Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

19 November 2024

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Items 7 and 11 of the provisional agenda

Presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analyses of these requests Consideration of submissions of States Parties as provided for in Article 5

Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction on Anti-Personnel Mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

Executive summary

Submitted by Eritrea*,**1

- 1. Since the date of submission of Eritrea's last request for extension in 2023, Eritrea has continued working to address the process of restructuring the Eritrean Demining Authority (EDA), which impeded the implementation of Eritrea's commitment under Article 5, as highlighted in its 2023 request. The process of restructuring was launched to ensure the Authority is best placed to tackle the remaining challenge. As Eritrea indicated in 2023, the restructuring of the EDA and presented obstacles to the submission of the request containing detailed data on the progress made to date, as well as the presentation of a work plan for the period beyond Eritrea's deadline of 31 December 2024.
- 2. The Government of Eritrea, nonetheless, is committed to the Convention and implementation of the obligations under Article 5 as demonstrated by its participation and engagement during the Twenty-First Meeting of State of Parties. Furthermore, with the aim of presenting a detailed work plan, the Government has been conducting preliminary assessments involving key policy and operational stakeholders. However, due to the time constraint and outstanding technical challenges, the envisaged extension request could not be submitted for consideration of the Fifth Review Conference. While restructuring and transitioning of the EDA is being finalized, rigorous assessments will be conducted to enable Eritrea to prepare and submit a detailed work plan by 31 March 2027. To this end, Eritrea will continue engaging with the Presidency, Chair of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation, and the Implementation Support Unit (ISU). Thus, Eritrea wishes to request that State Parties grant Eritrea an interim extension of three years until 31 December 2027.

^{*} The present document is being issued without formal editing.

^{**} The present report was submitted after the deadline in order to reflect the most recent developments/information.

Request submitted through a note verbale by the Permanent Mission of the State of Eritrea to the United Nations in New York addressed to H.E. Ly Thuch, President of the Fifth Review Conference of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and copied to the Chair of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Committee on Article 5 Implementation.