

Chad is one of the states that asked for an initial extension to be able to get a clear picture of contamination, and now is in the unfortunate position of needing a second interim extension to meet this same goal. Many factors were at play in Chad's inability to identify mined areas in the first 10 years, ranging from lack of national capacity to continuing internal conflict. But the need for a second interim request is largely due to a 15-month delay in getting funding for the survey from Japan through the UN Voluntary Trust Fund.

It is clear therefore that Chad needs additional time to conduct and evaluate the originally planned survey before it can develop a comprehensive demining plan. It also needs time to conduct a survey in Tibesti, which both requests indicate is likely to have a significant amount of landmine contamination, but was not previously accessible because of insecurity. It has not been clear to us, however, why a three year extension period was requested now that the survey is underway and only expected to take 10 months. Today Chad explained that the additional time is to allow Chad to also survey the Tibesti region, but more information would still be useful about its plans to conduct this survey within the extension period, including how it expects to fund the survey and how long it is expected to take.

Chad has put forward a work plan for 2010-2012, which gives very little specific information on objectives apart from finishing the survey of all areas outside Tibesti and a small degree of clearance. The request also notes that its strategic demining plan will be entirely revisited in early 2012. With this in mind, it would be more logical for Chad to seek only a two-year extension period. Taking note of Chad's announced plans to begin work on survey of the Tibesti region, we hope this survey can be completed in much less than three years and that it will permit Chad to develop a full picture of mine contamination to be gathered before submitting an additional, and hopefully last extension request.

Finally, the ICBL believes that Chad should give a better indication about its plans to mobilize resources in the current and expected future extension period. We applaud Chad for contributing a substantial amount of funding, but apart from general projections of bilateral and multinational donors, Chad gives no information about how it will acquire the necessary resources. A clear resource mobilization plan would not only help Chad communicate its needs to donors, but would also help States Parties evaluate the probability of achieving its goals for this extension period.