

**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**

13 October 2017

English  
Original: English  
English and Russian only

**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**

**Contents**

	<i>Page</i>
Tajikistan .....	2
Ukraine .....	3



## **Tajikistan**

### **I. Progress in implementation**

1. Tajikistan reported that, in 2016, it addressed a total 12 areas measuring 1,451,067 of confirmed hazardous areas (CHA) and suspected hazardous areas (SHA) with 496,796 square metres having been cleared, 294,835 square metres having been reduced and 659,436 square metres having been cancelled destroying in the process 1,248 anti-personnel mines and 206 UXOs.

2. The Committee further concluded that the information provided by Tajikistan on progress in implementation allowed for comparability. The Committee concluded that this information was disaggregated according to area cleared, reduced and cancelled.

### **II. Clarity regarding remaining challenge**

3. The Committee concluded that Tajikistan had provided a high degree of clarity regarding its remaining challenge by providing a summary table of all remaining CHAs and SHAs in each region, and the estimated size of the area concerned per region. Tajikistan reported that, as of the end of 2016, 147 CHAs measuring 7,764,256 square metres and 77 SHAs measuring 1,970,000 square metres remain to be addressed.

4. The Committee concluded that, with survey activities ongoing, Tajikistan's remaining challenge could be further clarified by presenting more precise information on the number of areas and size of these areas required to be addressed in the context of Article 5 obligations.

### **III. National plans for clearance and survey**

5. Tajikistan provided a detailed plan in its 2009 extension request leading towards completion clearly projecting geographical and quantified results. In 2014, Tajikistan reported that the plan presented in its request is not reflective of the current situation due to alteration in the planned activities, management issues, land release capacity and remaining contamination.

6. The Committee noted that Tajikistan provided an updated projection of outputs for clearance and survey in each of the three administrative regions contaminated with anti-personnel mines from 2017 to 2019 which will be addressed as follows: in 2017, 22 areas and 1,520,100 square metres, in 2018, 42 areas and 1,655,235 square metres, in 2019, 29 areas and 1,712,085 square metres. The Committee noted that of the 224 mined areas measuring 9,734,256 square metres Tajikistan intends to address 93 mined areas and 4,887,420 square metres, approximately half of the remaining challenge. The Committee also noted that Tajikistan indicated that it will need to increase its humanitarian demining capacity in order to meet its 1 April 2020 deadline. The Committee concluded that it would welcome updates from Tajikistan on the implementation of the plan and efforts to increase capacity.

### **IV. Efficient and expedient implementation**

7. In its 2009 extension request, Tajikistan provided a detailed description of its land release methods noting that these are undertaken in accordance with the National Mine Action Standards (NMAS) which take their lead from the IMAS. In 2014, Tajikistan reported that based on experiences gained during the last years, international best practices, new land release methodologies and new operational conditions, three new chapters were developed for the NMAS and that the 22 existing chapters of the NMAS were updated and revised by the NMAS Review Board in 2014 and finalised.

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

8. The Committee concluded that Tajikistan had provided updates with respect to a variety of commitments made and milestones contained in its extension request providing clarity on the situation on the Tajik-Uzbek border.

9. The Committee further recalled that Tajikistan could draw from increasing its frequency of contact with donors and by clearly communicating the socio-economic development benefits that would flow from completing Article 5 implementation and concluded that more information on this effort would be welcomed.

10. Tajikistan reported that in 2016 Tajikistan enhanced its information management capacity by providing refresher training and modernizing its information management system to IMSMA 6.0. In addition to this, Tajikistan indicated that it has developed and approved a national strategic plan 2017-2020.

## **VI. Mine risk reduction**

11. Tajikistan reported the efforts it has taken to effectively exclude the population from CHAs and SHAs. Tajikistan indicated that it places warning signs in the language of the local population and has mainstreamed MRE in the curriculum of educational institutions in vulnerable regions of the country to reduce possible risk. Tajikistan also indicated that in high risk areas it has carried out a series of activities on mine awareness and community outreach.

## **Ukraine**

12. At the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties Ukraine indicated that there are areas that are known or presumed to be mined by anti-personnel mines in the east of the country but that these areas are currently not under its effective control. Ukraine reported that the areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines are in the Donetsk region, Volnovasky district. Ukraine further reported that accurate information is missing on the type of anti-personnel mines, the quantity and the date of emplacement. Ukraine indicated that around 7,000 square kilometres were mined or suspected to be contaminated with anti-personnel mines and IEDs.

13. At the 2017 intersessional meetings, Ukraine indicated that, despite ongoing military operations in the east of Ukraine, clearance is carried out by the engineers demining units of the armed forces of Ukraine. Ukraine further reported that in 2016 a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine and Halo Trust, DDG and the FSD for the conduct of non-technical surveys. Ukraine reported that efforts are currently directed towards clearing infrastructure for the population, i.e., power lines, gas and water pipes, as well as roads and railway tracks in the Donetsk and Lugansk region. As of November 2016, two demining teams had cleared about 200 square kilometres and neutralised more than 210,000 mines and unexploded ordnance.

14. The Committee recalled the decision of the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties in which the States Parties expressed serious concern that Ukraine was at that stage in a situation of non-compliance with Article 5 and called on Ukraine to submit as soon as possible a request for extension in accordance with the process established by the States Parties at the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties. The Committee regrets that, despite its engagement with Ukraine, as of 15 September 2017, Ukraine has not submitted a request for extension in accordance with the decision of the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties and the process for requesting an extension established by the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties.

15. The Committee reiterates its offer to support Ukraine in preparing an extension request in any way it wishes and consistent with the Committee's mandate and the decision of the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties.

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