

Nigeria's Extension Request – ICBL Comments
19th Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty, 15-19 November 2021

Thank you, Mr. President,

We thank Nigeria for submitting its request and additional information, and the Committee for its analysis.

The ICBL has provided extensive comments on Nigeria's request throughout the year and this time we will keep our comments very brief.

We are very pleased to see Nigeria's long-awaited re-engagement with the treaty and the initial plans to address the contamination. It is overdue. The new contamination affecting Nigeria, mostly from mines of an improvised nature, has resulted in more than 1,000 casualties since 2015.

For its extension request to be complete, Nigeria still needs to provide a full workplan for the requested period, including for survey and clearance in accessible areas, a detailed multi-year work plan for risk education, as well as a clear budget and a resource mobilization plan.

The ICBL therefore, strongly suggests that Nigeria – in accordance with the timeline of activities presented in its request - be granted one year only, until December 2022, to establish coordination and to develop the key missing elements. At that point Nigeria should request a further extension to implement its plan in the accessible areas.

Lastly, we ask Nigeria of its obligation to provide annual updates through Art. 7 transparency reporting, which Nigeria has not done since 2012.

Thank you.