

**Decisions on the Request Submitted by Uganda for an Extension of the Deadline for  
Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the  
Convention<sup>1</sup>**

**4 December 2009**

24. Taking into account the analyses presented by the President of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties of the requests submitted under article 5 of the Convention and the requests themselves, the Conference took the following decisions:

(...)

- xi. The Conference assessed the request submitted by Uganda for an extension of Uganda's deadline for the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing to grant the request for an extension until 1 August 2012.
  - xii. In granting the request, the Conference noted that Uganda found itself in a situation wherein less than two months before its deadline Uganda was still unclear whether it would be able to complete implementation of article 5.1 of the Convention by its deadline. The Conference further noted that Uganda itself had acknowledged that the late commencement of operations and establishment of a mine action programme contributed to this situation occurring and that once Uganda understood that it would require more time to complete implementation, it acted prudently by informing the 9MSP President, by asking that the President inform all States Parties of this matter and by promptly preparing and submitting a request for an extension.
  - xiii. Also in granting the request, the Conference noted that, while the plan presented by Uganda is workable, the indication in the request that the clearance rate will double during Uganda's dry season and that the introduction of a mechanical capacity could accelerate implementation suggests that Uganda may find itself in a situation wherein it could proceed with implementation much faster than that suggested by the amount of time requested. In this context, the Conference noted that doing so could benefit both the Convention and Uganda itself given the indication by Uganda of the socio-economic benefits that will flow from demining.
25. Also in the context of considering the submission of requests under article 5 of the Convention, the Conference noted that three of the States Parties that had submitted requests for extensions had highlighted the importance of obtaining resources in order to implement the plans contained in their requests. The Conference encouraged requesting States Parties, as relevant, to develop as soon as possible resource mobilisation strategies that take into account the need to reach out to a wide range of national and international funding sources. The Conference furthermore encouraged all States Parties in a position to do so to honour their commitments to fulfilling their obligations under article 6.4 of the Convention to provide assistance for mine clearance and related activities.
26. Also in the context of considering the submission of requests under article 5 of the Convention, the Conference noted that the ongoing effort to implement article 5 during

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<sup>1</sup> Excerpts from the Final Report of the 30 November – 4 December 2009 Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, United Nations Document # APLC/CONF/2009/9.

States Parties' requested extension periods has the potential of making a significant contribution to improving human safety and socio-economic conditions.

27. Also in the context of considering the submission of requests under article 5 of the Convention, the Conference noted that the accounting of the remaining mined areas contained in many extension requests would serve as a foundation for a resource mobilisation strategy and greatly assist both requesting States Parties and all others in assessing progress in implementation during the extension period. The Conference encouraged those requesting States Parties that have not yet done so to provide an accounting of annual milestones of progress to be achieved during extension periods. The Conference furthermore encouraged all States Parties whose requests had been considered by the Second Review Conference to provide updates relative to their accounting of remaining mined areas and / or annual benchmarks for progress at meetings of the Standing Committees, at Meetings of the States Parties and at Review Conferences.
28. Also in the context of considering the submission of requests under article 5 of the Convention, the Conference warmly welcomed the report presented by the President of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties on the process for the preparation, submission and consideration of requests for extensions to article 5 deadlines, as contained in document and agreed to encourage States Parties, as appropriate, to implement the recommendations contained therein.