The analysing group noted that Mozambique had proceeded with implementation in a commendable manner since its original request for an extended deadline was granted in 2008, with more than double the areas addressed relative to 2008 plans thus compensating for the fact that Mozambique’s implementation challenge was more than double 2008 estimates.

We further noted that, while completion is now within sight, the implementation of Mozambique’s plan, by 31 December 2014, is contingent upon assumptions that may not hold:

- We noted in particular that meeting this deadline is subject to both the conclusion of a cooperation agreement with Zimbabwe and the ability of Mozambique to demine throughout calendar year 2014, which was not the case in 2013.

- We also noted that, as “temporary insecurity” had impeded demining in the past, additional incidents of it could impact timely completion of implementation.

The analysing group noted that the request does not contain benchmarks for progress which would assist Mozambique and all States Parties in assessing progress in implementation during the extension period, which will be especially important given that assumptions central to the plan may not hold.

In this regard, the analysing group recommended that the Convention would benefit from Mozambique informing the States Parties, by 1 March 2014, of the following:

a. Progress regarding the projections in the request regarding the number of areas and the amount of area that that would be reduced by 1 March 2014,

b. Time-bound benchmarks for progress for the extension period,

c. Progress in concluding a cooperation agreement with Zimbabwe,
d. Whether the demining efforts again had been affected by instances of “temporary insecurity,”

e. The role of the Mozambican Armed Defence Forces in supporting completion of Article 5 implementation, and

f. Resources obtained relative to needs expressed in the request, including resources provided by the Government of Mozambique itself.

It is important for the States Parties to closely monitor this situation.

While the Mozambican request is commendably ambitious, it is clear that certain risks persist.