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Developing a "rational response" to mined areas discovered after deadlines have passed (Agenda Item #10.b.ii)

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At the 11MSP, we were made aware of cases of States Parties, whose Article 5 deadline had expired, which had identified mined areas.

The 11MSP, thus, requested the President, supported by the Coordinating Committee, to consult and prepare a constructive discussion on this matter at the meeting of the Standing Committee and submit recommendations for 2 artolle & Underene consideration by this meeting.

We were honoured that the President entrusted us as Mine Clearance Co-Chairs to take the lead on this matter.

We engaged the Coordinating Committee and other actors, and provided an opportunity for a constructive discussion at the 22 May 2012 meeting of the Standing Committee.

Following that meeting, we continued consultations with interested actors.

It was made clear by all involved that while a rational response is required, such a response cannot be, nor cannot be seen to be, an amendment to the Convention.

Given this principle and thanks to the input of many interested delegation, we have proposed a set commitments that States Parties could take in the extraordinary instances when previously unknown mined areas are discovered after deadlines have passed.

We suggest in particular that the States Parties make the following commitments:

1. If after its original or extended deadline to implement Article 5 has expired, a State Party, as an exceptional circumstance, discovers a mined area (as defined by Article 2.5 of the Convention), including a newly mined area, under its jurisdiction or control that is known or suspected to contain anti-