



**STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS**  
**AT THE 17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES**

**DELIVERED BY DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE,  
MS. ANDREA PETRANYI,  
DURING THE INFORMAL PRESENTATION OF  
REQUESTS FOR EXTENSION OF DEADLINES  
PdN, XVIII, 26 November 2018**

Thank you, Madame *Vice-President* Chair.

I wish to thank the Committee on Article 5 Implementation for its important work, and for its analysis of the request submitted by Cyprus, which we fully endorse.

As regards the substance of Cyprus' request for a further three-year extension, not much needs to be added, since the reason behind it is straightforward. Regrettably, the circumstances on the ground that were found by the States-Parties to constitute legitimate justification for the initial request in 2012 and its subsequent renewal in 2015, remain unchanged. The authorities of the Republic of Cyprus are forcefully prevented from exercising effective control over a large area of the Government's sovereign territory in the northern Turkish-occupied part of the island, rendering it impossible to verify the status of known or suspected minefields within this area.

Allow me, Madam Chair, to thank the President of the 17<sup>th</sup> MSP, together with the Chairs and members of all the Committees, as well as the ISU for the thorough preparation of this Meeting and to wish all participants a successful and productive week.

Thank you.