

## NORWAY: THE DISCOVERY OF MINED AREAS AFTER ARTICLE V DEADLINES

Norway supports fully the overall direction of the co-chairs paper, which clearly sets out a relevant process for how States Parties best can address situations where mined areas are discovered after expiry of Article 5 deadlines.

However, the timing and sequencing of the steps proposed by the co-chairs, with the demand for production of a formal request for a new deadline to complete the destruction of anti-personnel mines in the same year as the areas have been discovered, may divert resources from addressing the actual situation on the ground towards producing of a detailed formal request.

By postponing the formal submission of a request to the States Parties until the year after the discovery, the state party in question will, in most instances probably have finished the job, and as such overcome the need for such a request.

The obligation for the state party in question to immediately report of such a discovery remains imperative. We believe that our proposed change actually can provide incentives for the State Party in question to show transparency, as doing this will not immediately be accompanied by preparing a formal request. We also think it can stimulate action on the ground and that the job is completed as soon as possible.

We will hand in our proposal to the co-chairs and we hope that it will be part of the further consultations on this issue.