outcomes of survey efforts and on past resource mobilization efforts and external financing. The Committee concluded that information on current efforts to mobilise sufficient resources to implement its plans would be welcome.

24. The Committee concluded that Senegal had acted in accordance with the 14MSP decision which requested Senegal to submit to the States Parties, by 30 April 2017, an updated work plan for the remaining period covered by the extension request. The Committee further concluded that the work plan contained an updated list of all areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, annual projections of which areas and area that would be dealt with each year during the remaining period covered by the request. However, the Committee concluded that similar projections would be welcome for survey work.

25. The Committee noted that precise updates on the development of the peace process dialogue could not be provided because the CNMAS is not a member of the negotiation group. The Committee concluded that Senegal had nonetheless provided an update on the security situation by indicating that recent developments in The Gambia had positively affected the north of Casamance, in particular in the Bignona department, where a massive return of population was recorded.

VI. Mine risk reduction

26. In 2017, Senegal reported on the actions it took in 2015-2016 to effectively exclude the populations from areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, including through marking and two mine education programmes financed by the CNMAS and two by the US State Department. The Committee underlined the importance of Senegal continuing to provide updated information on actions taken to exclude populations from areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines. In addition, Senegal reported that in 2016, there was no new casualty resulting from anti-personnel mines.