

**Eritrea**  
**Committee on Article 5 Implementation**

At the Fourth Review Conference, Eritrea submitted a request for extension until 31 December 2020 in which it highlighted that the process of restructuring the Eritrean Demining Authority had been launched to ensure it is best placed to tackle the remaining challenges, and that this presented an obstacle to the submission by Eritrea of a request containing detailed data on progress made to date, as well as a work plan for the period beyond Eritrea's deadline of 1 February 2020.

Eritrea mentioned that the aim of the short extension request was to afford it the opportunity to present a detailed request, including detailed information on its current contamination, progress made and a detailed work plan for implementation by 31 March 2020.

In the decision of the States Parties on Eritrea's request, the Fourth Review Conference noted that Eritrea and the Convention as a whole would benefit from a full extension request process taking place and agreed to grant Eritrea an eleven-month extension until 31 December 2020.

The Conference also noted that Eritrea would benefit if it seeks assistance from the Implementation Support Unit in the preparation of their request, including by inviting the ISU for an in-country visit.

The Conference requested that Eritrea submit a request, in accordance with the established process, by 31 March 2020, for Eritrea and the States Parties to benefit from a cooperative exchange on the request.

Over the course of the year, the Committee reached out to Eritrea on several occasions to discuss matters related to its upcoming Article 5 deadline of 31 December 2020 and its requirement to submit an extension request.

The Committee regrets that Eritrea failed to comply with its Article 5 obligations and that it did not make use of the process collectively agreed to by the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties. The decisions taken by the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Meetings of the States Parties confirm that a failure to submit an extension request in accordance with the Convention and the agreed processes established by the States Parties constitutes a case of non-compliance under the Convention.

The failure of Eritrea to request and receive an extension on its deadline prior to that date represents a matter of serious concern, which will unfortunately lead to Eritrea falling into a state of non-compliance by its upcoming deadline of 31 December 2020.

The Committee therefore call on Eritrea to submit as soon as possible a request for extension in accordance with the process established by the States Parties at the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties.

The Committee is also concerned with the fact that Eritrea has not submitted an Article 7 Transparency Report since 2014 and that, since then, Eritrea has not provided clarity on the status of implementation of its obligations.