Comments and Expectations
Mine Clearance Deadline Extension Request

13th Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty
December 2013

CHAD

Extension requested: until 31 December 2019 (6 years)

Key comments on the request:

- This is Chad's third extension request. Despite efforts made, the full picture of contamination is still not known as further survey is required in a number of areas.
- The request does not provide details on activities for the period 2018-2019.
- Chad acknowledges that management issues have hampered past progress, and puts forward a plan for building national capacity.

Expectations for the extension period:

The request acknowledges that poor management and financial transparency issues have impeded clearance activities. Such an acknowledgement is positive in the ICBL's view. *The ICBL encourages Chad to report to States Parties on management changes and capacity building measures, and to increase dialogue with donors and other stakeholders as planned in the 2013-2017 Mine Action Strategy.*

The request does not provide information on the work plan for 2018-2019. Chad noted that the period would be used to tackle residual contamination. However, it is usually acknowledged that residual contamination is tackled outside of any extension period. In that perspective the ICBL supports the Analyzing Group's recommendation that Chad should share a detailed work plan by April 2014, including information on activities for 2018-2019.

Chad notes that a mid-term review of clearance activities is planned for 2015 further to the review of the National Development Plan. *Chad should commit to sharing the outcome of the 2015 review with States Parties and should ensure that any modification to the clearance plan does not negatively impact the end date.*

Chad notes that land cleared in the past years has not been handed over to local populations, but that handover will be ensured from now on. *Throughout the extension period, Chad should report to States Parties on land released and handed over.*

At the 12MSP, States Parties endorsed a recommendation from the President of the 11MSP whereby "States Parties should consider taking decisions on requests that call for both mid-term assessments (…) and revised plans to be submitted three to five years after requests

have been granted."[1] *The ICBL recommends that the decision on Chad's request calls for both a mid-term assessment and the submission of a revised plan.*

[1] Reflections on the Article 5 Extension Process, 27 September 2012, APLC/MSP.12/2012/4