

**Decisions on the request submitted by Niger for a deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention**

**5 December 2013**

- a. The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Niger for an extension of Niger'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 31 December 2015.
- b. In granting the request, the Meeting noted that Niger demonstrated its commitment to adhere to the obligations enshrined in Article 5 of the Convention and the decisions of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties relating to the discovery of previously unknown mined areas.
- c. Also in granting the request, the Meeting noted that while the technical survey and preparation for demining work would take place in 2014, the actual demining work would take place in 2015. In this context, the Meeting noted the length of time between the discovery of the mined areas and the start of work and that Niger may find itself in a situation wherein it could proceed with implementation faster than suggested by the amount of time requested.
- d. Also in granting the request, the Meeting requested that Niger inform the States Parties, by mid-2014, of (a) the circumstances that led to anti-personnel mines being used in Niger, (b) the methods used to identify the area known and areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines taking into account the United Nations' International Mine Action Standard's emphasis on a basis of evidence for defining "suspected hazardous areas", and (c) the humanitarian, social, economic, and environmental implications. The Meeting further requested Niger to report annually to the States Parties, beginning in mid-2014, on the following:
  - i. Progress made relative to the activities listed in its 2014-2015 work plan;
  - ii. The outcomes of survey efforts and how additional clarity obtained may change Niger's understanding of the remaining implementation challenge;
  - iii. Changes in the security situation and how these changes positively or negatively affect implementation; and
  - iv. External financing received and resources made available by the Government of Niger to support implementation.
- e. Also in granting the request, the Meeting noted that monthly benchmarks for progress contained in the request would greatly assist Niger and all States Parties in assessing progress made in implementation during the extension period. In this context, the Meeting requested Niger to provide updates relative to these benchmarks at meetings of the Standing Committees, Meetings of the States Parties and Review Conferences. The Meeting further requested Niger to keep the States Parties regularly apprised of Niger's national financial and in-kind contribution to implementation, efforts to mobilise external resources and the results of these efforts.