

## **Decisions on the Request Submitted by Colombia for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention**

- i. The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Colombia for an extension of Colombia's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing to grant the request for an extension until 1 March 2021.
- ii. In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, while it is understandable that Colombia has asked for the maximum time available given the extent of the known or suspected contamination problem, Colombia is doing so based on an incomplete picture. In order to attain a better picture of the situation, the Meeting requested Colombia to provide additional clarity to the Eleventh Meeting of the States Parties, in 2011, regarding what areas are in the process of "Democratic Consolidation" and what areas currently provide the necessary security conditions to carry out humanitarian demining tasks, as well as the provision of more information concerning these areas.
- iii. Also in granting the request, the Meeting noted that, after almost ten years since entry into force, Colombia does not have the information in place to report in a more precise manner on the location of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines and hence to develop an implementation plan based on concrete information. In this context, the Meeting requested Colombia to provide an update to the Eleventh Meeting of the States Parties on steps that are being taken to develop and implement more effective methods to determine the actual location and size of suspected hazardous area in municipalities where this may be possible.
- iv. Also in granting the request, the Meeting noted that, given the extremely ambitious resource mobilisation projections and given the importance of a sustained high level of external support, Colombia could benefit from developing as soon as possible a resource mobilisation strategy which included clarity regarding its national commitment during the extension period.
- v. Also in granting the request, the Meeting noted that, given the activities Colombia is undertaking initially in 14 municipalities during the period 2011 to 2013 as well as other efforts to more closely define the level of contamination, and, given that Colombia has defined specific objectives for the development of methodologies to support mine clearance operations by its armed forces and civilian organizations, Colombia should have a much clearer understanding of the location and nature of contamination by the end of that period as well as on steps that can be taken to address this contamination. The Meeting also noted that Colombia has provided a clearance plan only for the period 2011 to 2013. In this context, the Meeting requested Colombia to present to the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties, in 2013, a revised implementation plan that contains and takes into account a clearer and more substantiated understanding of the location and nature of contamination and that includes revised annual projections of which areas would be addressed when and how. In addition, the Meeting requested Colombia, in accordance with Action 13 of the Cartagena Action Plan, to provide updates relative to these and other commitments at meetings of the Standing Committees, at Meetings of the States Parties and at Review Conferences.