Draft decisions on the request submitted by Nigeria for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

20 November 2020

1. The Meeting assessed the request submitted by the Nigeria for an extension of its deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 31 December 2021.

2. In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, while it is unfortunate that Nigeria, having declared completion of its Article 5 obligations under the Convention, had discovered newly mined areas under its jurisdiction or control, the Meeting welcomed Nigeria’s adherence with the decision of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties on how to address such situations.

3. In granting the request, the Meeting welcomed the fact that Nigeria is requesting only the period of time necessary to gather and assess data on landmine contamination and other relevant information with a view to develop a meaningful forward-looking plan based on this information. The Meeting further noted Nigeria’s commitment a subsequent request by 31 March 2021.

4. In this regard, the Meeting noted the importance of Nigeria developing its request through an inclusive process, taking into consideration the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities and including the following information, amongst other:

   a. Information of the security and access challenges faced by Nigeria in carrying out survey and clearance operations;

   b. detailed, costed and multi-year work plan for the extension period, containing information on progress made, an updated list of all areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, to the extent possible, using terminology consistent with the IMAS, annual projections of which areas and what area would be dealt with during the period covered by the request and by which organisation, matched to a revised detailed budget based on new funding levels;

   c. detailed, costed and multi-year plans for context-specific mine risk education and reduction in affected communities that are sensitive to gender, age, disability and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account;

   d. plans for the establishment of a sustainable national capacity to address previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas discovered following completion;

   e. the humanitarian, social, economic, and environmental implications of the extension; and

   f. resource mobilization efforts and external financing received, as well as resources made available by the government of Nigeria to support implementation efforts, including through efforts to establish the mine action centre and facilitate operations of international demining organisations and indigenous capacities, and the results of these efforts.

5. In granting the request, the Meeting further noted the importance, in addition to Nigeria reporting to the States Parties as noted above, of keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of other pertinent developments regarding the implementation of Article 5 during the period covered by
the request and other commitments made in the request at intersessional meetings and Meetings of the States Parties, as well as through its Article 7 reports using the Guide to Reporting.