

Decisions on the request submitted by Turkey for an extension of the 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 Turkey for an extension of Turkey'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 1 March 2022.
- b. In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, while no significant demining had taken place in Turkey since entry into force, Turkey had nevertheless made a clear commitment through its extension request to start mine clearance operations and ultimately comply with its obligations by 1 March 2022.
- c. Also in granting the request, the Meeting noted that, with speedy establishment of a national mine action authority (NMAA) and national mine action centre (NMAC), Turkey may find itself in a situation wherein it could complete implementation before 1 March 2022. The Meeting also noted that any additional delays in the establishment of a NMAA and NMAC should not further delay demining efforts from proceeding.
- d. Also in granting the request, the Meeting, in recalling that the number of efforts to be carried out during the period 2013-2014 are crucial to the success of the implementation of Turkey's plan to implement article 5 during the extension period, requested that Turkey report to the Third Review Conference on the following:
 - i. The tendering processes for the clearance of areas along Turkey's border with Syria, the results of any related demining efforts, and annual milestones of expected progress;
 - ii. The tendering processes for the clearance of areas along Turkey's eastern borders;
 - iii. Developments in the establishment of the NMAA and the NMAC; and
 - iv. Progress in the clearance of mined areas in areas other than borders.
- e. Also in granting the request, the Meeting noted that the plan submitted by Turkey is subject to timeliness of tendering and contracting processes, the establishment of the NMAA and the NMAC, and the timely receipt of funding from the European Union, and therefore the plan may be subject to considerable change. In this context, the Meeting requested Turkey to submit to the States Parties, by 1 March 2015, an updated detailed work plan for the remaining period covered by the extension. The Meeting requested that this work plan contain an updated list of all areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, annual projections of which areas and what area would be dealt with during the remaining period covered by the request and by which organization, and a detailed budget.