

Mozambique's Article 5 Extension Request

Standing Committee on Mine Clearance,
Mine Risk Education and Technologies

Geneva, 4 June 2008

What was involved?



República de Moçambique

Ministério dos Negócios Estrangeiros e Cooperação

INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE DESMINAGEM

- A full analyses of all existing information:
 - Reconciliation of data in the database
 - Work undertaken and progress achieved
 - Work still to be done, its extent, needed capacity and technical and financial resources
 - Reasons why the country could not comply with the obligation under Article 5 within the deadline
 - Concrete action to be implemented during the extension request period
 - A realistic work plan for the extended period

Why an extension?

- With the end of National Mine Action Plan 2002-2006, the need for a new plan based on a more realistic assessment of problem.
- Experience indicated that LIS data grossly overestimated and inaccurately located the problem.
- By 2007, Article 5 implementation in 4 of 10 provinces complete.

Completion in 4 provinces

	Clearance tasks	EOD tasks	Area cleared	Road cleared	AP mines destroyed	AV mines destroyed	UXO destroyed
Cabo Delgado	93	380	2'823'901	0	85'784	43	4'141
Nampula	135	281	1'536'081	7	7'560	1'383	1'797
Niassa	86	309	1'608'278	12	1'803	175	12'032
Zambézia	238	644	4'485'989	215	4'020	19	4'389
	552	1'614	10'454'249	234	99'167	1'620	22'359

What remains?

- Baseline assessment identified 8,994,779 square metres of surveyed confirmed mined area across a total of 484 sites.
- 94 sites have still not been visited.
- In addition...
 - 11 kilometre stretch of mine belt near the Cabora Bassa Dam
 - 170 pylons
 - Unsurveyed minefields along border with Zimbabwe
 - Other mine action tasks (EOD, roads, BAC)

Impeding circumstances

- The magnitude of the original mine problem: Mines were implanted and extensively distributed throughout the country, in all 10 provinces
- Only in 2001 a comprehensive estimation of extent of landmine problem was available. But this overestimated / incorrectly located the problem.
- The economic condition and the enormous humanitarian and development challenges faced in the country.
- Long period taken to determine the accurate status of mine problem may have contributed to a donor fatigue and withdrawal of donor support.
- Floods (2000, 2001, 2007) contributed to further set back all efforts.

How much time?

- 70 months – until December 2014 – on the basis that work commences in September 2008.
- 66 months for the mine clearance operations and the remaining period for remaining quality assurance work.
- During the same period the 94 other tasks to be surveyed and cleared

What is the plan?

- An increase of 12 manual sections and one mechanical team every six months, reaching a total at the end of the second year of 48 sections and four mechanical teams.
- A manual clearance rate of 25 metres / deminer / day, a mechanical clearance rate of 200 metres / day / team, an annual cumulative cost inflation of 5%, 220 working days / year, 7 demining lanes / section, and 7 demining lanes / section.
- Each distinct area of operations would see all tasks completed, in order of priority, before teams are released to work in other locations.
- Quarterly projections of expected progress in releasing areas.
- Concurrently:
 - Survey / clear 94 tasks yet surveyed.
 - Clear 11 kilometre Cabora Bassa Dam mine belt & power pylons
 - Develop plan for border with Zimbabwe.

What will it cost?

- US\$ 5,800,000 / year average until 2014 for clearance.
- US\$ 600,000 / year average headquarters or coordination.
- Total average annual costs would be US\$ 6.4 million.
- Mozambique committed to provide a minimum of US\$ 0.5 million per year.
- Average annual estimated need from international donors: US\$ 5.9 million per year.

Implications

- The landmine problem has had negative impacts.
- Efforts to date have resulted in a significant positive humanitarian, social and economic impact.
- Remaining mined areas are located in areas agriculture and economic development projects.
- The release of these lands would directly contribute to the objectives of the Government's Poverty Reduction Plan.
- Victim rates have decreased. Clearing all remaining areas will assure further reductions.

Observations

- Great progress made, great challenges remain.
- Challenges notwithstanding, there is light at the end of the tunnel and completion is in sight.
- Through a relatively modest investment, Mozambique can fulfil its obligations in a relatively short period of time.
- Projections made to assure the full implementation of article 5 are subject to availability of required funds.
- The request: the best ever accounting of the results of efforts to date and of work that remains, and, a clear road map forward – should reinvigorate interest.

What's new?

- Mine clearance activities resulted in release of 2,123,912 m² in 2007;
- Already 2 districts of the 46 have been handed over to the beneficiaries in the districts of Inharrime and Massinga in Inhambane Province;
- Additional 6 districts will be completed by the end of this year, by the 3 NGOs operating in Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane provinces;
- Halo Trust has just finished the re-survey 94 areas not covered by Baseline Assessment;

What's new?

- Introduction of non technical means for rapid release of land on the additional suspected areas reported;
- 11 accidents were reported in 2007 and caused 24 victims of which 14 were killed;
- 2008 have registred 1 accident with 2 death, Father and Child, scrap metal comercialization;
- MRE activities continued to play important role in prevention of accidents with mines and collection of mine victims data as well as mine suspected areas;
- MRE activities focused in prevention of elicited manipulation and comercialization of scrap metal including mines and UXOs by civilians and former soldiers;
- QA/QC Teams to be capacited to monitor mine clearance at the same rate as that of the demining operators;

What's new?

- On the 16 May the Government had the opportunity to provide additional information to the Analysing Board on the Extension request submitted by Mozambique



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Thank you