

Decisions on the request submitted by Eritrea for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

1. The Conference assessed the request submitted by Eritrea for an extension of its deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with Article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extended deadline until 31 December 2027.
2. In granting the request, the Conference noted that Eritrea had not provided updated information on progress in implementation of its Article 5 obligations since its last extension request was granted by the Fourth Review Conference in 2024 is a matter of concern. The Conference also noted that Eritrea has not complied with the decision of the Twenty-First Meeting on Eritrea's request for extension.
3. In granting the request, the Conference noted that Eritrea had not acted in accordance with the agreed "process for the preparation, submission and consideration of requests for extensions to Article 5 deadlines", which was established at the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties, preventing the Committee on Article 5 Implementation from carrying out its mandate to "prepare and submit to the States Parties in advance of Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences an analysis of each request for an Article 5 extended deadline".
4. In granting the request, the Conference welcomed Eritrea's efforts to conduct and finalize a preliminary assessments involving key policy and operational stakeholders on the restructuring and transitioning of the Eritrean Demining Authority. The Conference noted that the preliminary assessment will enable Eritrea to prepare and submit a detailed work plan by 31 March 2027 and welcomed Eritrea providing updated information to the States Parties in this regard by the Twenty-Second Meeting of the States Parties. To this end, Eritrea will continue engaging with the President of the Convention, Chair of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation, and the Implementation Support Unit (ISU).
5. In granting the request, the Conference welcomed Eritrea's commitment to adhere to the process established by the States Parties and submit a request by 31 March 2027 for consideration by the Twenty-Fourth Meeting of the States Parties. The Conference further noted that the submission of Eritrea's request by 31 March 2027 will permit a cooperative dialogue with the Committee on Article 5 Implementation to take place, as envisaged by the extension request process.
6. In granting the request, the Conference also noted that Eritrea would benefit from seeking assistance from the Convention's Implementation Support Unit (ISU) in the preparation of its request, as required, including by inviting the ISU for an in-country visit, in order to ensure that Eritrea benefits from support in the development of its extension request in line with lessons learned and decisions of the States Parties concerning requests for extension.

7. In granting the request, the Conference further noted the importance of Eritrea keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of implementation of Article 5 at Intersessional Meetings and Meetings of the States Parties as well as through its Article 7 reports, using the Guide for Reporting.

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