



Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
2022 Intersessional Meetings
Matters related to the mandate of the Committee on Article 5
Implementation
20-22 June 2022

Statement by MAG
Check against delivery

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MAG welcomes the extension requests submitted this year and we would like to provide some reflections on the request submitted by Guinea-Bissau in particular.

We commend Guinea-Bissau for the submission of a detailed extension request, which provides a good overview of the current state of play and the challenges the CAAMI is facing in ensuring compliance with its Convention obligations. We welcome the short two-year period requested in order to establish a clear baseline of contamination, put in place the structures and resources required for a sustainable mine action programme and start preparations for clearance.

Having worked closely with Guinea-Bissau over the past year, we have witnessed their commitment and national ownership and we hope this will be matched with the international cooperation and assistance required for Guinea-Bissau to achieve the objectives it has set out in this extension request.

The case of Guinea-Bissau is a reminder of the importance of establishing sustainable national capacities to address mined areas discovered after completion, as well as to manage remaining contamination from other explosive ordnance. MAG is committed to working with Guinea Bissau and national implementing partners to ensure a more sustainable approach to completion this time around.

I have some general remarks as well, but I will ask for the floor again under the last point under this agenda item.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

ENDS.