



ZIMBABWE'S SUMMARY OF ARTICLE ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION – EXTENSION REQUEST

BY

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INTRODUCTION



- Zimbabwe Article 5 Implementation current deadline is: **31 December 2025.**
- Zimbabwe is requesting an extension of: **Five (05) years until 31 December 2030.**
- Remaining challenge that was to be addressed at the time of submission of Zimbabwe's last extension request stood at **61, 793, 990 m².**



PROGRESS MADE



- Since the last extension request, Zimbabwe's has achieved the following:
 - ❖ Areas released – **55, 819, 413 m²**
 - ❖ Cancellation – **8, 800, 627 m²**
 - ❖ Reduction – **31, 397, 905 m²**
 - ❖ Clearance – **15, 625, 681 m²**
 - ❖ **Additional - 6,024,922 m²**
 - ❖ Anti-Personnel Mines destroyed – **213, 924**



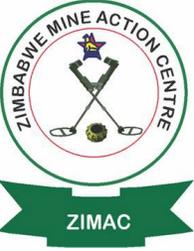
CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH IMPEDED COMPLETION BY 2025



- Circumstances which impeded the ability of Zimbabwe to fulfil its mine clearance obligations under Article 5 as originally planned are as follows:
 - ❖ **Natural disasters** - Despite demining operations being designated as essential service, during the Covid-19 era, demining organisations operated at less than half capacities and in some cases operations were stopped due to cases recorded within camps.
 - ❖ **Funding** - The donors reduced funding to the international organisations and in some cases completely withdrew. This resulted in operators reducing capacity which in turn led to reduced output.



CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH IMPEDED COMPLETION BY 2025 CONT'D



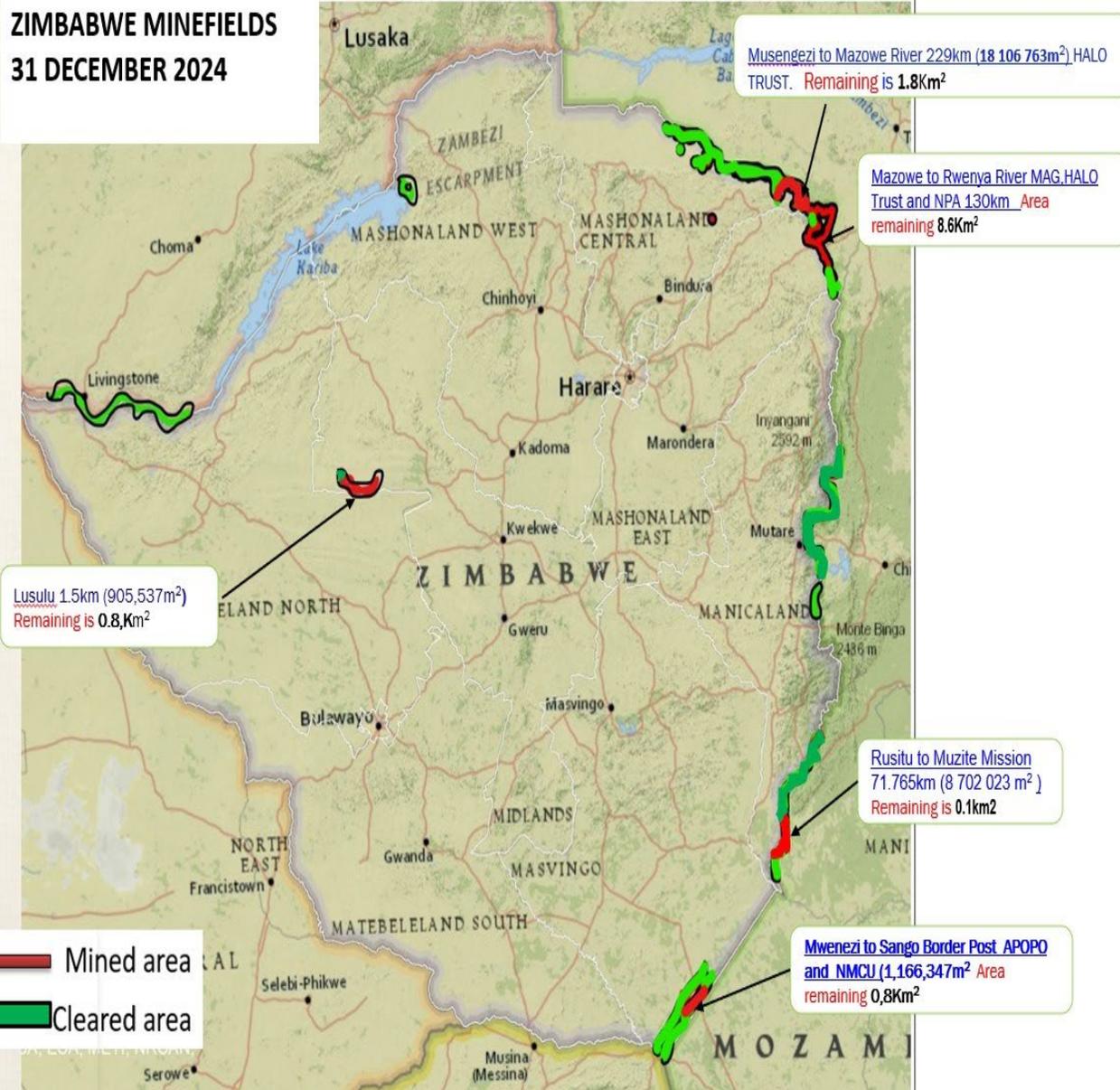
- ❖ **Insufficient demining equipment** - There were challenges in re-equipping NMCU. This resulted in capacities lying idle thereby negatively affecting planned output.
- ❖ **Delayed resumption of work by other operators** - When Zimbabwe submitted its fifth extension request, MAG and APOPO were set to start operations at the beginning of the extension, however, the 2 organisations commenced operations at the end of 2018 and 2021 respectively. This was a two year and five year, respectively lost which affected the initial plan. In drafting the 5th Extension request in 2017, the capacities of the two organisations were taken into account since they signed the MOUs in 2016.



REMAINING CHALLENGE



ZIMBABWE MINEFIELDS
31 DECEMBER 2024



❑ Extension request for five (05) years until 31 December 2030.

❑ Four (04) Confirmed Hazardous Areas measuring **11, 999, 499 m²** as at 31 December 2024



RATIONALE FOR EXTENSION REQUEST



- ❖ Zimbabwe aims to complete its clearance obligations within five years, (01 January 2026-31 December 2030). A work plan based on projected reductions in funding and capacities has been developed for the period of the extension.
- ❖ These figures are based on projected reductions in funding and capacities. ZIMAC will revise the work plan at the start of each year, so that the plan remains relevant and more accurate during the extension period.
- ❖ The revised plan will be reported on an annual basis through Zimbabwe's Article 7 Transparency Report as well as during Convention meetings. A detailed work plan covering the period 2025-2030 is as shown:



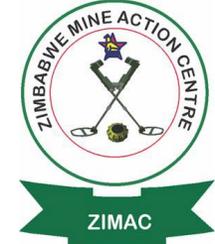
RATIONALE FOR EXTENSION REQUEST – PROJECTED WORK PLAN



	Operators	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Remaining 2024
Musengezi Mazowe river to	HALO Trust	815,000	900,000	94,661				1,809,661
Mazowe River Nyahuku to	HALO Trust			805,339	900,000	459,495		2,164,834
Nyahuku Nyamapanda to	NPA	2,500,000	441,201					2,941,201
Nyamapanda Rwenya river to	MAG	331,000	277,000	277,000	277,000	277,000	277,000	3,456,201
	NPA		198,201	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	
	HALO Trust					350,000	350,000	
Mwenezi river Sango Border Post to	NMCU	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	130,239	830,239
Lusulu	NMCU	84,000	120,000	149,000	149,000	149,000	149,000	797,363
Total	4	3,870,000	2,076,402	1,676,000	1,676,000	1,585,495	1,116,239	11,999,499



WORK PLAN AND TIMELINE OF IMPLEMENTATION



➤ Mine Risk Education and Reduction (MRE) efforts

Ser	Organisation	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Sessions
a.	MAG	220	214	600	582	1616	96
b.	HALO Trust	464	284	1125	892	2765	36
c.	NPA	91	77	112	98	378	60
d.	NMCU	285	185	400	280	1150	20

❖ These are yearly figures based on the current annual calculations. For the coming years, it is expected the same capacity would be maintained, reaching similar targets.



CHALLENGES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPPORT



Risks and assumptions for the implementation of the work plan.

- ❖ Capacity reduction.

- ❖ Natural disasters.

Requirements for assistance.

- ❖ Funding for INGOs.

- ❖ Equipment request for NMCU.



CONCLUSION



QUESTION AND ANSWER

ZIMBABWE'S SUMMARY OF ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION – EXTENSION REQUEST

Introduction

1. Zimbabwe's implementation of its Article 5 obligations currently has a deadline of 31 December 2025. In light of ongoing challenges, the country is requesting a five-year extension, pushing the deadline to 31 December 2030. Zimbabwe's last submission of the extension request aimed at addressing 61,793,990 m² of the remaining challenges. The extension is essential for ensuring comprehensive action towards effectively managing these hazardous areas and fulfilling the country's obligations.

Progress Made

2. Since the last extension request, Zimbabwe's has achieved the following:

- a. Areas released – **55, 819, 413 m².**
- b. Cancellation – **8, 800, 627 m².**
- c. Reduction – **31, 397, 905 m².**
- d. Clearance – **15, 625, 681 m².**
- e. Additional – **6,024,922 m².**
- f. Anti-Personnel Mines destroyed – **213, 924.**

Circumstances Which Impeded Completion By 2025

3. Circumstances which impeded the ability of Zimbabwe to fulfil its mine clearance obligations under Article 5 as originally planned are as follows:

- a. Natural disasters - Despite demining operations being designated as essential service, during the Covid-19 era, demining organisations operated at less than half capacities and in some cases operations were stopped due to cases recorded within camps.
- b. Funding - The donors reduced funding to the international organisations and in some cases completely withdrew. This resulted in operators reducing capacity, which in turn led to reduced output.

c. Insufficient demining equipment - There were challenges in re-equipping NMCU. This resulted in capacities lying idle thereby negatively affecting planned output.

d. Delayed resumption of work by other operators - When Zimbabwe submitted its fifth extension request, MAG and APOPO were set to start operations at the beginning of the extension, however, the 2 organisations commenced operations at the end of 2018 and 2021 respectively. This was a two year and five year, respectively lost which affected the initial plan. In drafting the 5th Extension request in 2017, the capacities of the two organisations were taken into account since they signed the MOUs in 2016.

Remaining Challenge

4. Zimbabwe is submitting an extension request for an additional five years, until 31 December 2030, to effectively address the challenges posed by hazardous areas within the country. As of 31 December 2024, remaining contamination stood at 11,999,499 m².

Rationale For Extension Request

5. Zimbabwe aims to complete its clearance obligations within a five-year extension period from 01 January 2026 to 31 December 2030. To navigate projected reductions in funding and capacities, a comprehensive work plan has been developed for this extension. The Zimbabwe Mine Action Centre (ZIMAC) will revise the work plan at the beginning of each year to ensure its continued relevance and accuracy throughout the extension period. Progress will be reported annually through Zimbabwe's Article 7 Transparency Report, as well as during meetings of the Convention. A detailed work plan covering the period 2025-2030 which outline specific strategies and objectives to facilitate effective clearance operations is as shown:

Mine Risk Education and Reduction Efforts

6. The yearly figures for mine risk education and reduction efforts are based on current annual calculations, providing a reliable framework for ongoing initiatives. As Zimbabwe progresses into the coming years, it is anticipated that the same capacity for delivering these educational programmes will be maintained, allowing for the achievement of comparable targets. This consistency is crucial, as it ensures that

vulnerable communities remain informed about mine risks and safety practices, thereby reducing the likelihood of accidents and injuries. By sustaining this capacity, Zimbabwe can continue to build on the successes of previous years, reinforcing the importance of community engagement and awareness in the broader context of mine action efforts. Through regular assessments and adjustments, educational strategies can be refined to meet the evolving needs of at-risk populations, ensuring that mine risk education remains effective and impactful.

Challenges And Requirements For Support

7. Risks and Assumptions for the Implementation of the Work Plan. The implementation of the mine action work plan in Zimbabwe faces several risks and assumptions that could affect its success. A major concern is the potential reduction in operational capacity due to budget constraints, decreased funding, or staffing issues, which could delay critical clearance and education initiatives and compromise community safety. Additionally, natural disasters, such as floods or cyclones, can disrupt operations and hinder access to hazardous areas. To address these challenges, a robust risk management strategy is essential, allowing for flexibility and adaptability. By proactively managing these risks, Zimbabwe can enhance its resilience and ensure the effectiveness of its mine action efforts, ultimately promoting safer communities.

8. Requirements for Assistance. To boost mine action efforts in Zimbabwe, key requirements include funding support for international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) and fully equipping the National Mine Clearance Unit (NMCU). Adequate funding is essential for INGOs to effectively implement mine risk education and conduct clearance operations, thereby improving safety for communities impacted by landmines and unexploded ordnance.