Tajikistan Request for Extension for consideration at the Second Review Conference

Meetings of Intersessional Committees of the Ottawa Convention
(24 – 29 May 2009, Geneva)
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Survey and manual clearance activity (as December 2008)

- Contamination suspected areas: 50,665,272 m²
  (3.174,000 m² along Tajik-Afghan border is not surveyed yet)
- Cleared: 2,270,830 m²
- Productive fields: 42,765,987 m² during re-survey
- Added new areas: 2,935,746 m² during re-survey
- Land Release: 44,538,107 m²
- Remaining Land: 9,383,321 m² + 7,734,000 m² (un-surveyed)
  + 7,130,323 m² (200 1000 x 500 fields)
- Found & Destroyed: more than 1958 mines, 2,084 UXO/GRM, and 6500 cartridges

During the initial survey (2004-2005) totally 159 Suspected Hazards Areas (SHA) have been identified covering a total size of 47,077,677 m² through Tajikistan.
As of December 2008, taking into account the results of land release activities, the identification of new areas, separation of bigger areas, and mined land records, there are currently 208 areas to address with an approximate total size of 9,465,631 m² and an additional 644 ha surveyed minefields with an approximate total size of 6,794,600 m² and an estimated 239,666 AP mines and 207.6 kg of explosives.

In Tajikistan, totally 568 areas with an approximate total size of 11,849,631 m² remain for clearance and survey.

Tajik-Afghan border (TAB)
115 confirmed mined areas with an approximate total size of 6,691,979 square meters left to clear in the TAB with additional 300 ha surveyed minefields with an approximate total size of 6,794,600 m², which contain an estimated 239,666 AP mines and 207.6 kg of explosives.

Tajik-Uzbek border (TUB)
As of December 2008, 87 areas are left to resurvey.

Central Region (CR)
As of December 2008, 36 BHAAs with an approximate total size of 3,446,241 square meters remain, with 19 being confirmed as mined areas and 17 of the 36 to be re-surveyed.
What are the circumstances that impede the ability of your State to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control within the requested extension period?

What major structural, technical or practical changes, if any, has your state planned for the period of the extension to ensure that your State will meet its article 5 obligations in the requested time frame?
The amount of time requested to fulfill our obligation is 9 years and 9 months (April 2010 - December 2019).

Following has been taken into account to rationalize this request:

- Existing manual clearance and MDD capacity
- One machine for mechanical demining
- ≈ 20% of total contaminated size will be reduced (based on analyses of survey reports, minefield records, characteristics of mined areas)

After reduction:
- ≈ 30% will be clear by the Mechanical Demining Machine (MDM)
- ≈ 20% will be clear by the Mine Detection Dogs (MDD)
- ≈ 50% will be clear by manual clearance Teams
- Average yearly clearance by Manual clearance, MDD and MDM Teams

Redo survey operations:
- Approximately 2,000,000 m² in the TAB and 1,500,000 m² in the Central Region will be reduced

Manual Clearance:
- Manual clearance will be implemented by 22 deminers working 8 hrs / 200 days annually
  - Average daily clearance using full excavation method: 2.4 m²/day (≈ 22 deminers)
  - Average yearly clearance by 22 deminers using full excavation method: 8,000-16,000
  - Average daily clearance using mine detector: 20-30 m²/day (≈ 22 deminers)
  - Average yearly clearance by 22 deminers using mine detector: 248,000-372,000
  - Average yearly clearance by 22 deminers: 256,000-388,000 m²/year

Mine Detection Dogs (MDD):
- Clearance will be implemented by 10 MDDs (2 other MDDs will be on reserve)
  - 10 MDDs working 8 hours / 200 days annually
  - Average daily production by one dog is = 10-20 m² / day
  - Average yearly production by one dog is = 30,000-40,000 m²/year
  - Average yearly clearance by 10 MDDs = 300,000 - 400,000 m²/year

Mechanical Demining Machine (MDM):
- Daily working hours for one mini-machine: 8 hours / 200 days annually
  - Average daily clearance by one mini-machine = 5,000 - 7,000 m²/day
  - Average yearly clearance by one mini-machine = 1,000,000 - 1,400,000 m²/year
Assumptions

From 14,649,531 m³ approximately 20% will be reduced.
After reducing from 13,899,431 m³ will be cleared:
• Approximately 30% by mine
• Approximately 20% by drag
• Approximately 50% manually

Yearly:
• Manual clearance – 254,395,000 m³
• Mine detection dogs – 250,000,000 m³
• Mechanical – 1,661,000 – 1,600,000 m³
• Area reduction by survey – 2,000,000 m³

Finally in 23 years:
• Area reduction – approximately 1,000,000 m³ by the end of 2009
• Manual clearance – approximately 8,500,000,000 m³ till 2013
• Mine detection dogs – approximately 2,500,000 m³ till 2015
• Mechanical – approximately 1,600,000 m³ till 2012

Leftover size:
9,059,631 m³ + 9,794,000 m³ = 14,853,631 m³

Total cleared size is 39 years = 14,649,531 m³

Extension Statement of Work

• Complete the re-survey operations in the 6 leftover districts in the TAB and 5 leftover districts in Central Region by December 2008;
• Clear the 5,601,370 m² 115 SHAs in the TAB by December 2010;
• Clear 5,764,000 m² of 360 unsurveyed minefields in the TAB by December 2010;
• Clear the 3,454,261 m² of 36 SHAs in the Central Region by December 2016;
• Totally clear 14,849,631 m² of 511 SHAs in the TAB and CR;
• Remove all warning signs from the cleared areas;
• Hold over all cleared areas to the Local Authorities by December 2019;
• Submit final Artic 6 report to the United Nations by 1 April 2020.

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What is your State’s plan to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State’s jurisdiction or control?
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<th>Land Release (ha)</th>
<th>Number of persons</th>
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What new methodologies, if any, are being explored or have been employed in your state’s effort to fulfill its Article 5 obligations during the requested extension period?

Land release methods and standards

Following clearing, survey and other land release methods will be used for the period of extension:

1. Area reduction by survey teams
2. Manual clearance
   - using Full Excavation Prod System (FEPS)
     - using mine detectors
3. Technical survey
   - using mine detectors
   - using mine detection dogs (MDD)
   - using machine

In the TAB all of the above mentioned methods will be used. In the Central Region all mentioned methods will be used except for mine detection dogs, due to the high vegetation.
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What financial and technical means has your State dedicated to ensuring the fulfillment of your State’s Article 5 obligations and what financial and technical means will your State dedicate for this purpose?

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What, if any, are your priorities for external assistance to support your State’s fulfillment of its Article 5 obligations up to and during the extension period requested by your State?