



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Request under Article 5(6): For an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with Article 5(1) of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction



Activity Undertaken to Meet Convention Obligations

- In 1982, an estimated 20,000 mines (both anti-personnel and anti-vehicle mines) remained within the 122 mined areas.
- 1,855 mines were immediately removed from mined areas.
- Stockpiles of 3,000 mines were also destroyed.
- All 122 mined areas perimeter-marked to exclude civilians.
- UK and Argentina agreed to a Joint Feasibility Study (2007).
- Since 2008, five phases of demining activity have cleared over 8,000 mines.



Challenges Impeding Completion by the Current Deadline

- Remote geographical location: logistical planning
- Limited capacity: limited accommodation and medical facilities
- Adverse weather conditions
- Terrain
- Isolated minefields with difficult access
- Minefield records were not created for all mined areas
- Environmental factors



Work Plan

- Phase 5 is a fully funded programme for the clearance of 79 mined areas (estimated total of 10,859,558 sq m) between 2016-2020.
- Phase 5 retains the same methods and standards of high quality land release processes, the highly experienced contractors; and the existing structures and institutions.
- Phase 5 will see the clearance of all but eight remaining areas (from an initial 122 mined areas identified in 1982).
- Phase 5 will also conduct technical survey in these eight areas to establish clearance requirements and costs for completion.



Conclusions

- Significant progress: clearance of over 8,000 anti-personnel mines supported by substantial UK funding of over \$50 million US dollars.
- The UK requests the opportunity to continue this valuable clearance activity for up to a further five years, revising the Article 5 deadline to 1 March 2024.
- The UK will inform future Meetings of States Parties of progress