

**Statement by the Chair of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation on the Analysis of the  
Request for extension submitted by Nigeria**

Mr. President (Chair),

The Committee on Article 5 Implementation appreciates that Nigeria submitted on 10 November 2020 a request for an extended deadline following the identification of newly mined areas.

- While the Committee recognizes that Covid-19 might have caused additional difficulties in many cases this year, we would like to recall that, in order to function appropriately, the extension request process requires the submission of requests nine months prior to the meeting where they are considered. This allows an analysis of the request to be prepared and translated, as well as a cooperative exchange between the requesting State and the Committee on Article 5 Implementation.

The Committee unfortunately did not have the opportunity to enter into a cooperative dialogue with Nigeria following reception of this request, but looks forward to doing so.

Nigeria indicated that, while it had hoped to submit a detailed request for extension by 31 March 2020 as it had indicated at the Fourth Review Conference, this was not possible due to difficulties related to COVID-19.

Nigeria has therefore requested an extended deadline to 31 December 2021, in order to obtain time to abide by the extension request process established by the States Parties, and therefore submit a detailed request by 31 March 2021 for consideration by the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of States Parties. This will allow Nigeria to enter into a cooperative dialogue with the Committee throughout the process.

The Committee noted the importance of the request being submitted by Nigeria by 31 March 2021, the importance of developing the request through an inclusive process, taking into consideration the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities, and including the following, amongst other information:

- a. detailed , costed and multi-year work plans for the extension period, containing information on progress made, an updated list of all areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines using terminology consistent with the IMAS, annual projections of which areas and what area would be dealt with during the remaining period covered by the request and by which organisation, matched to a revised detailed budget based on new funding levels;
- b. detailed, costed and multi-year plans for context-specific mine risk education and reduction in affected communities that are sensitive to gender, age, disability and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account;
- c. plans for the establishment of a sustainable national capacity;
- d. the humanitarian, social, economic, and environmental implications of the extension;
- e. resource mobilization efforts and external financing received, as well as resources made available by the government of Nigeria to support implementation efforts, including through efforts to facilitate operations of international demining organisations and indigenous capacities, and the results of these efforts.

Noting that Nigeria has not submitted an Article 7 report since 2012, the Committee noted the importance, in addition to Nigeria reporting to the States Parties as noted above, of keeping the States Parties regularly apprised of other pertinent developments regarding the implementation of Article 5 during the period covered by the request and other commitments made in the request at intersessional meetings and Meetings of the States Parties, as well as through its Article 7 reports using the Guide to Reporting.