

Decision on the request submitted by Mauritania for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

4 December 2015

- a. The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Mauritania for an extension of Mauritania's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined area in accordance with Article 5.1, agreeing to grant the request for an extension until 1 January 2021.
- b. In granting the request, the Meeting noted that Mauritania has expressed that the sole circumstance which impedes the ability of Mauritania to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas that it has reported to be under its jurisdiction or control is the fact that a "safety device along the border with Western Sahara, composed of fortifications and minefields" may in some instance be located inside Mauritanian territory but that ambiguity concerning the exact location of Mauritania's northern border makes it difficult to ascertain this fact.
- c. In granting the request, the Meeting noted that Mauritania has indicated that over the extension period it intends to initiate and maintain a dialogue with stakeholders aiming at the acquisition of relevant topographic and cartographic information and if necessary develop a plan to address any identified area within its jurisdiction.
- d. The Meeting noted that the States Parties would benefit if Mauritania provided, by the 30 April 2016 and annually after that, information on these dialogues and information on progress concerning the acquisition of information on the exact location of its northern border and developments of plans to address identified areas.
- e. In this context, the Meeting requested Mauritania to provide updates relative to progress at intersessional meetings, Meetings of the States Parties and Review Conferences.