

Convention on Cluster Munitions

30 June 2022

Original: English
Arabic, English, French and
Spanish only

Tenth Meeting of States Parties
Geneva, 30 August to 2 September 2022
Item 6 of the provisional agenda
**Introduction by the President of the draft documents
and key draft decisions**

Analysis of Chad's deadline extension request under Article 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions

**Submitted by the Analysis Group of Article 4 Extension Requests –
Germany, Guyana, Montenegro and Sweden**

I. Background

1. The Republic of Chad signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on 3 December 2008, ratified on 26 March 2013, and the Convention entered into force for it on 1 September 2013. In Chad's extension request, it reported to have had a total of 61.23 km² of suspected explosive ordnance contamination in the regions of Borkou, Ennedi and Tibesti. Chad informed that all areas contaminated by cluster munitions under its jurisdiction had been cleared and released on 20 October 2021 apart from the Province of Tibesti, as most of that region still needed to be surveyed to assess the extent of remaining cluster munition contamination. Under Article 4 of the Convention, Chad is obliged to clear and destroy, or ensure the clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants (CMR) located in cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control by 1 September 2023. On 31 March 2022, Chad informed the CCM Implementation Support Unit (ISU) of its challenges in securing funding to conduct the remaining survey and potential clearance activities. The ISU recommended that Chad submit an extension request as it was unclear if Chad would be able to comply with its Article 4 obligations by its deadline.

II. Consideration of the request

2. Chad submitted its draft extension request to the CCM ISU on 26 April 2022 for the ISU to make an initial assessment to ensure the request did not lack any critical components. Thereafter, Chad provided a revised draft on 10 May 2022 along with nine annexes of selected sections of the National Mine Action Standards of Chad (NNAMT). The ISU transmitted the draft request to the Analysis Group for an initial assessment.

3. The Analysis Group invited representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC), the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and Mine Action Review to a meeting on 12 May 2022 to join them in considering the draft request. Following the meeting, the Analysis Group provided Chad their informal feedback to provide further guidance to Chad in the preparation of its extension request.



4. On 10 June 2022, Chad submitted an official request for a one-year extension of its Article 4 deadline up to 1 October 2024 and the ISU informed States Parties to the Convention on 14 June 2022 that Chad had submitted its extension request and made the documents available on the CCM website.

5. The Analysis Group met on 15 June 2022 to consider the request. To ensure a uniform approach to all requests, the Analysis Group used the *Methodology for requests of deadline extensions under Articles 3 and 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions* (CCM/MSP/2019/12) that was adopted at the 9MSP to analyse Chad's extension request.

6. Chad's extension request indicates that its contamination by explosive ordnance took place during its conflict with Libya that ended in 1988. Chad informs that the contamination by cluster munitions was simultaneous with that of mines and other explosive remnants of war (ERWs) and occurred in the regions of Borkou, Ennedi and Tibesti (BET). Following the withdrawal of Libyan troops in 1987, many accidents took place among civilian population in those regions, which led the Chadian Government to deploy its army personnel to begin demining and clearance. As accidents continued to persist, Chad conducted an impact study of the whole country in 1999. Nonetheless, the study did not include Tibesti due to its security issues at that time.

7. The impact study was followed by the deployment of the first demining teams under the supervision of the National High Commission for Demining (HCND) in 2000 to the regions of Borkou and Ennedi. As demining activities continued, Chad also carried out a technical survey (TS) on the south of Tibesti between 2006 and 2007. From 2010 to 2012, a TS of the entire country was conducted apart from the north of Tibesti. The results of the 1999 impact study and the 2010-2012 TS showed a total area of 61.23 km² of suspected explosive ordnance contamination concentrated in the BET regions. The extension request indicates that the last known area contaminated by cluster munitions, the site of Delbo in Ennedi Ouest, was cleared and released on 20 October 2021.

8. The request states that for Chad to be able to declare compliance under Article 4 of the Convention, it is imperative for it to verify if there was cluster munition contamination in the Province of Tibesti as most of the region has not been surveyed. Chad informs of the geographical and political-military challenges that had impeded its ability to operate in Tibesti. Chad affirms that currently the main challenge of conducting a survey of Tibesti is financial. With the end of the Demining and Economic Development Project (PRODECO), funded by the European Union in September 2021, it will be financially challenged in the coming years.

9. Chad requests for an extension period of one year to mobilize resources and conduct a non-technical survey (NTS) in the Province of Tibesti. Chad plans to raise €115,193 to deploy five NTS teams in five departments of Tibesti, with a suspected hazardous area (SHA) of 19.05 km². Once this has been carried out, Chad informs that it will provide a detailed work plan to be included in its subsequent extension request. The Chadian Government intends to continue providing for the operating costs of the HCND structure of around € 1.3 million per year.

III. Conclusions

10. The Analysis Group acknowledges that Chad is "making every effort to identify all cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control" as stipulated in Article 4.2(a) by planning to conduct a non-technical survey (NTS) of the previously inaccessible parts of the Province of Tibesti. The Analysis Group commends Chad for requesting a short interim extension period to mobilize resources and survey the remaining suspected hazardous areas (SHAs), in order to assess the extent of contamination and develop a comprehensive work plan for the completion of its Article 4 obligations.

11. The Analysis Group notes with appreciation Chad's commitment to support its national mine action structure and provide means of transport for its planned survey activities. The Analysis Group further notes that the current National Mine Action Standards of Chad

(NNAMT) conform to the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and that Chad intends to continue to develop its national standards in line with the latest IMAS.

12. The Analysis Group notes that Chad requires technical and financial support to carry out its NTS plan. Therefore, the Analysis Group notes with concern that Chad has not yet identified potential international implementation partners and states. The Group requests Chad to provide a regular update of its resource mobilization activities and status in the form of a quarterly report to the Analysis Group beginning three months after the request is granted.

13. The Analysis Group acknowledges that Chad continues to provide explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) to targeted groups and to mark contaminated areas with warning signs. The Analysis Group recommends that Chad include risk education into its clearance work plan and budget. The group also notes that Chad will address any residual risk through its multipurpose unit.

14. In addition to quarterly updates on resource mobilisation, the Analysis Group notes that the Convention would benefit from Chad reporting annually through its Article 7 reports due before 30 April every year and at the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties (11MSP) the following:

- (a) Progress made relative to resource mobilization and non-technical survey activities;
- (b) Updated information on the remaining cluster munition contamination based on the findings of the non-technical survey;
- (c) A detailed work plan and budget for the subsequent year, that includes a risk education plan;
- (d) Other relevant information.

15. The Analysis Group notes the importance, in addition to Chad reporting to the States Parties as noted above, of keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of other pertinent developments as necessary.

IV. Draft Decision on the Article 4 Extension Request submitted by Chad

16. The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Chad for an extension of its deadline for completing the clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants in accordance with Article 4.1 of the Convention and agreed to grant the request for an extension until 1 October 2024, pending the provision of a detailed work plan and budget to be included in a subsequent extension request to be considered at the 11MSP.

17. In granting the request, the Meeting noted that the non-technical survey (NTS) would inform the extent of the remaining cluster munition contamination to be cleared.

18. In granting the request, the Meeting recommended that Chad regularly reports to the Analysis Group on its resource mobilization activities and status, so that the Group is informed of the extent of NTS efforts that can be carried out.

19. In granting the request, the Meeting recommended that Chad regularly reports to States Parties on the outcomes of the NTS and provides a costed work plan that includes risk education activities, resource mobilization plan, and annual work schedule broken down by month for the next extension period.

20. In this regard, the Meeting noted that the Convention would benefit from Chad reporting annually through Article 7 reports due before 30 April every year and at the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties on the following:

- (a) Progress made relative to resource mobilization and non-technical survey activities;

- (b) Updated information on the remaining cluster munition contamination based on the findings of the non-technical survey;
- (c) A detailed work plan and budget for the subsequent year, that includes a risk education plan;
- (d) Other relevant information.

21. In addition to reporting as requested above, the Meeting noted the importance of Chad keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of any other pertinent developments as necessary.
