

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

1 December 2016

- a. The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Ecuador for an extension of Ecuador's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with Article 5.1.
- b. The Meeting noted that Ecuador had acted prudently by providing information on the special and unforeseen circumstances that prevented it from meeting its deadline and submitting a request for extension which would allow it to remain in compliance with the Convention and submit a request for extension in accordance with the process established by the States Parties.
- c. The Meeting noted that in order to function appropriately this process requires requests to be submitted nine months prior to the meeting during which they would be considered in order for an analysis of the request to be prepared and for a cooperative exchange between the requesting State and the Committee on Article 5 Implementation to take place. The Meeting noted that the late submission of a request by Ecuador due to force majeure did not permit the Committee on Article 5 Implementation to carry out their mandate to analyse the request.
- d. In this context, the Meeting noted that Ecuador and the Convention as a whole would benefit from a full extension request process taking place, and agreed to grant Ecuador a three month extension until 31 December 2017. In addition, the Meeting requested that Ecuador submit a detailed request, in accordance with the established process, by 31 March 2017, in order for Ecuador and the States Parties to benefit from a cooperative exchange on the request.