

**ICRC statement on Sudan's Extension Request,**  
**13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention**  
**Geneva, 2 December 2013**

The International Committee of the Red Cross supports Sudan's request for a 5-year extension. In our view, Sudan has presented a clear, thorough and detailed request, which will allow the monitoring of progress on almost a monthly basis.

The ICRC supports the recommendation of the Analysing Group that Sudan submit regular updates on implementation of its national demining plan, for example through its annual transparency reports or to meetings of States Parties, as well as on progress with the planned general mine action assessments in South Kordofan and Blue Nile States. Given the unpredictable security situation in South Kordofan, coupled with funding challenges, we also see the benefit of Sudan submitting an updated detailed work plan and budget by 1 March 2016, including a more precise estimate of the remaining clearance challenge at that time.

In accordance with Sudan's commitment referred to in the Analysis, we hope that Sudan will be able to confirm in its next transparency report completion of the terminology revisions in line with the International Mine Action Standards, as well as its "data clean-up," including a desktop review of all hazards in Sudan's database.

While funding also poses serious challenges, it is commendable that the Government of Sudan has contributed to NMAC and National Demining Unit activities to date, and remains committed to contribute national funds for Sudan's mine action programme. The ICRC also hopes that it will be possible to increase the number of international demining operators in the near future, to expand overall demining capacity within Sudan and contribute to the rapid clearance of Sudan's mined areas.