

## **PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 5 BY MOZAMBIQUE**

### **COMMITTEE ON ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION (Austria, Canada, Norway, Zambia)**

#### **Intersessional Meetings 30 June -2 July 2020**

1. The Committee recalled that on 17 September 2015 Mozambique declared that it had completed the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control. In declaring completion, Mozambique indicated that 9 suspected mined areas remained on their records submerged under water on account of the major flooding of 2000, diverting the Limpopo River. Mozambique reported that there may be very little probability that mines would be detected in those submerged areas.
2. Since declaring completion, Mozambique reported that five of these areas became accessible in 2016 and that technical survey resulted in their subsequent cancellation. In 2018 Mozambique reported that the four remaining areas measuring 1,881 square metres remain inaccessible. Mozambique further reported that these mined areas are continuously monitored and will be addressed once the water level recedes and access is gained for their clearance. Mozambique further reported its commitment to continue including these areas in its transparency report and keep the States Parties informed on the status.
3. Mozambique reported that in 2019 the four areas measuring 1,881 square metres remain inaccessible. The Committee welcomed Mozambique's update on inaccessible areas. The Committee encourages Mozambique to continue to report in accordance with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and employing the Guide to Reporting (Action #22, #8).
4. The Committee would welcome further information on Mozambique's effort to monitor the mined areas and efforts put in place to effectively exclude the population from these areas (Action 32).