

## Republic of Mozambique

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
National Demining Institute

## Third Review Conference of the Mine Ban Convention

Maputo, 24 JUNE 2014

## Mozambique Update on Article 5 Implementation

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Mr. Co-Chair,

In 2013, Mozambique submitted its request to extend the Article 5 deadline by 10 months until 31 December 2014. When the 13th Meeting of State Parties approved this request in December 2013, it also requested Mozambique to submit regular reports to the State Parties on progress achieved towards completion during the extension period. Mozambique submitted its first progress report to the ISU on 1 April 2014 and is preparing a 2<sup>nd</sup> progress report to be submitted to the ISU on 1 July 2014. The progress reports include more detailed information on the national mine action plan for 2014 and the progress achieved so far. Today, allow me to provide a brief summary of the main points.

In 2014, Mozambique has made good progress towards its objective of completing all demining tasks by the end of 2014. In March of this year, demining teams completed operations in Maptuo Province, making it the sixth province out of 10 Provinces to be declared in compliance with article 5 of the Mine Ban Convention. The IND expects that in August 2014, Inhambane Province will become the seventh province to be declared in compliance with article 5 of the Mine Ban Convention.

As of the 14th of June 2014, there remained 123 areas suspected and confirmed to be contaminated with landmines totaling 4,516,084 square meters in 12

Districts and 4 provinces to be cleared and released before Mozambique's extended Article 5 deadline of 31 December 2014. In June 2014, the IND assessed the remaining situation with input from the humanitarian demining operators in Mozambique. The assessment concluded that the demining capacity currently deployed in the country is still capable of completing the clearance and release of all known mined areas by the end of the extension period on 31 December 2014, provided that safe and secure environment allows the demining teams to access all known suspected areas. During the first half of the year, some demining tasks in the Province of Sofala remained inaccessible due to insecurity in the local area. IND is conducting regular evaluations of the situation with the local authorities and humanitarian operators and will deploy demining teams to these areas as soon as the security situation allows.

The 2014 annual work plans of the National Demining Institute and all operators in Mozambique aim to complete the clearance and release of all known mined areas in the remaining 4 Provinces by the end of 2014. However, the full implementation of the annual work plans will depend on sufficient resources being allocated in timely manner and access to all areas suspected or confirmed to contain landmines.

In closing, the Government of Mozambique reaffirms its commitment to destroy all Anti-Personnel Mines in the country as a pre-condition to social and economic development and in accordance with its obligations under article 5 of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

Thank you.

Maputo, 24 June 2014













