

Decisions on the Request Submitted by Argentina for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention¹

4 December 2009

24. Taking into account the analyses presented by the President of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties of the requests submitted under article 5 of the Convention and the requests themselves, the Conference took the following decisions:
- i. The Conference assessed the request submitted by Argentina for an extension of Argentina's deadline for 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 January 2020.
 - ii. In granting the request the Conference noted that, while Argentina had put forward a "schematic plan" for implementing article 5 in mined areas that it has reported to be under its jurisdiction or control, Argentina itself has indicated that it "does not exercise territorial control over the land to be demined." The conference further noted the importance of a State Party providing information on changes to the status of the control of mined areas when such a State Party has indicated that matters related to control affect the implementation of article 5 during extension periods.
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25. Also in the context of considering the submission of requests under article 5 of the Convention, the Conference noted that three of the States Parties that had submitted requests for extensions had highlighted the importance of obtaining resources in order to implement the plans contained in their requests. The Conference encouraged requesting States Parties, as relevant, to develop as soon as possible resource mobilisation strategies that take into account the need to reach out to a wide range of national and international funding sources. The Conference furthermore encouraged all States Parties in a position to do so to honour their commitments to fulfilling their obligations under article 6.4 of the Convention to provide assistance for mine clearance and related activities.
26. Also in the context of considering the submission of requests under article 5 of the Convention, the Conference noted that the ongoing effort to implement article 5 during States Parties' requested extension periods has the potential of making a significant contribution to improving human safety and socio-economic conditions.
27. Also in the context of considering the submission of requests under article 5 of the Convention, the Conference noted that the accounting of the remaining mined areas contained in many extension requests would serve as a foundation for a resource mobilisation strategy and greatly assist both requesting States Parties and all others in assessing progress in implementation during the extension period. The Conference encouraged those requesting States Parties that have not yet done so to provide an accounting of annual milestones of progress to be achieved during extension periods.

¹ Excerpts from the Final Report of the 30 November – 4 December 2009 Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, United Nations Document # APLC/CONF/2009/9.

The Conference furthermore encouraged all States Parties whose requests had been considered by the Second Review Conference to provide updates relative to their accounting of remaining mined areas and / or annual benchmarks for progress at meetings of the Standing Committees, at Meetings of the States Parties and at Review Conferences.

28. Also in the context of considering the submission of requests under article 5 of the Convention, the Conference warmly welcomed the report presented by the President of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties on the process for the preparation, submission and consideration of requests for extensions to article 5 deadlines, as contained in document and agreed to encourage States Parties, as appropriate, to implement the recommendations contained therein.