



## ZIMAC UPDATE ON ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION

BY

COL MB NCUBE CZM 'psc' 'ndc'ZW MSc IS UZ



## Introduction

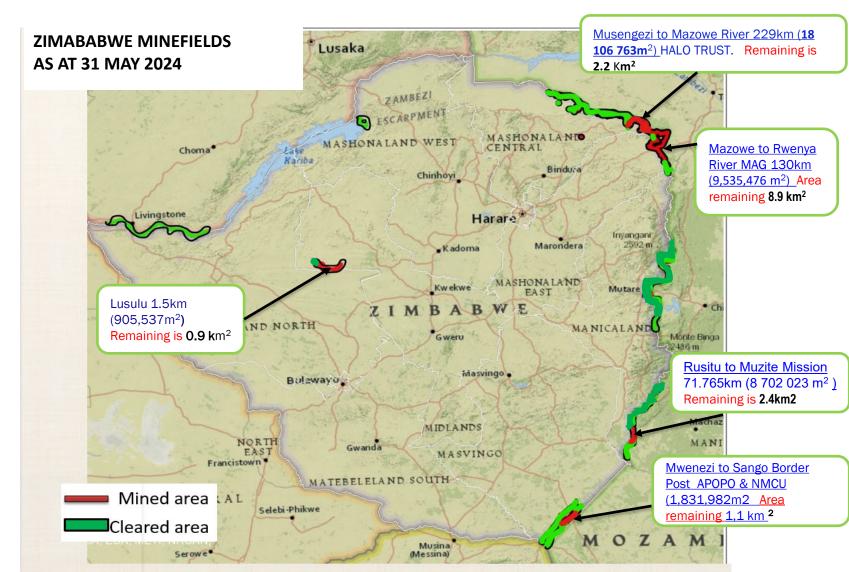


The Zimbabwe demining programme is progressing well albeit behind schedule as the country strives to fulfill its obligation of mine free although the 2025 deadline seems unattainable. Work remains on five (05) of the country's Provinces as shown on the map and subsequent statistics.



### **Remaining Contamination**







## **Remaining Contamination Cont'd**



The remaining contamination as at 31 May 2024 stands at 15,431,642 m<sup>2</sup>.

Covering five Provinces namely:

Matebeleland North - 869,322 m<sup>2</sup>.

Masvingo - **1,063,506 m<sup>2</sup>**.

Manicaland - **2,434,339** m<sup>2</sup>.

Mashonaland East - **8,899,641 m<sup>2</sup>**.

Mashonaland Central -2,153,204 m<sup>2</sup>.



# Mine Awareness And Victim Assistance Commemoration







Among the attendees that graced the commemoration were the current and potential donors, mine victim assistance practitioners, government officials and international and national media.



# Challenges that Affected Zimbabwe's Programme



- Natural disasters.
- Drastic cut in funding.
- Obsolete equipment.





## **Look Forward**







- Continue funding and re-equipping the NMCU.
- The Government has placed demining as of high importance and high priority.



## **Conclusion**



The Zimbabwe Government remains fully committed to meet its obligations under the APMBC Convention. However, the challenge is beyond the Government's resources and as such, international assistance is highly sought.



## **Q&A Session**















#### **ZIMBABWE UPDATE ON ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION**

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The Zimbabwe demining programme is progressing well albeit behind schedule as the country strives to fulfill its obligation of mine free although the 2025 deadline seems unattainable. Work remains on five (05) of the country's Provinces as shown on the map and subsequent statistics.

#### **State of Minefields in Zimbabwe**

2. <u>Map showing the minefields and remaining challenges</u>



Initial contamination - 310,650,000 m<sup>2</sup>

Area cleared - **295,218,358 m**<sup>2</sup>

Remaining contamination as at 31 May 2024 stands at **15,431,642 m<sup>2</sup>**.

Covering five Provinces namely:

Matebeleland North – **869,322 m<sup>2</sup>**.

Masvingo - **1,063,506 m**<sup>2</sup>.

Manicaland - **2,434,339 m**<sup>2</sup>.

Mashonaland East - **8,899,641 m<sup>2</sup>**.

Mashonaland Central – **2,153,204 m**<sup>2</sup>.

3. From the above statistics, it is now certain that the 2025 deadline is **no longer achievable** as such Zimbabwe will request an additional extension period. The target for 2024 is to release **5,545,000 m**<sup>2</sup>, if this target is met we can safely say by the end of 2026 or early 2027 the country would meet its Article 5 obligation provided the current capacity remains or is increased hence we plead with our donors for continuous support and also solicit for others to come on board.

# INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR MINE AWARENESS AND VICTIM ASSISTANCE

4. In a bid to continue soliciting for continued donor funding support and advocacy, Zimbabwe belatedly commemorated the above subject. To show the Government commitment in Zimbabwe programme, the occasion was attended by the Honourable Minister of Defence. Among the attendees that graced the commemoration were the current and potential donors, mine victim assistance practitioners, government officials and international and national media.

#### **Challenges that Affected Zimbabwe Programme**

- 5. Zimbabwe like any other States Parties was affected by natural disasters. Furthermore, there was a drastic cut in funding to our demining partners towards the end of 2022 into mid-2023, leading to capacity reduction. All four (04) international demining organisations accredited to Zimbabwe had to lay-off a sizeable number of demining teams. There were also challenges in re-equipping the NMCU. This resulted in failing to meet the 2023 target which was a turning point for meeting the 2025 deadline.
- 6. On this aspect, by the end of 2023 operators received a boost in funding and the NMCU was partially equipped. This brought bright expectations going into the 2024 demining calendar.

#### **Look Forward**

- 7. ZIMAC looks forward to:
  - a. Continue funding and re-equipping the NMCU up to the end and beyond to deal with any residual risk contamination.
  - b. The Government has placed demining as of high importance and high priority to ensure the country make strides to fulfil its obligation.

#### **Conclusion**

8. The Zimbabwe Government remains fully committed to meet its obligations under the APMBC Convention. However, the challenge is beyond the Government's resources and as such, international assistance is highly sought.

#### I THANK YOU!!!

