



ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION TENTH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES

ARTICLE 5 EXTENSION REQUESTS - CHAD

Statement by Australia

Statement delivered by Mr Philip Kimpton, First Secretary, Australian Permanent Mission, Geneva

30 November 2010

Australia thanks Chad for its application and welcomes the progress it has been able to achieve since the first extension request was granted in 2008. We are pleased to support the application overall.

There are a number of understandable factors that inhibited progress in Chad, including the regrettable delay in the availability of substantial amounts for demining. It is nevertheless disappointing that Chad continues to lack in 2010, as it did for its first extension request in 2008, sufficient information to provide a detailed implementation plan and an accurate estimate of the time required to complete implementation. However, we welcome Chad's commitment to renew efforts to understand the true remaining extent of the challenge and to develop plans accordingly. It is also a welcome sign that Chad has provided and is committed to providing substantial national resources to humanitarian demining.

We consider it positive that Chad has developed national standards and land release procedures, as well as Chad's commitment to release as much land as possible during the next three years and to mark all areas that could not be addressed.

We note Chad's commitment to a work plan for 2010-2012 which focuses on survey activities to acquire an understanding of the work that remains to be done and on prioritising work in the remaining areas, and that demining activities will take place during the period of the extension in areas where the presence of anti-personnel mines is known. We also note Chad's commitment to review entirely its strategic proposal in 2012, at which point the results of the survey will be known. We agree with the analysis that it would be beneficial for Chad to present to the 12MSP a revised

strategic plan. The decision on Chad's extension request should include this steps as an important precursor to the submission of a third extension request in 2013.

Pleased to inform the Meeting that Australia is in the final stages of concluding an agreement to provide assistance for clearance in Chad, to the value of \$1 million through UNMAS.