

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

- a. The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Angola for an extension of Angola's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1. While a number of substantive concerns were raised, the Meeting decided to grant the request for an extension until 1 January 2018, taking into account a number of considerations, including the commitment expressed by Angola to complete Article 5 implementation.
- b. In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, while it may be unfortunate that, after almost ten years after entry into force, a State Party is unable to account for what remains to be done to implement article 5.1, particularly given the significant investment in humanitarian demining in Angola over the past decade, including the investment already made in conducting surveys and information management, it is positive that Angola intends to take steps to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and to develop plans accordingly that precisely project the amount of time that will be required to complete Article 5 implementation.
- c. Also in granting the request, the Meeting noted that, by requesting a five-year extension, Angola was projecting that it would need approximately five years from the date of submission of its request to obtain clarity regarding the remaining challenge, produce a detailed plan and submit a second extension request. The Meeting also noted the importance of non-technical survey and efforts to update Angola's database to obtaining this clarity. The Meeting further noted that the request indicates that the non-technical survey process will take only two years, it may take less than five years to garner a necessary deeper understanding of contamination and to plan accordingly.
- d. Also in granting the request, the Meeting requested that Angola provide additional information and updates on the following:
 - i. Given the importance of external support to ensure timely implementation, the meeting requested that Angola provide further clarity at the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties on estimated costs for implementation, including by clarifying the costs that Angola's State budget would cover as part of the overall cost of implementation.
 - ii. Given the extremely large figures in the request which are attributed to expected demining progress by public institutions, the meeting requested that Angola provide further clarity at the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties on the actual size and location of the areas to be addressed by public entities, annual and geographically-specific milestones of expected progress, and a specification of how the areas to be addressed by public entities relate to the 2,116 remaining suspected hazardous areas reported in the request.
 - iii. In noting that Angola indicates in its request the number of square metres which will be cleared by operators over the course of 2013-2017, the meeting requested that Angola indicate, at the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties, how this amount of area relates to the number of remaining suspected hazardous areas reported in the extension request, how these clearance activities have been prioritized, and how this activity relates, if at all, to the non-technical survey project.

- iv. In noting that Angola's non-technical research project aims to update the data of suspected areas in the country and reflect them in CNIDAH's database, and, in noting that the request indicates that this activity is projected to take place during the period 2011-2013, the Meeting requested that Angola report to the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties on the outcomes of this project, including by providing an update on the number, location and size of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines.
- v. In noting that Angola indicated that the HALO Trust and NPA have conducted surveys in various locations in Angola and that, if Angola's national authority concludes that these surveys remain up-to-date, there would be no need to repeat survey work in the areas in question, the Meeting requested that Angola report to the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties on the assessment of survey information it is carrying out in partnership with the HALO Trust and NPA.
- vi. In welcoming the efforts of Angola to obtain increased clarity regarding its implementation challenge through measures such as "database clean-up", the Meeting requested that Angola report to the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties on the outcomes of efforts to ensure the integrity of a national mine action information system, including efforts to obtain, enter and manage information provided by all actors carrying out survey and / or demining activities in Angola.
- vii. Given that Angola's non-technical research project is projected to take place during the period 2011-2013 and given Angola's on-going efforts to update its database and correct discrepancies, the Meeting requested that Angola report to the Third Review Conference on its revised knowledge of the size and location of all areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in mined areas under Angola's jurisdiction or control and provide this information as required in accordance with Article 7.
- viii. The Meeting requested that Angola submit, to the Third Review Conference, a plan, on the basis of its revised knowledge of its challenge, providing updated specifications for mine clearance and survey for the period between the Third Review Conference and the extended deadline. The Meeting further requested that Angola report on an on-going basis at meetings of the Standing Committees and Meetings of the States Parties on efforts to implement Article 5 relative to the updated plan that it presents the Third Review Conference.