

ICBL Comments on Angola's Article 5 Extension Request
Mine Ban Treaty Intersessional Meeting, Geneva 17-20 June 2025

Thank you, Chair.

The International Campaign to Ban Landmines appreciates Angola's continued commitment to mine clearance and we thank Angola for its extension request under Art. 5.

We remain deeply concerned about the ongoing human impact of landmines and ERW in Angola. The country still sees around 60 casualties per year, many linked to scrap metal collection and hard-to-detect, low-metal-content mines. These are preventable tragedies.

Despite a significant reduction in contaminated land since 2018, high casualty figures and Angola's economic diversification goals underscore the urgency to clear remaining areas. However, Angola's proposed clearance pace for the next five years is notably slower than in the previous extension period, with limited explanation on how this target was determined. We encourage Angola to reassess whether clearance could be accelerated across the 18 remaining provinces.

While Angola presents a detailed, multi-year work plan and pledges national funding, key elements remain unclear: how much funding is already secured, what the expected national contribution will be, and how resources and personnel will be deployed over time.

As required under Action#23 of the Siem-Reap Angkor Action Plan Angola also provides a multi-year risk education plan, with a remarkably high proposed budget close to that of clearance. Yet, there is little detail on funding sources or how interventions are tailored to address scrap metal-related accidents.

Finally, while Angola recognizes funding risks, its resource mobilization strategy lacks specifics, particularly in light of declining contributions from major donors such as the US and UK. A more robust and contingency-based funding plan will be essential for success.

We encourage Angola to provide additional clarity and ambition in these areas.

Thank you.