

Comments on Cyprus Extension Request
Intersessional Meeting of the Mine Ban Treaty
7-8 June 2018



The ICBL thanks Cyprus for submitting a request in a timely manner in accordance with the process agreed at the Seventh Meeting of States Parties.

The ICBL supports the request put forward by Cyprus. By requesting an extended deadline for mined areas that are not under its control, Cyprus contributes to upholding the strength and integrity of the Convention. It also ensures its continued compliance with Article 5.

We recall Security Council Resolution 2398 of January 2018 which notes “the continued danger posed by mines in Cyprus” and calls on “both sides to allow access to deminers and to facilitate the removal of the remaining mines in Cyprus within the buffer zone, and urges both sides to extend demining operations outside the buffer zone.”

We continue to hope for a prompt resolution of the situation and for land to become safe again for communities in the near future.

Thank you.