

Presentation of the analysis of Zimbabwe's extension request

President of the Eleventh Meeting of the States Parties

Agenda Item 9a

The analysing group was grateful for the effort made by Zimbabwe in preparing its request and for engaging with us in a cooperative manner.

This cooperative engagement led to Zimbabwe submitted a revised and substantially improved request.

While we noted that Zimbabwe had not complied with the principal commitment it had made in 2010 to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and to develop plans accordingly, we were satisfied that Zimbabwe has made efforts to build its capacity and improve its efficiency by engaging the support of international organizations and developing survey and clearance plans for the remaining areas.

We were especially pleased to note that Zimbabwe had signed MOUs with demining operators and had received training and equipment from the ICRC.

We welcomed Zimbabwe's commitment to work with partners to ensure the implementation of Zimbabwe's Article 5 obligations as soon as possible.

And we noted the importance of Zimbabwe undertaking efforts to speed administrative procedures to permit these partner organizations to carry out their work in an expedient manner.

Through its request, Zimbabwe has committed, by January 1st, 2015, to have built its capacity, improved its efficiency, carried out surveys and clearance and engaged those in a position to provide assistance.

With respect to surveys and clearance, we noted the importance of Zimbabwe making use of the full range of practical methods to release, with a high level of confidence, areas suspected of containing anti-personnel mines as recommended by the 9MSP.

Resources will be important to Zimbabwe to implement Article 5. In this context, we would consider important if Zimbabwe could provide clarity

regarding two different references to costs in its request and provide a more consolidated budget for the extension period.

We concluded by noting that, while it is unfortunate that almost 13 years since entry into force Zimbabwe is unable to specify how much work remains and how it will be carried out, it is positive that Zimbabwe intends to reinvigorate efforts to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and to develop plans accordingly.

We also concluded that the milestones contained in the request would greatly assist in assessing progress in implementation during the extension period.

In this regard, we noted that it would be beneficial if Zimbabwe provided updates relative to commitments noted in paragraphs 19 and 20 of our analysis and other commitments made in the request.