

Cyprus -Committee on Article 5

At the outset allow me to thank Cyprus for its continuous engagement with the Committee.

Cyprus submitted its request for extension of its 1 March 2019 deadline on 2 February 2018 following which the Committee held a meeting with Cyprus to discuss its content.

The Committee noted with satisfaction that Cyprus had submitted its request in a timely manner and had engaged in a cooperative dialogue with the Committee. Cyprus' request is for 3 years, until 1 July 2022.

The **request** indicates that the circumstances that made it necessary for Cyprus to request an extension in 2012 remain unchanged. In this regard, it can be assumed that Cyprus will again evaluate the situation during the period leading to the extended deadline and form a fresh opinion as to whether matters have evolved so that it may be able to ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines and to arrive at a specific assessment of the time required for their destruction.

The Committee notes the necessity and importance that each State Party, which believes that it will be unable to implement Article 5.1 within its original or extended deadline, submits a request for an extension in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Convention and the decisions of the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties. In this regard, the Committee underlines the importance of Cyprus immediately providing information on possible changes to the status of the control of mined areas.