

ALBANIA

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Albania is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 August 2010**.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- A general survey by the Albanian Armed Forces in 1999–2000 identified 102 affected areas along most of the northeastern border area with Kosovo, contaminating more than 15 square kilometers.
- Subsequently, through a socio-economic impact survey and technical survey that preceded clearance operations, DanChurchAid found that the size of the suspected area had been greatly overestimated.
- In other parts of the country, there are areas contaminated by unexploded ordnance (UXO). These UXO “hotspots” resulted from looting of military depots during civil disturbances in 1997.

3. What progress has Albania made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Albania has demined more than 12 square kilometers of suspected hazardous areas since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban treaty.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- According to the Albanian Mine Action Executive, as of the end of 2005, 3,146,423 square meters of mined areas remained to be cleared.

5. Does the State Party have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- The National Mine Action Strategy, first formulated in 2002, revised in August 2004 and March 2005, and finalized in April 2006, had as its vision an Albania free from mines and UXO by 2009.
- Albania's National Plan for Completion was drafted for inclusion in the UNDP Completion Initiative. The draft plan had two clearance objectives:
 - Clear all landmines and UXO from areas designated as high and medium impact and release them to local communities by the end of 2006; and
 - Clear all landmines and UXO from areas designated as low impact and release them to local communities by 2009, by means of a national clearance capacity.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- The Albanian Mine Action Committee, an interministerial body formally constituted in October 1999, serves as the executive and policy-making body for mine action in Albania.
- A draft law developed at a workshop in early 2006 included provision for an Albanian Mine Action Council to replace the Committee and assume responsibility for overall management of the mine action program. The law had not been adopted as of July 2006.
- The Albanian Mine Action Executive – equivalent to a national mine action center – is responsible for coordinating and monitoring mine action activities in Albania.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- In 2005, the only demining capacity was one international NGO, DanChurchAid, and involved 10 manual mine clearance teams, three battle area clearance teams, one survey team and two mine detection dog teams. In 2006, planning continued for the creation of a national mine clearance capacity.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- The government of Albania estimated that from 1998 to 2003 it had provided material and other support for mine action, including victim assistance, in both the northeast and the UXO “hotspots” valued at almost \$1.6 million.
- The Ministry of Defense provided mine action support in the form of explosives and a helicopter medical evacuation service in 2005. This contribution was uncosted.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- From 2000 through 2004, some US\$14.2 million was donated to mine action in Albania, with increasing amounts each year.
- In 2005, a total of \$5.8 million was donated by four countries and the European Commission for mine action in Albania, a significant increase from 2004.
- The UN Development Programme (UNDP) has supported capacity building of the mine action program in Albania since 2002; the project was due to end in December 2006. UNDP continued to provide a chief technical advisor, victim assistance advisor, and, since March 2005, a quality management advisor.
- The focus of UN support in 2006 was transition of mine action to a sustainable national program, linkage to a regional development framework for northeast Albania, and complete clearance of 2 square kilometers of high- and medium-impact mined and battle areas, to enable their return to productive use.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009**.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- General survey of suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) started in 1997 and is still ongoing today. As of December 2005, there were 18,319 mined areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Systematic survey started in 1999, and aims through an analysis of available data, to determine with greater accuracy the perimeters of affected areas. Reports suggest it has reduced by half the size of SHAs in the Federation of BiH.
- BiH completed a Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) in 2003, which found 1,366 impacted communities.
- Based on the results of the LIS, BiH started in 2003/2004 to conduct technical survey of mined areas. It has also initiated a process of Community Integrated Mine Action Plans (CIMAPs) which aims to address the problems caused by mines and explosive remnants of war in highly impacted communities. Both methods are ongoing today.
- Despite considerable efforts, the treaty obligation to perimeter-mark, monitor and fence mined areas prior to clearance, had not been fully implemented in BiH as of the end of 2005. In 2005, BiH permanently marked 18.3 square kilometers of SHAs.

3. What progress has BiH made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- From 1999 to the end of 2005, only 58.9 square kilometers¹ of mined areas were released through technical survey and clearance out of an initial estimated 4,000 square kilometers of SHAs.
- The CIMAPs combine different demining techniques, such as survey, clearance and marking, so as to reduce the overall impact of mines on communities and to accelerate the release of safe land.
- BiH has improved its technical survey procedures so as to release more suspected land and at a faster pace. Plans of some 50 CIMAPs have been prepared so far.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- Initial estimates at the end of the war suggested that 4,000 square kilometers were contaminated.
- As of May 2006, this was reduced to 2,089 square kilometers (some 4 percent of the total BiH territory). Only 58.9 square kilometers have actually been demined since 1999, with most of the reduction achieved through systematic survey.
- Given that the size of land suspected to be contaminated fell from 4,000 square kilometers in 1995 to 2,089 square kilometers in 2006, while only 58.9 square kilometers were demined, it can be assumed that the remaining 2,089 square kilometers significantly exaggerates the actual size of contaminated land. Indeed, in November 2005 a key figure in mine action in BiH claimed that it would only be necessary to clear around 400 square kilometers.

5. Does BiH have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- BiH's latest strategy covers the period 2005 to 2009 and aims at eliminating "the risk" from mines and ERW from all 'first category' priority land,² which corresponds to only 39.5 percent of the affected land. Thus, **BiH is not planning to meet its existing legal obligations to ensure the destruction of all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control by 1 March 2009**.
- Furthermore, BiH mine action strategy plans *permanent* marking of 35 kilometers of suspect areas per year, which will not fulfill the requirements of the treaty to *destroy* all antipersonnel mines in mined areas.
- In 2005, the first year of implementation of the new strategic plan, BiH almost met its overall demining target, with 10.6 square kilometers being demined compared to the planned 11 square kilometers.

- BiH current strategy ends in December 2008 while its deadline for clearance is March 2009. There is no mention in the existing strategy on how and when it envisages ultimately fulfilling its obligations under Article 5.
- 6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?**
- A Demining Law of February 2002 established the Demining Commission under the BiH Ministry of Civil Affairs and Communication as a mine action authority responsible for management of mine action activities and for supervising the BiH Mine Action Centre (BHMAL).
 - BHMAL, through its entities and regional offices, is responsible for implementing demining plans, tasking operators and ensuring that mine action activities conform to standards.
 - A 2006 evaluation by the GICHD concluded that local BiH officials responsible for mine action are capable of planning and managing the mine action program without the need for outside assistance.
 - To improve the strategic management of mine action, however, UNDP's Integrated Mine Action Programme recommended the appointment of a senior civil servant within the Ministry of Civil Affairs to take responsibility for mine action policy-making. This had not happened as of June 2006.
- 7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since BiH became a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?**
- BHMAL has developed its own capacity for planning, quality assurance and survey of operations.
 - Thousands of deminers have been trained in BiH since the program was set up in 1995, though demining assets available to BHMAL typically exceed available funding. There were 38 accredited demining organizations at the start of 2005 and 2,700 trained demining personnel. BHMAL also reports that demining organizations possessed 107 accredited mine detection dog teams and 33 machines in 2005.
- 8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?**
- BiH has set up a mine action authority and a national mine action centre, which it is staffing.
 - The initial mine action strategy has been revised and adopted.
 - Mine action was included in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper for BiH as a priority sector and also as a requisite for the pursuit of other development priorities.
 - A new law on mine action has been drafted to improve the existing legislation, but has not yet been enacted.
 - Since the beginning of demining operations, BiH has contributed funds to its mine action program.
- 9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?**
- BHMAL remains dependent on external funding of mine action, although national sources have increased funding in recent years (to 42 percent of mine action expenditure in 2005).
 - In addition to bilateral funding for mine action from many donor countries, the program has benefited from long-term support from UNDP, UNICEF, the European Commission, and the International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF). In addition, in 1997, the government took a World Bank loan for mine clearance. Also, international peacekeepers (IFOR, SFOR and EUFOR) provided assistance to mine action notably to the entities' army demining units.
 - Today, UNDP is providing a part-time 'strategic adviser' while UNICEF provides a mine risk education project officer. There were up to 40 international advisers in 1998.

Endnotes

¹ Square kilometres released through technical survey and clearance per year: 1997: 4.6; 1998: 5.4; 1999: 6.5; 2000: 7; 2001: 5.5; 2002: 6.3; 2003: 6.4; 2004: 6.6; and 2005: 10.6.

² Priority 1 land covers land in daily civilian use or needed for the repatriation of refugees and IDPs, reconstruction of infrastructure or other economic projects, as well as locations which directly endanger the civilian population.

CAMBODIA

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Cambodia is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 January 2010.**

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- A Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) was completed in 2002, identifying 4,446 square kilometers of land as suspect.
- Cambodia's three main demining operators (Cambodian Mine Action Centre – CMAC, HALO Trust and Mines Advisory Group) conduct technical survey as part of mine clearance operations.
- In 2005, Cambodia endorsed a strategy of accelerating area reduction by removing from the database of suspect areas land already under cultivation in order to better define the contaminated land remaining and prioritize clearance more effectively.
- In the past, CMAC has employed community-based mine and UXO risk reduction teams and community mine marking teams to engage local communities in risk assessment, setting clearance priorities, minefield mapping and raising mine/UXO awareness.

3. What progress has Cambodia made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Since the Mine Ban Treaty came into force on 1 January 2000, statistics from the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA) reported by Landmine Monitor show that demining operators have cleared 171.1 square kilometers of mined land together with 319,670 antipersonnel mines.
- A sharp increase in productivity in 2005 saw the amount of land cleared by humanitarian demining operators increase 63 percent over the previous year to 30.9 square kilometers.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- No precise determination can be made at this time. The LIS estimate of suspect land, now largely discredited, was 4,466 square kilometers. An independent assessment in 2004 estimated the area of contamination at 460 square kilometers and concluded that even this figure could be substantially reduced by updated surveys and mapping. HALO Trust investigations in 2005 revealed substantial amounts of LIS-designated suspect land already under cultivation and in 2006 systematic efforts started to assess how much suspect land is already in use and can therefore be removed from the database.

5. Does Cambodia have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- No. Cambodia has stated officially it will apply for an extension of its Article 5 deadline.
- Prime Minister Hun Sen set Cambodia the target of becoming free of the impact of mines by 2012.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- CMAA, which was created in September 2000 to be the regulator and coordinator of mine action, has responsibility for accrediting demining operators, setting national standards, developing policy guidelines and drawing up a five-year plan for mine and UXO clearance. The government has declared all demining operators must become accredited with the CMAA. The Royal Cambodian Armed Forces has yet to comply.
- The government created provincial Mine Action Planning Units (MAPUs) by decree in November 2004 to undertake planning and prioritization of demining in the five worst affected provinces and to strengthen Cambodian ownership of mine action. The MAPUs submit their plans for approval by Provincial Mine Action Committees (PMACs). The MAPUs lack of technical expertise and resources has limited their effectiveness and the selection of mine action tasks remains heavily influenced by work for which demining operators receive donor funding.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- Three humanitarian demining operators (CMAC, HALO, and MAG) have a combined capacity of some 3,900 staff and the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces' engineering battalion has several hundred personnel available for demining operations, including 135 deminers deployed to the UN peacekeeping operation in Sudan in 2006.
- CMAC, the national humanitarian demining organization and Cambodia's biggest, has 2,300 staff undertaking manual mine clearance, technical survey and explosive ordnance disposal supported by mechanical assets and mine detection dogs.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- In 2005, the Cambodian government provided about \$800,000 for mine action, including \$200,000 for the CMAA and MAPUs and PMACs, \$250,000 for RCAF demining, \$250,000 for CMAC and \$100,000 for victim assistance.
- The government provides a director, staff and offices for the CMAA.
- The CMAA has drafted 17 chapters of national mine action standards but so far has issued five chapters.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- Since its start in 1992, Cambodian demining has been financed almost exclusively by bilateral and multilateral donors led by Australia, Canada, the European Commission, Finland, Japan, the Netherlands, the UK and the United States, and lending organizations such as the Asian Development Bank.
- Landmine Monitor estimates that in the last five years foreign donors have provided more than \$130 million in financial assistance for humanitarian demining.
- After the start of humanitarian demining in 1992, mine action was led by foreign technical advisers, many of them military. Since 1999, the number of international advisers has fallen sharply; the UN now supports two technical advisers in the CMAA.

CHAD

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Chad is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 November 2009**.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- A Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) conducted in 1999–2001 identified 249 mine-affected communities, with contamination covering an estimated area of more than 1,000 square kilometers. However, the Tibesti region, which is the most affected area in the country, was not included in the survey because of security concerns. In 2004, two previously unknown minefields were discovered in the Borkou region.
- In 2004–2005, the British demining NGO, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), conducted a rapid assessment of 99 impacted communities that had been identified by the LIS and found an additional 60 impacted communities in the Borkou and Ennedi regions not previously identified.
- In early 2006, the National Demining Office (Haut Commissariat National de Déminage – HCND) conducted two general survey missions in Zouarké, south of Tibesti.
- Small-scale technical survey is being implemented when resources are available.
- Most mined areas in Chad have not been marked or fenced, prior to clearance, as required by Article 5. In March 2005 through February 2006, MAG teams marked 19 areas with stones painted in red.

3. What progress has Chad made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Of the 1,081 square kilometers of suspected mined areas identified by the LIS, only 8.3 square kilometers had been released to the public by the end of 2005.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- Some 90 percent of the country's mined areas are believed to be located in the Tibesti (which was not covered by the LIS), Borkou and Ennedi regions in the north, as well as in the Biltine and Ouaddai regions in the east.

5. Does Chad have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- A National Strategic Plan to fight mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) was developed in 2002 covering the period 2002–2015. It was revised in 2005, ostensibly to be consistent with Chad's 2009 deadline, however the plan aims only for "zero victims" and "no impact" by 2009. This is not consistent with the requirement of the Treaty, which calls for the destruction of all antipersonnel mines in mined areas.
- Moreover, Chad has not mobilized the necessary funds to implement its strategy. Accumulated delays since the beginning of the operations in 2000 indicate that Chad is not on track to meet its existing legal obligations under Article 5 of the treaty.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- The HCND, under the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Cooperation, is the governmental agency responsible for organizing, planning, supervising and managing all mine action activities.
- There is no structure at the government level to ensure interministerial coordination.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- Hundreds of deminers have been trained within HCND since the beginning of the operations. However, due to frequent shortage of funds and the subsequent disruption in the implementation of the program, many of them were laid off or quitted. As of mid-2006, the HCND had a capacity of some 150 deminers.
- The Chadian army also has a small demining capacity that occasionally disposes of items of UXO.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- Chad has been reporting in the past that it has made financial contributions to the program but the specific amounts are unknown to the Landmine Monitor.
- In 2004, the Chadian government committed to provide a dollar-for-dollar match on all UNDP funds during 2004 and 2005, as part of a project agreement between the government, UNDP and UNOPS. However, while UNDP had advanced US\$1.8 million by the end of 2005, the government provided only about \$400,000.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- The Landmine Monitor recorded international contributions of more than US\$20 million for the period 1999-2005. Numerous donors contributed to the mine action program through the aegis of UNDP, NGOs or directly: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- The HCND has received support since 1999 from UNDP, UNOPS and UNICEF. The HCND is supported by a UNDP chief technical adviser and another advisor, for administration, finances and logistics is provided by Switzerland as an in-kind contribution.

COSTA RICA¹

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Costa Rica is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 September 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Costa Rica's northern border with Nicaragua was contaminated by mines laid by parties to the 1980s conflict in Nicaragua. At the December 2002 ceremony to celebrate the completion of clearance, a Costa Rican official stated that some 5,000 explosive devices were laid in Costa Rica during the war, but most were removed by informal deminers before the start of the OAS demining program in Costa Rica. According to Costa Rica's September 2001 Article 7 report, an estimated 1,800 mines remained to be demined in the zones of Pocosol, Upala, and La Cruz. Affected areas include the sectors of Los Chiles, Tablitas, Isla Chica, La Trocha, Pocosol, San Isidro, Tiricias, Cóbano, La Victoria, and Pueblo Nuevo, which are mainly agricultural lands near the border.

3. What progress has Costa Rica made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- According to the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) and the OAS, Costa Rican deminers destroyed a total of 341 landmines and UXO and cleared 131,903 square meters of land between 1996, when mine clearance began, and December 2002.
- The last areas that were cleared of mines were in the zones of Los Chiles, Upala, and La Cruz.
- Costa Rica declared it had completed the implementation of Article 5 on 10 December 2002, nearly seven years prior to its treaty deadline.
- In February 2003, Costa Rica reported a total of 338 mines and UXO cleared from 178,000 square meters of land.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- Not applicable. Landmine Monitor has not recorded any new landmine casualties in Costa Rica since it started monitoring the country in 1999.

5. Does Costa Rica have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- Not applicable.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- The OAS Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, through its Program for Integral Action against Antipersonnel Mines (AICMA, Acción Integral Contra las Minas Antipersonal), was responsible for coordinating and supervising the Assistance Program for Demining in Central America (PADCA, Programa de Asistencia al Desminado en Centroamérica), with the technical support of the Inter-American Defense Board. The IADB was responsible for organizing a team of international supervisors in charge of training, certification, and ensuring demining meets international standards, known as the Assistance Mission for Mine Clearance in Central America (Misión de Asistencia para la Remoción de Minas en Centro América or MARMINCA).

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- The AICMA program was initiated in 1996. It provided training for 41 Costa Rican deminers and furnished four mine detection dogs to the Costa Rican demining operation. IADB officers from Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala and Venezuela supervised the deminers.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- Not known.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- According to the OAS AICMA National Coordinator, since 1996 OAS funding for the mine clearance program in Costa Rica received \$134,000 annually. The salaries of MARMINCA supervisors were paid directly by their respective governments.
- United States funding for the Costa Rica program concluded in June 2001. Mine clearance operations in Costa Rica were suspended in early December 2001 because of lack of resources. A \$25,000 donation from Italy enabled resumption of a modified program and its conclusion in 2002.

Endnote

¹ There is no country report for Costa Rica in Landmine Monitor Report 2006. This Fact Sheet has been assembled from information contained in previous Landmine Monitor reports.

CROATIA

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Croatia is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009.**

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under Croatia's jurisdiction or control?

- Based on the results of a general survey, the extent of suspected mined area was reduced from 6,000 square kilometers to 4,500 square kilometers in 1999, and subsequently to 1,700 square kilometers in 2001.
- General survey of suspected hazardous areas from 2003 to 2005 defined more precisely the borders of suspected hazardous areas and categorization of these areas as either known or suspected mined areas. This resulted in the estimate by CROMAC (Croatian Mine Action Center) of 1,174 square kilometers of mined areas in 121 towns and municipalities across 12 counties, which was subsequently reduced to 1,147 square kilometers as a result of demining in 2005.
- Technical survey has been ongoing since 1999.
- CROMAC stated that, as of May 2006, mine-suspected areas were marked with a total of 9,500 warning signs; one in three signs were missing because people had removed them and had to be replaced.
- Fencing of mined areas has been conducted by demining companies, but CROMAC will take over this responsibility in the future. Areas that are not a priority according to the demining plan or which are being cleared are fenced.

3. What progress has Croatia made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Since 2000, estimates of the contaminated area have been reduced by 2,853 square kilometers, with clearance operations accounting for only about 103 square kilometers of this reduction (3.6 percent of the reduction in the total size of mined areas).
- On 1 June 2006, parliamentarians criticized the slow pace of demining in Croatia.
- In 2005, only 27 square kilometers were reduced as a result of mine clearance and technical survey showing a sharp decline compared to the 33.7 square kilometers released in 2004.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- In 2006, Croatia estimated that 1,147 square kilometers of mined areas remained to be demined.
- Croatia has claimed that only some 12–15 percent of the suspected mined areas are actually mined. In November 2005, Croatia estimated that some 240,000 mines and some 60,000 items of unexploded ordnance remained to be cleared.

5. Does Croatia have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- The Croatian Mine Action Centre (CROMAC) adopted its first National Mine Action Program strategy in 2000. Since 2004, the program strategy has been under revision to cover the period 2005–2009. As of July 2006, the strategy had still not been submitted to the Parliament for approval.
- The main problem is said to be the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the program, as those have to be identified before approval by the parliament. While CROMAC estimated that €450 million would be needed to implement the draft 2005–2009 program, only €250 million were spent on mine action through 1998–2005.
- Croatia's revised draft program strategy covers the period 2005 to 2009 and sets a demining target at 346 square kilometers by the end of 2009 based on the 2005 estimate of 1,174 square kilometers of contamination. Thus, **Croatia is not planning to meet its existing legal obligations to ensure the destruction of all antipersonnel mines in mined areas by 1 March 2009.** In May 2006, Croatia declared that "Croatia's likelihood of meeting the 2009 Convention deadline for demining is indeed, very, very slim."

- Furthermore, Croatia is revising yearly its demining targets (as set out in the draft demining program strategy) based on resources allocated for mine action. In 2005, the clearance target was revised from 46 square kilometers to 32 square kilometers. However, in 2005, Croatia fell short of its demining objectives as only 27 kilometers were released.
- 6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?**
- The government appointed in 1998 the Croatia Mine Action Centre (CROMAC) and its Council. The Council works as a mine action authority and coordinated the work of the CROMAC.
 - CROMAC is responsible for coordinating mine action activities including demining, mine action information management, marking and fencing of suspected hazardous areas, allocation of demining tasks through tenders, quality management, and coordination of mine risk education and victim assistance activities.
 - A Law on Humanitarian Demining was enacted in 1996 and amended twice in 1998 and 2002. On 5 January 2006, a new Law was enacted.
- 7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the treaty?**
- CROMAC developed within its structure capacity for mine action information management, marking and fencing of suspected hazardous areas, allocation of demining tasks through tenders, quality management, and coordination of mine risk education and victim assistance activities. CROMAC employs 150 staff of whom 90 are field operations staff.
 - Demining in Croatia is mostly undertaken by private companies. There were 27 commercial companies and one NGO carrying out demining in 2005 using 600 deminers, 53 demining machines and 129 mine detection dogs.
- 8. What financial and technical means has Croatia given to the mine action program?**
- Croatia has set up a mine action authority and a national mine action centre and is providing staff for it.
 - National demining laws were developed, amended and adopted.
 - More than two-thirds of the funds allocated to demining come from government funding. Since 1999, Landmine Monitor calculated that more than US\$175 million were nationally funded. However, funds allocated are not sufficient to complete objectives set under the revised mine action program, which itself misses the 2009 deadline.
- 9. What external financial and technical means has Croatia received for the mine action program?**
- In addition to bilateral funding for mine action from donor countries, the program has benefited from long-term support from the European Commission, the International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF), and the World Bank (in the form of loans).
 - Based on its previous annual reports, Landmine Monitor has calculated that in 1999 through to the end of 2005, Croatia received at least US\$47 million for mine action.

DENMARK

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Denmark is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009.**

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- On 27 August 1999, Denmark submitted its first Article 7 transparency report in which it declared the area of Skallingen peninsula in northwest Jutland as a mined area containing antipersonnel mines. The area was mined in 1944 by German forces.
- The mined areas have all been marked and fenced in accordance with Article 5 and no human casualties have occurred in them since demining was ended in the 1940s.

3. What progress has Denmark made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- The Danish Coastal Authority has estimated that around 3,500 mines were destroyed by the Danish Army engineers responding to requests for clearance on a case-by-case basis from the local authorities and population over the years. These spot clearance tasks were not documented in detail.
- Denmark initiated formal demining operations in July 2006 using a foreign commercial company.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- The Danish army conducted an analysis of the state of the mines in the area in 2005. Also in 2005, the Danish Coastal Authority conducted in-depth desk survey of archives and records, as well as a comparison of aerial photos, so as to determine more precisely the boundaries of the minefield. This was also necessary as part of the fence surrounding the mined area needed to be repaired or restored since much of the "permanent" fence demarcating the area had disappeared.
- The total size of the affected area was initially estimated at 2.4 square kilometers, but has since been reduced to an area of 1.6 square kilometers, although a much larger area of 2.95 square kilometers is actually fenced off. With further threat assessment the area that will eventually require clearance is expected to be further reduced.
- The maximum number of mines believed to be remaining in the area is under 10,000, with a working figure according to one expert of 7,000 mines.

5. Does the State Party have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- According to the Danish Coastal Authority, clearance on Skallingen will be initiated in three phases starting from July 2006. Phases 1 and 2 are planned to be executed by 2008 and clearance of the phase 3 will be decided thereafter, based on the lessons learned from the first two phases. Phase 3 is likely to be the most difficult area to clear as it is partly in the wetlands.
- Denmark has funding for three years of demining operations. However, Denmark did not officially indicate its intention or ability to meet the 2009 deadline, therefore **it remains unclear whether Denmark will be able to comply with its existing obligations under Article 5.**

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- In Denmark, clearance of the Skallingen peninsula is under the responsibility of the Danish Coastal Authority (a department under the Ministry for Transport and Energy), which is also the owner of the affected area. Accordingly, in 2006, the "Skallingen Mine Clearance Project" was initiated as part of the activities of the Coastal Authority.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- In May 2006, a British commercial clearance company was selected from among the five companies that pre-qualified.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- After doing little in the more than five years since it had become a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty, in November 2005 at the Sixth Meeting of States Parties, Denmark announced that it would allocate 86 million Krone (nearly US\$15 million) to clear landmines from the Skallingen peninsula.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- There is no evidence of any external contribution for demining in Skallingen, nor any suggestion that such assistance is to be sought.

DJIBOUTI

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Djibouti is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under Djibouti's jurisdiction or control?

- Djibouti reported that all antipersonnel mines laid by government forces were marked and mapped.
- Djibouti declared that areas suspected to contain landmines laid by rebels in 1991–1994 had been identified and perimeter-marked.
- Djibouti declared in 2005 that there are no suspected mined areas remaining in the country and noted that the mine clearance program had been completed in 2003.

3. What progress has Djibouti made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- During a five-year demining program from 1998 to 2003, 14 sites covering 40,080 square meters have been cleared destroying in the process 500 landmines, two grenades, and 40 other explosive remnants of war. Once the program was completed, Djibouti declared itself "mine-safe" in January 2004. However, a "mine-safe" status does not fulfill the requirements of Article 5 to ensure the destruction of all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control. In November 2005, Djibouti explained that it would declare itself 'mine-free' only once the clearance of the French ammunition depot of La Doudah has been completed.
- However, the US Department of State has indicated in travel warnings in both May 2005 and May 2006 that other mine/UXO contaminated areas are known to remain in the northern districts of Tadjoureh and Obock and suspected in the Ali Sabieh district in the south. Djibouti is said to have records of those areas that have been marked or fenced. Marking and fencing of mined areas is an interim step toward the destruction of all antipersonnel mines in mined areas, as required by Article 5.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- The size of the areas suspected to contain antipersonnel mines is not known.

5. Does Djibouti have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- Djibouti repeatedly indicated having completed its demining program.
- ICBL is not aware of any plan by Djibouti to demine the remaining known and suspected mined areas.
- France plans to start clearance of its minefield in La Doudah in October 2006.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate the mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- During the 1998-2003 demining program, demining was undertaken by the Djibouti Mine Action Center (DMAC), operating as a unit of the Djiboutian military.
- There is no national mine action authority in Djibouti.
- However, in March 2006, a law was promulgated on the implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty which included the provision for the creation of a "national commission to ensure the implementation and the follow-up of the law."

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the treaty?

- Djibouti had a demining section within its army seconded to the DMAC.

8. What financial and technical means has Djibouti given to the mine action program?

- It is not known how much national funding Djibouti contributed to its mine action program.

9. What external financial and technical means has Djibouti received for the mine action program?

- Djibouti's five-year national demining program was mainly supported by the United States but also by the French army and UNDP. The US Department of State contributed some US\$2.88 million to demining in 2000–2003.

ECUADOR

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Ecuador is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 October 2009.**

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Ecuador has been conducting localized "impact surveys" since 2001 to identify suspected hazardous areas.
- The Ecuadorian Mine Clearance Centre (Centro del Desminado del Ecuador – CENDESMI) claims that all mined areas have been marked. The centre is, however, aware of some markings being taken away by locals or damaged and stated that it was "a concern for CENDESMI to maintain them."

3. What progress has Ecuador made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- As of December 2005, a total of 103,902 square meters of land had been cleared by Ecuador; 4,409 antipersonnel mines, 61 antivehicle mines and five items of UXO were destroyed during operations.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- As of 3 May 2006, and based on local impact surveys, a total of 438,690 square meters were said to be affected in three provinces (Zamora Chinchipe, Morona Santiago and Loja).
- In addition, based on military records, Pastaza province and Orellana province were reported to contain mined areas. An impact survey was ongoing as of June 2006 to identify the specific areas and the number of mines affected.
- Also affected, although not reported by Ecuador, is the Canton of Tiwinza, an area of one square kilometer in Peruvian territory, granted to Ecuador by Peru as part of the peace agreement. The exact number of mines emplaced in the area is currently unknown.
- Following the discovery of mines in the Zarumillo river in January 2005, a suspected area of 12,000 square meters was identified and clearance operations were ongoing as of May 2006.

5. Does Ecuador have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- Ecuador's National Demining Plan was adopted by CENDESMI on 15 January 2000. However, CENDESMI amends demining priorities every year based on results of impact surveys, reports of newly found mines, availability of funds and mine action capacity.
- In May 2006, Ecuador noted that its National Demining Plan schedules clearance to end in Morona Santiago in 2008, in Zamora Chinchipe, Orellana and Pastaza provinces in 2009 and in the square kilometer of Tiwinza in 2010. However, CENDESMI has indicated that Ecuador will make "all the necessary efforts to conclude operations in 2009, and therefore achieve the deadline mandated by the Treaty."

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- Ecuador established CENDESMI, its National Mine Action Authority, by Executive Decree on 22 September 1999. Its executive board is chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- The Demining General Command (DGC) of the Ecuadorian Army implements mine clearance operations.
- Since 2001, the Organization of American States has been assisting Ecuador in executing and managing its demining program.
- In May 2003, the Inter-American Defense Board established the Assistance Mission for Mine Clearance in South America (Misión de Asistencia a la Remoción de Minas en Suramérica, MARMINAS) to support mine clearance in Ecuador and Peru.

- Joint clearance operations with Peru in the Cordillera del Condor did not start in early 2005 as planned due to delays in European Union (EU) funding and lack of agreement between the two countries regarding fees for the use of a helicopter. The EU is providing funds for one year, until March 2007. After that date, it is not clear how Ecuador will fund demining operations.
- 7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?**
- In 2005, Ecuador had 60 deminers from the Army Engineer Brigade trained in humanitarian demining.
 - MARMINAS provides refresher courses on demining. CENDESMI also operates a national demining school in charge of training deminers.
- 8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?**
- Ecuador has established a mine action authority and is providing staff for it.
 - It is also providing deminers and logistical support to clearance operations along its border.
- 9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?**
- Through the OAS, funds for mine action were provided by Canada, Italy, Japan, the European Union and the US for demining activities in Ecuador. In August 2005, the Department of State indicated that US mine action funding for Ecuador would be discontinued in 2006 due to termination of the cross-border project.
 - The bulk of mine action funding for Ecuador in 2006 was being provided by the European Commission following an agreement at the end of 2005 for funding of €1 million (\$1.28 million) to mine action in both Peru and Ecuador.
 - Since demining operations in the Cordillera del Condor region and in the Chira River area are conducted jointly with Peru, Ecuador's progress is also contingent on good collaboration between the two armies and on Peru's ability to mobilize funds and its own progress in clearance operations.

FRANCE

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, France is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under France's jurisdiction or control?

- France conducted a preparatory mission in 2003 of the area suspected to be contaminated with landmines around its ammunition depot of La Doudah in Djibouti. Two more preparatory missions were conducted in 2005 and 2006 to establish a timetable as well as technical requirements and safety provisions for clearance operations.

3. What progress has France made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- As of July 2006, no antipersonnel mines had been cleared from the La Doudah depot since France became a State Party more than seven years ago.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- France estimated that some 700 antipersonnel mines are contaminating the area.

5. Does France have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- Following a preparatory mission in 2005, France declared that mine clearance of La Doudah would start in October 2006 and in the absence of unforeseen technical problems, would be completed in 2008. Previously, completion was planned for mid-2007.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- The National Commission for the Elimination of Antipersonnel Mines (CNEMA) was created by the national implementation law of 1998. It includes governmental and non-governmental representatives and has the legal mandate to ensure full implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party?

- France has a demining section within its army.

8. What financial and technical means has France given to the mine action program?

- France will be providing financial resources and technical means to mine clearance operations in La Doudah.

9. What external financial and technical means has France received for the mine action program?

N/A

GUATEMALA

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Guatemala is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 September 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- In 1997, the UCE prepared a National Demining Program which listed 13 departments with a high risk of contamination which were to be cleared in a first phase, by 2004, and two departments at a lower risk level to be cleared in a second phase, by 2005.
- The identification of mined areas in Guatemala was conducted by the Volunteer Firefighters through "sensitization campaigns": visits to areas of earlier conflict and through information provided by the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union (URNG). Visits were first made to high-risk areas, followed by lower risk areas. Maps were created by the Volunteer Firefighters based on the information collected.
- After the information was collected, the mines and items of unexploded ordnance (UXO) were marked and/or fenced with posters before destruction by the Army Corps of Engineer.
- The department of Sacatepéquez was initially not considered as mine- or ERW-affected and therefore was not included in the list of priorities of the National Demining Program. However, Sacatepéquez was later added to the list of affected departments after local population reported finding UXO.
- Clearance operations were conducted in 16 of the 22 departments. Fourteen of these were considered to have a high risk of contamination. The other two were considered to have a low risk level.

3. What progress has Guatemala made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Between the beginning of Guatemala's National Demining Program in 1998 and 2005, 4,234 mines and UXO were destroyed.
- In 2005, 23 mines (including both antipersonnel and antivehicle mines) were discovered during clearance operations.
- On 15 December 2005, Guatemala completed its National Demining Program and declared that it had fulfilled its obligations under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- Guatemala had stated that it did not have minefields, but that there were a limited number of landmines and UXO where internal armed conflict took place. The only minefield registered in Guatemala was laid around the Tajumulco Volcano by guerrillas of the URNG to protect their radio station. It was cleared in 1996 by the URNG, the UN and the Army, before Guatemala signed the Mine Ban Treaty.

5. Does Guatemala have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- Guatemala has noted the risk that mines and other explosive devices might be found in areas not cleared by the National Demining Program. Accordingly, in December 2005 a mobile demining unit was created to respond to reports of residual mines and UXO.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- Before Guatemala's completion of the National Demining Program, the Demining Coordination Commission (Comisión Coordinadora del Desminado, CCD), established by decree in August 1995, was responsible for the coordination of the Program, the approval of the annual budget and the management of national and international funding. The CCD included representatives of the Army Engineer Corps, Volunteer Firefighters Corps, reintegrated former guerrillas of the URNG and the OAS/AICMA.

- Until the completion of the National Demining Program, the Executive Coordinating Unit (UCE), established in 1997, was in charge of its implementation and the management, and reported to the National Congress and the CCD.
 - In mid-2006, the UCE was planning to begin reducing staff numbers and start operating out of the offices of the Volunteer Firefighters. In October 2007, the CCD and the UCE may be disbanded and the Volunteer Firefighters and the National Police would function as a channel of information from the civilian population to the Army Engineer Corps, who will maintain equipment for the clearance and destruction of mines and UXO.
- 7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?**
- Clearance operations in Guatemala integrated civil society by involving Volunteer Firefighters Corps and reintegrated URNG members in mine risk education and information gathering. The Army Engineer Corps carried out survey and clearance, with assistance from the OAS. As of May 2005, the team responsible for clearance and mine risk education consisted of 72 staff, including 34 Army engineers, 18 members of the Volunteer Firefighter Corps and 20 former URNG members.
 - Following the completion of formal demining, a mobile demining unit was created in December 2005 to respond to reports of residual mines and explosive remnants of war. The mobile unit, which is coordinated by the UCE, is expected to be operational through March 2007 and consists of existing personnel from Guatemala's demining teams. Ten army engineers, four URNG members and four members of the Volunteer Firefighter Corps make up the Unit. Guatemala has stated its willingness to share its demining experience and send its trained deminers to other mine-affected countries.
- 8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?**
- Guatemala has contributed significant funding to its mine action efforts. It reported to the Mine Ban Treaty Resource Mobilization Contact Group that it provided \$1.41 million in 1999-2003.
 - Guatemala provided \$120,000 towards the cost of demining in 2004.
 - The Commission of Peace and Demining of the Congress of Guatemala was planning to provide US\$60,000 to cover the costs of the Mobile Demining Unit.
- 9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?**
- According to a May 2003 presentation by the OAS, 16 governments and the European Union had previously contributed to the regional mine action program benefiting Guatemala. This included donors that have provided long-term support and/or have provided support for specific units (Canada, Norway, Sweden, UK, USA, and the European Union), donors that have provided general support (Denmark, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, and Spain), and smaller donors (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Germany, and Russia). The program received more than \$24.5 million in 1998-2002.
 - In June 2004 the OAS reported that total contributions over the course of 2003 and the first quarter of 2004 amounted to approximately \$8.2 million.
 - An estimated US\$750,000 was spent on mine action in Guatemala in 2004. The OAS contributed \$630,000, received from a variety of donors
 - In September 2005, the OAS had reported that completion of mine clearance in Guatemala might be delayed if necessary funds were not received. Norway provided US\$288,000 the same month to enable demining in the country to be completed.

HONDURAS

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Honduras is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Landmines were planted in Honduran territory by combatants to the armed conflicts in Nicaragua and El Salvador during the 1980s, especially in the departments of Choluteca and El Paraíso and La Paz and Lempira. In June 2004, Honduras reported that a total of approximately 447,000 square meters of affected land had been cleared since 1995, with El Paraíso department accounting for 96 per cent of the
- However, the Organization of American States noted that certain regions would remain at risk of future mine incidents, especially along border areas, because of the nature of the original mine-laying and environmental factors.
- The effects of 1998 Hurricane Mitch diverted the Río Negro in Choluteca department on the border with Nicaragua and efforts to maintain the border and develop this area have been impeded by the suspected presence of landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) buried deep in the sand in the former riverbed. In May 2004, the media reported that the Honduran Minister of Foreign Affairs had requested OAS support to redirect the river back to its original course, noting that special equipment was needed to remove mines dislodged by the river.

3. What progress has Honduras made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- In 2004, Honduras reported that a total of approximately 447,000 square meters of affected land had been cleared since 1995. Honduras believed that it had completed mine clearance in June 2004, when the last affected departments of Choluteca and El Paraíso were demined.
- In November 2005, however, a mine was reported to have killed a farmer in the municipality of El Paraíso, in an area on the Honduran side of the border with Nicaragua that had previously been demined.
- At the end of November 2005, Honduras noted continued reports from civilians of the presence of mines and UXO along the border, and stated that during the year two antipersonnel mines and around 100 items of UXO had been found and destroyed in border areas of El Paraíso department.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- Unknown. It is not known what action has been taken by the Honduran authorities to survey suspected areas.

5. Does the SP have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- In 2004, the national army's Joint Task Team described the Río Negro region in Choluteca, and also Naco, Cortés department, as "special cases" which fall outside the national demining plan. In June 2004, the Honduras-Nicaragua Binacional Committee requested assistance from the OAS for clearance of the Río Negro region, and it was reported the OAS would seek the funds needed to remove sedimentation and carry out clearance along eight kilometers of the river.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- The OAS Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, through the Integral Action against Antipersonnel Mines Program (Acción Integral Contra las Minas Antipersonal, AICMA), was responsible for coordinating and supervising the Assistance Program for Demining in Central America (Programa de Asistencia al Desminado en Centroamérica, PADCA), with the technical support of the Inter-American Defense Board. OAS AICMA and MARMINCA managed the mine action program in Honduras.

- On 23 July 2004, the OAS PADCA Honduras coordinator told Landmine Monitor that a termination process had been initiated to remove heavy equipment and dismantle the OAS office following the end of clearance operations on 12 June 2004.
- 7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?**
- Mine clearance started in Honduras in September 1995, after the US Army trained a total of 130 Honduran Army deminers serving in four platoons during 1994-1995. By 2003, the program consisted of 70 deminers, 30 support soldiers, four mine detection dogs, and a team of five international supervisors (three from Colombia, one from Guatemala and one from Brazil).
 - In 2004, the Joint Task Team deployed two squads of 25 deminers, five supervisors, a logistics unit and a medical team.
 - Also in 2004, the OAS planned to establish and support a "sustainable mechanism" for the national army's Joint Task Team to respond and destroy mines and UXO that might be reported by the public after the official completion of the clearance operation. When necessary, international supervisors would be called upon in order to certify any clearance carried out.
- 8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?**
- Honduras has reported its domestic contributions to mine action to be more than US\$1.2 million in 1999–2002.¹
- 9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?**
- Donors to the demining program in Honduras included Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Japan, Norway and Spain, Sweden, and the United States. In 2003, the OAS provided \$800,000 for mine clearance in Honduras, divided into \$200,000 for each quarter of the year. In the quarter ending 31 August 2004, the OAS provided \$60,000 to complete clearance operations.
 - In January 2003, Taiwan supplemented OAS funds with approximately \$294,000 for clearance in Choluteca and El Paraíso departments. In 2002 and 2001 the budget for the Honduras demining program was \$650,456 annually.
 - The OAS reported that in 2004 it would require \$213,125 to establish and support the capacity of the Joint Task Team to respond to public reports of mines and UXO following completion of clearance operations.

Endnote

¹ \$250,974 in 1999; \$280,796 in 2000; \$333,224 in 2001; and \$549,488 in 2002.

JORDAN

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Jordan is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 May 2009.**

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Mines are concentrated in military-laid minefields along Jordan's borders with Israel and Syria, which have been mapped and fenced, although flooding sometimes causes migration of mines outside these areas.
- A modified Landmine Impact Survey is due to start before the end of 2006 intended to provide updated and consistent data on Israeli- and Jordanian-laid minefields.
- Jordan has stated that all minefields are fenced and marked, and that the Royal Corps of Engineers conducts periodic maintenance.

3. What progress has Jordan made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Jordan began mine clearance in 1993 and by 2005 had reduced the number of minefields from 497 to 314.
- The Royal Corps of Engineers, until 2006 responsible for all demining activities, cleared more than 2.9 square kilometers of land in 2005, compared with 0.9 square kilometers in 2004 and 4 square kilometers in 2003.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- By 2005, the area of suspected contamination was estimated at 35 square kilometers, reduced from about 60 square kilometers in 1993.
- The National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation (NCDR) estimates minefields along the Western border with Jordan at 12 square kilometers, those in the Jordan Valley at eight square kilometers and those on the border with Syria at 15 square kilometers.

5. Does Jordan have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- Yes. Jordan published its first National Mine Action Plan (NMAP) in June 2005 as a "comprehensive roadmap" designed to ensure it met its Article 5 deadline.
- As part of that strategy, in 2006 Jordan brought in an external demining operator, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), to expand mine action capacity and accelerate clearance. Jordan has stated that if, in a year or so, it needs to accelerate clearance further to meet its deadline it will bring in another foreign operator or assign NPA to additional clearance tasks.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- Jordan created the NCDR in 2000 to act as the "primary national mine action authority" mandated to prepare and supervise implementation of a national mine action plan and to accredit and regulate demining operators.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- Until 2006 all demining was undertaken by the Jordanian army's Royal Corps of Engineers, which has up to 20 demining teams and a range of mechanical assets.
- In 2006, NPA opened an office in Amman and operations bases in Aqaba and Risha and recruited and trained up to 145 national deminers. It expected to have a Minewolf mine clearing machine operating from November.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- The costs of demining conducted by the army were met largely by the Jordanian government. From 1993 to 1995 the government provided some \$50 million towards total costs estimated at \$62.25 million. The NMAP projected the total cost of demining in 2005-2009 at \$47.8 million, of which the government expected to contribute \$14.6 million.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- Jordan projected that \$32.2 million or 70 per cent of the expected cost of demining under the 2005-2009 NMAP, would come from for foreign donors.
- Foreign donors to the program so far have included Canada, Germany, Norway, the UK and the US.
- The UN Development Programme has provided a chief technical adviser to the NCDR since 2003 and added a second adviser in 2006.

FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, FYR Macedonia is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Five areas in the northwest of the country are reported to be mine/unexploded ordnance (UXO) affected, in the regions of Tetovo, Kumanovo and Skopje.
- All five areas are reported to be marked and fenced and their exact position and geographical coordinates are well-known.

3. What progress has FYR Macedonia made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- The remaining landmine problem in FYR Macedonia is small. With the support of International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF), significant clearance activities were undertaken between 2001 and 2004. FYR Macedonia was expected to clear all remaining mines by the end of September 2006, with funding from the United States. At the end of these operations, the country would consider itself to be mine-free.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- The exact size of mined areas was not reported on by FYR Macedonia.

5. Does FYR Macedonia have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- In 2005, FYR Macedonia prepared the Action Plan for the Protection from Mines and Unexploded Ordnance on the Territory of the Republic of Macedonia. It does not have a specific timeline but it describes the financial resources needed for its implementation for the period 2006 to 2010, because "clearance operations made in 2009 might be paid in 2010."
- FYR Macedonia reported in December 2005 that the first priority was to clear mined areas by the end of 2006 and then clear UXO, which is expected to be completed at the end of 2009.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- The Protection and Rescue Directorate, which combines the Ministry of Defense Department for Civilian Protection for Humanitarian Demining and the Ministry of Interior Firefighters Units is responsible for mine action. It was established by a law which passed in June 2004 and the Directorate started working in June 2005. Previously, mine action activities had been coordinated by the Unit for Humanitarian Demining, part of the Department for Civilian Protection in the Ministry of Defense.
- Mine and UXO clearance is only one of 13 areas under the directorate's responsibility; other issues dealt with include evacuation, protection from biological and chemical threats, fires and earthquakes.
- Because the government did not allocate funds for mine action in 2005, no clearance operations took place. A donation by the United States of \$50,000 was expected to help FYR Macedonia complete mine clearance operations.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- In 2005, the only body responsible for mine clearance is the Directorate which employs 11 explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) specialists with international training. It can also contract 22 demining experts with international certificates. Previously, external organizations were involved in clearance activities: MineTech contracted by CARE, as well as Handicap International, and teams from Bosnia and Herzegovina contracted by the ITF and NATO.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- The FYR Macedonian government provided \$10,000 in office, logistics and utility costs in 2003 and \$15,000 in 2004. No funds were provided in 2005. In 2004, the Unit for Humanitarian Demining considered that “the Government of Macedonia should be more involved in national mine action efforts”. The ITF also advised in its 2004 annual report that, “The Macedonian government should make every effort to assume full ownership of the program themselves and include trained and equipped CP [civil protection] teams in their own national structure.”

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- In 2001–2004, ITF provided all the expenses of the clearance program, including remuneration for the national demining teams and five office staff. During that period, the ITF provided approximately \$1,992,245.
- Governments which have funded mine action in FYR Macedonia include Canada, Japan, Slovenia and the United States.

MALAWI

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Malawi is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Malawi is contaminated by mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO), as a result of conflicts in neighboring Mozambique. Crossing points on the 1,000 kilometer border and routes to these points on both sides of the border were mined by all parties in order to disrupt movement of opposing forces.
- Malawi reported that it is also probable that protective mines were laid by refugees and combatants around the camps they established in Malawi. Flooding caused by annual heavy rains may have compounded the mine problem by causing mines to migrate, including from Mozambique to Malawi. High-risk areas include Chikwana, Nsanje and Mangochi.
- The UXO problem stems from the same conflicts, but was thought to be exacerbated by the paramilitary Malawi Young Pioneers, which the Malawi Defense Force forcibly disbanded in 1993. Although 33 of the paramilitary training camps were suspected of being contaminated, in May 2006, Malawi reported that general survey had revealed no UXO or abandoned ordnance
- There was no marking or fencing of any dangerous areas in 2005 due to lack of funds. A project for marking and fencing has been seeking international funding.

3. What progress has Malawi made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- The Ministry of Defense reported that a general survey was conducted around the 33 Malawi Young Pioneers camps in 2005. Some areas along the Mozambican border were also said to have been surveyed. No contamination was discovered during any of the surveys.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- Not known.

5. Does Malawi have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- In Malawi's five-year plan, drafted in 2004, states that, "if donor support is forthcoming, then it is feasible to have achieved [the vision to be free of the threat of landmines and unexploded ordnance] by 2009. If donor support is not forthcoming, then achieving this vision will take substantially longer." In May 2006, the Ministry of Defense stated that "it had no doubt" that Malawi could become mine-free by 2009 with the appropriate funding.
- However, given that no clearance operations were conducted in 2005, none were planned for 2006 and no external funding was expected in the near future, Malawi's ability to comply with its Article 5 deadline for clearance is open to question. With the exception of survey activities, none of the objectives scheduled by the 2005-2009 plan for completion by mid-2006 had been achieved.
- Plans for 2006 were to continue survey and marking of suspected areas, to build the capacity of mine action staff and to further educate the population regarding the mine/UXO threat. Malawi planned to work "hand-in-hand" with neighboring countries, particularly Mozambique, to address the mine problem along their common borders; this was discussed during SADC mine action meetings.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- Malawi's mine action bodies were established in 2003. The National Committee for Landmines serves as the National Mine Action Authority and a mine action center, set up within the armed forces, coordinates mine action activities.
- Since April 2006, a new official in the Ministry of Defense has been overseeing mine-related activities. In May 2006, he was reorganizing and relocating the mine action office as well as updating mine-related

information; the mine action office was said to lack human resources, equipment and funding. Based on discussions held during a mine action meeting of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) in Angola in April 2006, Malawi was considering placing the national mine action office under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- The Malawian Army is the only body in charge of demining in the country. Danish Demining Group (DDG) intends to assist Malawi to conduct a demining program, but has not received funding.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- The Ministry of Defense reports that as no external funds were received in 2005 or by May 2006, it used its own funds to carry out survey operations. The five-year Action Plan states that, "Malawi is committed to mobilizing its own limited national resources in order to address the mine/UXO problem and has tasked a number of government departments accordingly." In May 2006, the Ministry of Defense official in charge of mine action stated that a budget for mine-related activities would be prepared by July 2006.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- In June 2005, Malawi called for US\$267,000 to fund survey and clearance activities for the rest of 2005. No further information on funding and/or assistance requested or received by Malawi has been reported to Landmine Monitor. Malawi had no projects in the 2006 UN Portfolio for Mine-Related Projects.

MOZAMBIQUE

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Mozambique is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- A Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) completed in August 2001 found suspected mined areas (SMAs) in all 10 provinces of Mozambique and in 123 of its 128 districts. It identified 1,374 SMAs, affecting 1,488,998 people in 791 communities.
- However, the accuracy of the LIS was questioned from the outset. Resurveys by three international operators indicated the LIS produced an exaggerated estimate of the affected areas and also missed a significant number of mined areas.
- Marking or fencing of mined and mine-suspected areas is "rarely" conducted in Mozambique, although one operator has marked the perimeters with semi-permanent benchmarks and another was planning to start marking in 2006.

3. What progress has Mozambique made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Clearance data provided by the government of Mozambique differs from data provided by operators.
- Based on previous statistics cited in annual Landmine Monitor Reports, IND has reported clearance from 1999 to 2003 as ranging from 29.2 square kilometers up to 35.2 square kilometers. Information provided by the mine action operators indicated clearance of 35 square kilometers from 1999 to 2003.
- Operators reported that in 2004 and 2005, an additional 8.89 square kilometers were demined. IND reported that 23 square kilometers were cleared in that same period (The IND does not systemically differentiate between area cleared, surveyed and cancelled.)

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- New estimates produced by the IND, based on the LIS results and taking into account subsequent re-surveys and mine clearance, indicated that, at the end of 2005, there were 353 suspected areas affecting approximately 578,000 people in 174 communities and covering an area of 149 square kilometers.
- However, this figure probably also overstates the real extent of contamination. According to the UN Development Programme (UNDP) chief technical adviser, "given that since 2001, of the 423 square kilometers visited by operators in the 1,047 LIS-identified areas, only 17.5 square kilometers of land needed clearance, it can be assumed, with caution, that the remaining 149 square kilometers which need clearance may turn out to be only six square kilometers."

5. Does Mozambique have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- Based on the LIS results, the government drafted in November 2001 a National Mine Action Plan (NMAP) for 2002-2006 which had as its central objective the achievement of a "mine impact free" status by 2012, with all high and medium impact areas cleared by the end of 2006, all low impact areas surveyed and marked, fully operational national mine risk education and long-term victim assistance programs.
- However, over the years, the initial goals have been modified in IND's annual plans. In November 2004, Mozambique announced that it would comply with the Mine Ban Treaty Article 5 deadline, and the IND's annual plans of March 2005 and March 2006 modified the end target, aiming to become mine-free by 2009.
- Mine action operators and provincial governments had very little confidence in the NMAP as a basis for planning and prioritization of mine action, because it was based on the LIS.
- A review of 10 years of mine action in Mozambique, conducted in 2005 by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), stated that the NMAP was inadequate in terms of Mozambique's current and future needs, and recommended that the mine action program be realigned to support the country's development agenda.

- In December 2005, Mozambique said that the withdrawal of donors and demining operators caused concern regarding accomplishment of the 2009 deadline, as it is not in a position to conduct the demining program by itself; Mozambique has received 12 years of international support.
 - At the Standing Committee meetings in May 2006, Mozambique confirmed its “total commitment... in pursuit of compliance with its Article 5 obligations,” and stated again that it is dependent on external support.
- 6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?**
- Formally, Mozambique does not have a national mine action authority. In practice, the Minister of Foreign Affairs assumes the role of inter-ministerial coordination.
 - The IND, established by decree in 1999, is responsible for the coordination of all mine action, under the supervision of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It replaced the National Demining Commission, created in 1995, which had lost the confidence of operators and donors.
- 7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?**
- According to IND's 2006 National Plan, in 2005 the country had 830 deminers working for six demining operators.
 - The Mozambican Armed Forces also carried out some clearance in 2005.
 - IND reported that seven new operators received accreditation in 2005 and that, as of March 2006, there were 17 mine action operators (10 commercial companies and seven national NGOs). However, only five operators were reported to have conducted clearance operations in 2005.
 - In June 2005, the Accelerated Demining Program ceased operations due to lack of funding. NPA and HALO Trust plan to close field operations in 2006 and 2007, respectively. The departure of these major operators leaves a large number of trained human resources behind. However, no clear decision has been made by the government regarding its preferred solution to the need of a long-term national capacity.
- 8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?**
- IND reported that the Mozambican government contributed 52.9 billion Meticaís (\$2.3 million) to mine action in 2005. IND has reported wide fluctuations in government financial support to mine action from 2003-2005: 178 billion Meticaís (\$7.9 million) in 2004, and 18 billion Meticaís (\$818,181) in 2003. The government contribution in 2005 was allocated to the process of closing ADP, paying customs excises on demining equipment and operating costs of IND.
 - In May 2006, mine action was included as a cross-cutting issue in Mozambique's second Poverty Reduction Strategy (Plano de Acção de Redução da Pobreza Absoluta, PARPA II) which covers 2006-2010. Prior to 2005, mine action was not reflected in Mozambique's initial PARPA, nor in the draft PARPA II presented in August 2005.
 - In May 2006, a five-year government development program (2005-2009), prepared every time a new government takes office, included mine action objectives.
- 9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?**
- IND is supported by a UNDP chief technical adviser, who was due to be joined in May 2006 by a technical advisor for operations.
 - Twelve donor countries reported contributing a total of some \$10 million to mine action in Mozambique in 2005: Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Netherlands, Norway, New Zealand, Switzerland and the US.
 - Between 1999 and the end of 2005, Landmine Monitor has identified and reported a total of more than \$95 million in funding for mine action in Mozambique.

NAMIBIA

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Namibia is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Namibia's report in accordance with Article 7 of the Mine Ban Treaty of 26 April 2006 states that no areas contain mines "as demining operations were completed in 2001." It adds that no new areas suspected of containing mines were discovered in the reporting period.

3. What progress has Namibia made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Between 1995 and 2001, Namibia had an extensive mine action program in place to clear all known minefields with the support of the US Department of State through the commercial demining company RONCO. Both the Namibian Police Explosives Unit and the Namibian Defence Force were involved.
- In 2003, with the support of the US, joint teams composed of the Namibian Defence Force and the Namibian Police Explosives Department were deployed to clear mines in the north of the country (in Kavango and Western Caprivi regions), as it was thought that there still existed a residual problem from mines laid by UNITA (the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola).
- The Namibian Police destroyed five mines and 3,300 items of unexploded ordnance (UXO) across the country during 2005.
- Since July 2005, two survey teams have been deployed at regular intervals in the northern regions but as of May 2006, no mines had been found in these regions.
- In March 2006, the Chief of Mine Action of the Namibia Defence Force declared that "Namibia was a mine-affected country before and after independence. Demining operations on the known minefields started in 1995 and were completed in 2000 which made Namibia a mine-safe country. The situation of nuisance mines laid by UNITA elements in the Kavango and Western Caprivi regions were dealt with by the Namibia Defence Force. Our regular survey showed that Namibia is a mine-safe country. The presence of mines has completely diminished."

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- Not applicable.

5. Does the SP have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- In 2004, Namibia drafted a strategic mine action plan for 2005-2009, which included the following goals:
 - To investigate remaining suspected mined areas through a rapid survey in 2005, maintain a national response capability and continue with UXO identification and clearance; and
 - To protect civilians if new mined areas are found (through information campaigns and detection and clearance operations).
- Namibia has not yet declared fulfillment of its Article 5 obligations. In December 2005, the Chief of Mine Action of the Ministry of Defence stated that he will make sure that all suspected areas are visited before declaring the country mine-free. In March 2006, he added that, "Namibia does not want to rush to the declaration. It will do so when the time is ripe to do so," meaning after the completion of the survey.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- There is no national mine action authority or mine action centre in Namibia. The Namibian Defence Force maintains a Landmine Focal Point who reports to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Defence.
- Clearance responsibilities are divided between the NDF, which deals with mine clearance, and the Namibian Police Explosives Department, which is responsible for clearing explosive remnants of war.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- When the US-sponsored training and clearance program in Namibia ended in 2001, the US noted, "Overall, the establishment of Namibia's demining program is complete...Namibia now possesses a modern demining capacity and a dedicated unit of 1,000 deminers."

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- Namibia reported that after the end of the US-sponsored program its continuing mine action activities, including the 2005 survey and any resulting mine/UXO clearance, would be managed from within resources of the Government of Namibia.
- From December 2005 to May 2006, however, no teams were deployed as funds were not available until after the start of the fiscal year in April.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- The US has been the primary donor for mine action in Namibia since the mid-1990s.
- In 1995 to 2003, the US provided more than \$10 million in mine action assistance. The US government also transferred demining equipment worth US\$2 million to the NDF at the conclusion of its mine clearance program in February 2001.
- In August 2003, China donated demining equipment to Namibia, including 30 mine detectors.

NICARAGUA

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Nicaragua is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- The total area affected by mines and explosive remnants of war in Nicaragua is not known. A national impact survey has not been carried out in Nicaragua, although a number of assessments have been conducted, including by the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in December 1998.
- Nicaragua has government military records of the number of mines emplaced in the country in the 1980s, mainly by the Sandinista Popular Army (Ejército Popular Sandinista, EPS). However, these registries are probably not fully detailed or reliable, as only 80 percent of mines laid by the EPS during the war were recorded. In addition, a number of other minefields laid by the Contras (counter-revolutionaries opposed to the Nicaraguan Sandinistas) were not recorded or marked.
- Mined areas not registered in military records continue to be discovered.

3. What progress has Nicaragua made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Nicaragua has reported that in 1989 (when demining operations started) through end February 2006, more than 4.4 square kilometers were cleared and almost 8.9 square kilometers declared free of mines.
- Nicaraguan demining teams destroyed a total of 133,251 antipersonnel landmines, including 11,660 unrecorded mines, during the same period.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- The size of remaining mined areas is not known. Nicaragua reported that, as of March 2006, 27,318 mines remained to be cleared, of which 14,052 were in government military records and 13,266 were not.
- However, new unrecorded mines continue to be found on a regular basis. Between February 2005 and February 2006, 567 unrecorded mines were destroyed.
- As of March 2006, the departments of Jinotega and Nueva Segovia, and to a lesser extent the RAAN, remained mine-affected (containing both recorded and unrecorded mines).

5. Does Nicaragua have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- Nicaragua initially drafted a National Humanitarian Demining Program in 1991, which was revised in 1999. In 2002, a new strategy — the Program of Integral Action Against Mines (PAICMA) — for the period 2002-2007 was drafted by the Comisión Nacional de Desminado (CND) to include the objectives of the 1991-1999 program and also integrate mine risk education and victim assistance goals.
- However, Nicaragua has had to be flexible in the planning of its clearance operations, given the continuing discovery of mines and minefields. Priorities are revisited every year and submitted by the army to the CND for discussion.
- Although Nicaragua has demonstrated its commitment to comply with its Article 5 clearance deadline, it has postponed its estimated date for completion of clearance several times, from 2004 to, most recently, 2007. In the Article 7 report submitted in 2006, Nicaragua claimed that in 2007 it would need continued financial support from the international community for clearance of unrecorded mines, and “without that support, Nicaragua won't be able to declare ‘mine-free’ [status] or ‘completion of humanitarian demining’”.
- Nicaragua reported a monthly clearance rate for 2005 of only 1,045 mines. At that rate, it would take 26 months (or until May 2008) for Nicaragua to clear all 27,318 remaining mines. Moreover, the number of unrecorded mines is constantly increasing. Nicaragua will have to address the problems of limited clearance and increasing numbers of unrecorded mines if it is to comply with its treaty-mandated deadline of 1 March 2009.
- In March 2006, the CND informed Landmine Monitor that Nicaragua planned to complete clearance of all recorded mines by October 2006 and that demining of unrecorded mines would continue into 2007.

6. **What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?**
- Nicaragua established by decree in November 1998 a National Mine Action Authority, the National Demining Commission or CND. In 2004 and 2005, the CND was restructured to improve its effectiveness and better address the challenges of Nicaragua's mine action program.
 - Since 1993, the OAS has provided support to mine action activities in Nicaragua through the Assistance Program for Demining in Central America (Programa de Apoyo al Desminado en Centroamérica, PADCA), with technical support from the Inter-American Defense Board.
7. **What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?**
- As of December 2005, some 650 army soldiers were trained and equipped to engage in mine clearance.
 - Within the Nicaraguan Army, a group of 50 deminers referred to as the Marking Squad (Pelotón de Señalización) works as an independent explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) mobile unit to respond to reports from the population of the existence of mines and UXO and to mark mined areas.
 - Nicaragua has planned for completion of the National Humanitarian Demining Program and drafted a "demobilization plan." After completion of clearance, Nicaragua will maintain a demining team of roughly 130 deminers with the capacity for manual demining, mechanical demining and explosive ordnance disposal in response to reports from the population. The team would also be able to conduct quality assurance and contribute to awareness campaigns.
8. **What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?**
- In 2005, a white paper for a proposed national defense policy was approved by the President of Nicaragua; one of the proposals is to formalize its national demining program as State policy. The CND claimed that the formalization of the program represents Nicaragua's commitment to mine action and provides a long-term foundation for continued state support for mine action beyond 2009.
 - The CND's employees are paid by the Ministry of Defense, but it has no independent operational budget and works with resources from donor countries channeled through the OAS or bilaterally.
 - In 2004, the Minister of Defense told Landmine Monitor that Nicaragua provides an estimated 16 million Córdobas (about US\$1 million) each year to the member institutions of the CND, including the Ministry of Defense, the Nicaraguan Army, and the Ministry of Health, for assistance with salaries, infrastructure, vehicles, and communication.
9. **What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?**
- It is difficult to identify mine action funding for Nicaragua on an annual basis, because many donors designate funds for the OAS multi-country program, and some provide multi-year funding. Nicaragua's mine action activities are funded either bilaterally or through the OAS program.
 - Landmine Monitor identified almost US\$3.5 million of 2005 funding for mine action in Nicaragua by six countries, (Austria, Canada, Denmark, Sweden, the US and Norway). In 2004, five donor countries reported donating almost \$4 million.
 - In 2004, a Nicaraguan official reported that donors had contributed more than \$30 million to the national demining plan and had provided significant in-kind support in the form of technical supervisors.

NIGER

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Niger is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 September 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Contamination is believed to be predominantly located in the Air Mountains in the north and central regions of the country and in the Ténéré desert in the north.
- In its 29 June 2006 transparency report in accordance with Article 7 of the Mine Ban Treaty, ¹Niger reports the following areas as being mined: Plateau de Djado; Massif de l'Air; Plaine du Talak; Plateau du Karami; Plateau du Manguéni; Plateau du Tchigai; Massif d'Afafi; and Region Emi Fazzar.
- But Niger has so far made insufficient efforts to identify areas under its jurisdiction or control in which antipersonnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced. For example, in its Article 7 Report of 29 June 2006, Niger reported no formal survey or clearance activity; the same as in the previous reporting period.

3. What progress has Niger made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- No progress in clearing antipersonnel mines from mined areas in Niger has been reported or identified.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- The extent of contamination from antipersonnel mines remains uncertain.

5. Does the State Party have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- In February 2004, Niger presented a draft mine action plan for 2004-2006 during an intersessional Standing Committee meeting on mine clearance. The plan included marking and mapping of the affected areas; mine risk education; demining training; and the acquisition of new mine clearance equipment.
- Niger did not attend the Standing Committee meetings in May 2006 to provide an update on its efforts or request assistance to meet its obligations under the Mine Ban Treaty.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- There are no structures in place to manage a mine action program.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- No demining capacity has been built in Niger.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- There is no evidence of any contribution from Niger to demining.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- There is no evidence of any external contribution to Niger for demining.

Endnote

¹ Article 7 Report, 29 June 2006, covering the period 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006, accessed at disarmament2.un.org.

PERU

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Peru is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 November 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- The landmine problem in Peru is located in several areas: on the border with Ecuador and around infrastructure (primarily high-tension electricity towers, but also penitentiaries and other state installations) in the inland territory of the Pacific coast and the Andean highlands.
- Peru conducted surveys in Tumbes and Piura departments, on the border with Ecuador in 2003, previous to clearance. In May 2006, an impact survey of the Santiago river, in the Cordillera del Condór area (Amazonas department) was completed. Impact surveys in other suspected areas in the Cordillera del Condór had yet to be initiated as of June 2006.
- Peru reports that 1,711 electricity towers were initially mined by the National Police between 1989 and 1993 during an internal conflict. Peru claims that all towers that have not been quality controlled following initial clearance operations but were fenced and marked and that these were regularly maintained. However, the Landmine Monitor Researcher in Peru visited some communities where the fencing was seen in poor conditions and partly removed.

3. What progress has Peru made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Clearance was conducted at all electricity towers by the Industrial Services of the Navy and the National Police in the early 2000s. However, these operations did not clear all the explosive devices in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), which led to further incidents. It was therefore decided in 2004 that the National Police would conduct "quality control" on the previously cleared areas around all 1,711 towers. By June 2006, 1,126 towers still needed quality assurance.
- Joint clearance operations on the Cordillera del Condór area were supposed to start in early 2005, but were delayed, reportedly due to the late arrival of funding from the European Commission and because of a lack of agreement between Peru and Ecuador regarding fees related to the use of an Ecuadorian helicopter. Operations were finally due to begin in August 2006.
- Peru completed demining operations in Tumbes and Piura departments in 2003. However, based on information provided by Ecuador, a small number of mines remained close to the Chira River. A joint Peruvian-Ecuadorian team initiated clearance operations in the area in April 2006.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- Peru estimates that there are 30,000 mines along the 78-kilometer-long border with Ecuador.

5. Does Peru have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- Peru has been developing a strategic mine action plan to set goals for 2006 through to completion of demining operations. Little information on the content of an earlier plan for 2002–2006 was provided to Landmine Monitor. The Peruvian Center for Mine Action (Centro Peruano de Acción contras las Minas Antipersonal, Contraminas) said that it outlined Peru's general goals for clearance of the Cordillera del Córdor border area with Ecuador and mined areas around the electricity towers; no mention was made of mine risk education and victim assistance objectives.
- There are also operational plans for clearance operations. In May 2005, a plan for clearance of the Chira river was drafted jointly by the Peruvian and Ecuadorian armies. Also in 2005 and as part of a joint project with Ecuador, Peru drafted a plan for demining of the Cordillera del Córdor area. A plan to complete clearance of the electricity towers was drafted by the National Police and Contraminas in 2004, though without specifying a deadline.

- Peru has stated formally that the clearance program would span from 2002 to 2010. The OAS and the Peruvian Army have also reported that it would take until 2010 to declare the country “mine-safe” (as distinct from mine-free) due to technical, climatic and geographic difficulties. In May 2006, Peru referred again to these difficulties and to the need for “significant additional resources” in order to meet the Article 5 deadline. Peru has informed Landmine Monitor that “it will try to achieve mine-free status by 2009.”
- 6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?**
- Contraminas was created by decree on 13 December 2002 and serves as the coordinating body within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the landmine issue in Peru.
 - Since 2001, the Organization of American States has been assisting Peru in its mine action program.
 - In May 2003, the Inter-American Defense Board established a team of international monitors, the Mission of Assistance to Mine Clearance in South America (Misión de Asistencia a la Remoción de Minas en Sudamérica, MARMINAS) to support mine clearance in Ecuador and Peru. The team provides technical advice and monitors demining operations, equipment and training.
- 7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?**
- In 2005, Peru had 100 Army deminers supported by MARMINAS supervisors.
 - In addition, 77 staff from a specialized unit of the National Police (División de Seguridad Contraminas (DIVSECOM) is responsible for the clearance of the electricity companies.
- 8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?**
- Peru has established a mine action authority – Contraminas – and is providing staff for it. In July 2005, a new decree was passed to clarify the role and the responsibility of Contraminas in order to improve its operations and fundraising capabilities.
 - Peru is funding the clearance around electricity towers and is providing logistical support and deminers to the operations along its border.
 - Peru has reported that its national contribution to mine action between 1999 and 2003 totaled \$3.38 million. Landmine Monitor does not know Peru’s contribution for 2004 and 2005.
- 9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?**
- Through the OAS, funds were provided to demining activities in Peru by the United States, Canada and Japan. The US was the biggest donor to Peru until 2005, when it discontinued its funding of the joint border mine clearance program.
 - In 2006, the bulk of mine action funding for Peru was being provided by the European Commission (EC) following an agreement made on 30 December 2005 for funding of €1 million (\$1.28 million) to mine action in Peru and Ecuador.
 - Since demining operations in the Cordillera del Condór region and in the Chira River area are conducted jointly with Ecuador, Peru’s progress is also contingent on good collaboration between the two armies and on Ecuador’s own capabilities.

THE PHILIPPINES

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, the Philippines is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 August 2010.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- The Philippines says it does not consider any area contaminated by landmines. It removes mines laid sporadically by rebel groups.

3. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- See above.

4. Do the Philippines have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- The Philippines says wherever landmines are found they are immediately removed.

5. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- The Philippines does not have a formal demining program.

6. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- The Armed Forces of the Philippines has seven detachments of explosives experts responsible for clearing mines and other explosive devices.

7. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- Resources are provided within the context of military operations.

8. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- No program exists for funding.

RWANDA

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Rwanda is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 December 2010.**

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- In a 2002–2003 assessment, four of the 12 provinces reported a mine threat: Kigali (including in the capital), Byumba, Ruhengeri (Mutobo area) and Gisenyi. Two additional minefields were discovered in Ruhengeri after the assessment; both have since been cleared.
- In early July 2006, the NGO, Mines Awareness Trust, reported that technical survey had begun under its auspices with newly trained deminers due to be deployed to two mined areas in northwestern Rwanda.
- Marking and fencing of minefields was said to be inadequate in some reports, but in its 1 June 2006 Article 7 report Rwanda reported that minefields in nine areas had been surveyed and marked.

3. What progress has Rwanda made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Between 1995 and 2002, Rwanda cleared 24 minefields with a total of 450,824 square meters, destroying 1,086 landmines and 27,438 items of unexploded ordnance (UXO).
- In 2004, 19,687 square meters of agricultural land were cleared in Kanombe minefield in Kigali town, and in Nyabihu and Rubaya in Gisenyi province. During these operations, 765 mines and items of UXO were destroyed.
- Clearance efforts stagnated in 2005 following the ending of international funding. Rwanda reported that in 2005, deminers cleared only 1,295 square meters of land in the Nyabihu minefield, destroying in the process five antipersonnel mines.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- As of June 2005, some 900,000 square meters of "good agricultural land" remained to be cleared of mines and UXO in 16 minefields across the four provinces.

5. Does the State Party have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- Rwanda does not have a strategy in place that shows fulfillment of the requirements of Article 5. The Mines Awareness Trust senior technical advisor in Rwanda reported in July 2006 that one of his first priorities was to develop a strategic plan, seeking to shift from large manual units to smaller, more flexible teams.
- In May 2006, Rwanda informed States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty that its clearance deadline was still achievable provided it received the necessary international support

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- There is no national mine action authority or mine action legislation in Rwanda.
- The National Demining Office, which is under the sole auspices of the Ministry of Defense, coordinates and implements demining in Rwanda. It has an earlier version of the IMSMA database but has not updated it over recent years.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- After several years of little activity, the demining program was given a kick-start by the training and equipping of 140 deminers at the International Mine Action Training Centre in Nairobi in early 2006.
- Rwanda claimed in 2006 that capacity had been expanded to a total of 237 deminers.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- Rwanda has reported the commitment of around US\$300,000 of funding annually in support of the demining operations.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- In earlier years, the US and France provided funding for the demining program. All the mine detection dogs that Rwanda was using, which were supplied by the US, have been retired due to age.
- With renewed US Department of State funding, Mines Awareness Trust deployed three technical advisors to Rwanda in May 2006 for an initial 12-month period to support the newly trained deminers.

SENEGAL

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Senegal is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009.**

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under Senegal's jurisdiction or control?

- An emergency impact study took place in 2005-2006. Preliminary results show that 149 suspected hazard areas affect 93 of the 3,466 communities in Casamance: seven communities are high-impacted, 45 are medium-impacted and 41 are low-impacted communities.

3. What progress has Senegal made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- The Senegalese Army implemented a demining program until April 2004. However, clearance priorities were decided by the army command, with no apparent mechanism for integrating the needs of communities.
- Since April 2004, the Senegalese army has been conducting only small-scale clearance: 55 landmines were cleared in 2005 and 18 mines in early 2006.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- Previous estimates by Senegal claim that 1,400 square kilometers were "potentially hazardous."
- The emergency impact survey preliminary results estimated that mines and UXO contaminate 95 kilometers of paths, tracks and roads as well as 11 square kilometers of other suspected mined areas, thereby dramatically reducing previous estimates of the extent of contamination.

5. Does Senegal have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- UNDP and the government have drafted a national mine action strategy which, as of July 2006, was under revision by the National Commission on the Implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty. The strategy was said to be in line with Senegal's 2009 deadline for clearance under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty. The finalization of the strategy was awaiting the final result of the emergency landmine impact study.
- However, the draft mine action strategy's final objective is reported to be that Casamance "is free from the impact of mines by 2009," whereas Article 5 requires that all anti-personnel mines in mined areas are destroyed.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- As of July 2006, there was no national mine action authority or mine action centre in Casamance, and no formal mine action program.
- A law on the mine ban and on mine action was adopted by the National Assembly on 14 July 2005 and promulgated by the President on 3 August 2005.
- Since August 1999, the National Commission on the Implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty has been responsible for the mine issue.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party?

- The Senegalese army is the only demining capacity. Although it received training support from the French army, the Senegalese army is said to be badly equipped for mine clearance.

8. What financial and technical means has Senegal given to the mine action program?

- Army expenditures on demining in 2004-2005 are not known. The army expenditure on mine clearance in 2003 was about CFA 60 million (US\$115,000) and about CFA 6 million (US\$11,600) in 2002.

9. What external financial and technical means has Senegal received for the mine action program?

- The Landmine Monitor calculates that Senegal received at least US\$4.2 million for the period 1999-2005 from the US Department of State and Canada through UNDP, France, ECHO and Sweden.
- Since mid-2005, The UN Development Programme (UNDP) has provided a chief technical advisor to Senegal to support national mine action capacity-building.
- In November 2005, UNDP and the government finalized a Mine Action Assistance Project for Casamance (Projet d'Assistance à la Lutte Antimines en Casamance, PALAC) for 2005-2009. The main objectives of the PALAC are "the provision of technical assistance to the government of Senegal to develop and to implement a mine action program" as well as "to ensure mobilization of resources necessary for the mine action program."

SWAZILAND

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Swaziland is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 June 2009.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Swaziland has made little effort to identify the extent of its mine problem since it joined the Mine Ban Treaty in 1999.
- A survey in 1999 found that there was one suspected minefield on the border with Mozambique, estimated to be 5.5 kilometers in length. In January 2006, the Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Forces (USDF) informed Landmine Monitor that lack of clearance records prevented them from determining whether there were still mines in the country. The USDF states that it needed to "conduct either Quality Assurance or Level I (general survey)" to confirm if mines remain in the border area.
- The mine-affected area is reportedly fenced, although the condition of the fences is unknown.

3. What progress has Swaziland made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- In 1985, clearance was reported to be conducted by a joint team composed of USDF engineers and military personnel from Mozambique's FRELIMO (Frente de Libertação de Moçambique). No other clearance is known to have been carried out since then on the Swaziland side of the border.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- As mentioned above, it is unclear if mines remain in Swaziland. In 1999, it was estimated that the area of 5.5 square kilometers contained 10 mines. Media reports that year indicated that an additional eight landmines were subsequently identified.

5. Does Swaziland have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- Swaziland does not have a national strategy. From 1999, when Swaziland became a State Party and until the end of 2005, very little effort was made to identify and eradicate the mine problem.
- In 2006, however, Swaziland's Permanent Representative to the UN informed the treaty's Implementation Support Unit (ISU) on 17 March 2006 that the Ministry of Defense had accepted the ISU's offer to visit Swaziland in 2006 to assess "the remaining challenges faced by Swaziland in fulfilling its Article 5 obligations and in developing a plan to meet the deadline for clearance...." The report said that "A technical mission is expected to visit Swaziland during the month of August 2006 with a view to: precisely determining the geographic coordinates of the suspected mined area; determining if new markings/warnings are required; assessing the physical features (e.g. vegetation, topography, soil, etc.) of the suspected mined area in order to draw conclusions regarding methods and means to be used in *area reduction* and in actual demining; and, drawing up a plan for Swaziland to use in seeking assistance in areas reduction, demining and quality assurance."¹
- The technical assistance mission, initially planned for June 2006, was rescheduled for early October 2006.²

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- No structure has been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program.

- 7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?**
 - In 1999, the United States provided training to 20 deminers, 10 medical professionals and 10 communications personnel. However, Swaziland indicated in May 2006 that given the time that had since elapsed, new training was necessary.
- 8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?**
 - Swaziland has not committed funds to mine action since it joined the Mine Ban Treaty.
- 9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?**
 - As mentioned above, the US provided training to USDF personnel in 1999. They also committed to funding demining operations along the border. However, Swaziland did not request to use funds allocated by the US in 1999, and the US withdrew its offer to support in 2002. The USDF stated that "logistical issues" impeded them from conducting clearance following US training.

Endnotes

¹ Article 7 Report, Form F, 16 May 2006.

² Email from Kerry Brinkert, Implementation Support Unit, 26 July 2006.

TAJIKISTAN

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Tajikistan is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 April 2010.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- General survey of suspect areas on Tajikistan's borders with Uzbekistan and Afghanistan was completed in 2005, concluding an initial assessment of mine contamination.
- After an assessment mission in 2006, the Washington-based Survey Action Center concluded there was no need for a Landmine Impact Survey and recommended an audit of existing data with some resurveying of the main suspected hazardous areas.

3. What progress has Tajikistan made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Tajikistan has made little progress in clearance owing to lack of demining capacity and resources. From the start of demining operations in 2004 through 2005, a total of 183,611 square meters were cleared.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- As of mid-2006, Tajikistan believed suspected hazardous areas totaled over 50 square kilometers.

5. Does the SP have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- No. Tajikistan's national strategic plan provides for clearing all contaminated land in the centre of the country and the high and medium priority suspect areas on its borders by 2009 or, in the case of the Uzbekistan border, as soon as diplomatic relations permit. However, Tajikistan lacks the demining resources to fulfill even this objective.
- The Tajik Mine Action Center (TMAC) estimated it needed \$12 million over five years to tackle its mine problem "almost completely" but depends on foreign donors to provide it.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- The government's Commission on the Implementation of International Humanitarian Law (CIIHL), chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister for Security, oversees mine action and involves representatives of ministries in all sectors affected by landmines.
- TMAC was set up in June 2003 as the CIIHL's implementing partner responsible for planning, coordinating and inspecting mine clearance operations.
- TMAC lacks the financial resources to deploy even the modest numbers of deminers available for survey and clearance operations.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- The Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD), the only demining operator in Tajikistan, has a total of 135 staff, including four manual demining and four survey teams.. An additional survey team trained by FSD in 2005 was never deployed because of lack of funding.
- In 2006, Tajikistan opened a mine detection dog centre funded by the Organization for Security in Europe (OSCE) and with dogs purchased by the UN Development Programme (UNDP).

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- The government assessed its contribution to demining in 2005 as \$40,000 representing Ministry of Defense expenses incurred providing FSD with premises for its operation.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- In 2004, the first full year of Tajikistan's mine action program, it received \$2.3 million from six donor countries and the European Commission.
- In 2005, Tajikistan appealed for \$3.8 million but it received just over half that amount.
- UNDP provides TMAC's Chief Technical Adviser, and France provides FSD with two technical advisers.
- UNDP purchased 12 dogs for Tajikistan's OSCE-funded mine dog detection centre.

THAILAND

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Thailand is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 May 2009.**

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document and report on perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- A Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) was completed in 2001. It estimated the area of contaminated land at approximately 2,557 square kilometers, three-quarters of it on the 700-kilometer border with Cambodia. Thai authorities believe this figure will be drastically reduced by technical survey.

3. What progress has Thailand made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- In six years since the start of humanitarian demining, Thailand has cleared less than 1 percent of the area estimated by the LIS to be contaminated. Manual mine clearance has averaged 700,000 square meters a year.
- In the past three years (2003-2005), demining operators found and destroyed a total of 543 antipersonnel mines.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- The LIS estimated the amount of suspect land at 2,557 square kilometers, three-quarters of it on the Thai-Cambodian border, but the amount of contaminated land is almost certainly much less.
- Systematic area reduction started only in 2005 and accounted for 5 square kilometers out of the total of 6.1 square kilometers that were reported cleared in 2005.

5. Does Thailand have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- No. A mine action plan for 2005-2009 sets out only general objectives, such as integrating mine action into national plans for socioeconomic development.
- The scope of demining by the humanitarian mine action units of the Thai Mine Action Center (TMAC) is determined by the annual budget (*see below*).

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- A National Committee for Humanitarian Mine Action created in 2000 with the Prime Minister as chairman is supposed to oversee mine action but lapsed in 2005 at the end of the first government of Thaksin Shinawatra. The second government elected in February 2005 did not renew the committee's mandate.
- The Thailand Mine Action Centre set up in 1999 has responsibility for implementing mine action but is under the authority of the armed forces' Supreme Command and severely constrained by the limited budget made available by the Supreme Command. As a military-controlled organization, TMAC does not receive foreign donor funding.
- A proposal to transfer TMAC from the armed forces to the Prime Minister's Office has been approved but awaits formation of a new government to be implemented.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- TMAC manages four humanitarian mine action units, three from the army, which report to army task forces, and one from the marines, which report to the Navy.
- Two NGOs engage in humanitarian demining: the General Chatichai Choonhavan Foundation (45 deminers in 2006) and the Japan Alliance for Humanitarian Demining Support.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- TMAC's four demining units are funded entirely by the military. In 2000 to 2005 the armed forces allocated some 38 million or 40 million baht a year. The fiscal 2006 budget was reduced by more than half to 18.21 million baht (US\$455,250).
- TMAC operates training centers for manual demining, mine risk education and mine detection dogs.
- TMAC supports GCCF and JAHDS with data and equipment.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- The US provided some \$7 million for TMAC in 1999-2002 as well as 154 heavy trucks and training for manual deminers and mine dog detection teams.
- Eight donors provided Thailand with \$1.7 million for the LIS and other funds for demining.
- The US and Canada have donated mechanical assets, including a Tempest and a PROMAC brush cutter.
- TMAC received in-kind support from China in 2005 including detectors and explosives.

TUNISIA

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Tunisia is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 January 2010.**

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Tunisia believes that it has identified all mined areas along the borders with Libya and Algeria. However, according to a Ministry of Defense official, the limited unexploded ordnance (UXO) contamination throughout the country as a result of World War II occasionally contains antipersonnel mines.
- Minefields in Tunisia are reportedly mapped, fenced and marked.

3. What progress has Tunisia made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- As of May 2006, Tunisia declared that it had cleared 90 per cent of the Ras Jedir minefield, which represents 70 per cent of the area of known minefields.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- Tunisia reports the presence of nine minefields located in four areas along the border with Libya (at Ras Jedir, M'guisem, Bir Zar and M'chiguig), and there is a fifth mined area at Borj El-Khadhra, where the borders of Tunisia, Algeria and Libya meet. Those minefields covered an initial area of 500,300 square meters and, as Tunisia reported having cleared 70 per cent of its minefields, by deduction, the remaining mined areas cover some 150,000 square meters.
- As of April 2006, those minefields contained 2,247 antipersonnel mines and 1,173 antivehicle mines.

5. Does the SP have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- There is no mine action strategy in Tunisia. However, in June 2006, Tunisia stated that with adequate funding, it planned to clear all known minefields before 2010. Although, implementation of the plan could be delayed by the lack of appropriate means of clearing two minefields located in desert areas where shifting sand endangers demining operations.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- An inter-ministerial committee coordinates the implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty; however, the committee does not oversee mine action. The army is the only body authorized to undertake activities related to landmines or UXO.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- Tunisia set up a demining unit within the army engineering corps in 2004.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- Tunisia is providing human and technical resources needed to implement its demining program.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- In 2002, the British demining NGO, Mines Advisory Group, undertook an assessment mission with support provided by Canada. The United Nations Mine Action Service conducted an assessment mission in Tunisia in 2003.

UGANDA

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Uganda is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 August 2009**.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Uganda reports that at least 11 districts are affected by mines and/or explosive remnants of war to some degree: Adjumani, Amuria, Bundibugyo, Gulu, Kaberamaido, Kasese, and Katakwi, Kitgum, Lira, Pader, and Soroti. Impact surveys or assessments were conducted in two districts in 2004–2005.
- By May 2006, mine action needs assessments were ongoing in two districts and technical survey was ongoing in three other districts.

3. What progress has Uganda made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- No systematic clearance of antipersonnel mines had been conducted by early 2006. Demining personnel were, however, trained in, and equipped for, mine clearance in late 2005 by the International Mine Action Training Centre in Nairobi, Kenya.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- There are no estimates of the size of suspected hazardous areas in Uganda. To date, no nationwide survey of contamination has been conducted.

5. Does the State Party have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- In 2005, the mine action program adopted a strategy aiming to ensure that: 'The Republic of Uganda is free from the most severe humanitarian and economic effects of landmines and UXO by 2009.'
- However, at the intersessional Standing Committee meetings in Geneva in May 2006, Uganda declared that it intended to fulfill the obligations under Article 5 by March 2009. It noted, however, that this would be subject to the status of the insurgency in the north of the country. The UNDP Mine Action Adviser was optimistic that there would be only a residual risk from mines and ERW by early 2009.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- Uganda's program management body is its National Steering Committee for Mine Action. This is an inter-ministerial body, which met for the first time in January 2006.
- On 4 April 2006, the Uganda Mine Action Centre (UMAC) was officially opened in Kampala under the overall responsibility of the National Steering Committee.
- National mine action legislation was under development in Uganda in 2006.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- A total of 59 clearance personnel had been seconded to UMAC as of May 2006; this included two multipurpose demining teams deployed to the field and four more multipurpose demining teams awaiting equipment and funding before they could be deployed operationally.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- In May 2006, Uganda declared that US\$500 million (US\$279,330) had been earmarked for mine action in the national budget for the fiscal year 2006–2007.
- In addition, the UMAC Director, Chief of Operations and Deputy Chief of Operations were all being seconded to the mine action centre by the government of Uganda.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- In 2006, UNDP support to the program included a chief technical adviser and, since January 2006, a technical adviser for victim assistance. It was planned that the chief technical adviser would stay in the country until 2008.

UNITED KINGDOM¹

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, the United Kingdom (UK) is required to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009**.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- The only affected areas under the jurisdiction or control of the UK are on the Falkland Islands.
- The UK and the Falkland Islands government have stated on different occasions that there are between 101 and 120 minefields remaining from the 1982 conflict with Argentina.
- The mined areas have all been marked and fenced in accordance with Article 5 and no human casualties have occurred on them since demining was ended in the 1980s.

3. What progress has the UK made in destroying anti-personnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- Occasionally mines have surfaced in the affected areas and been cleared – a total of 265 since 1997.
- Article 5 of the treaty requires States Parties to complete clearance as soon as possible, but seven years after becoming a State Party the UK has not initiated clearance operations, nor even developed a clear timetable and operational plan. The UK has not stated that it can or will meet the Article 5 deadline to clear all antipersonnel mines in mined areas by 1 March 2009.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines?

- The UK and the Falkland Islands government have stated on different occasions that there are between 101 and 120 minefields.
- The total mine-affected area is believed to cover 20 square kilometers and to contain approximately 16,000 mines. According to Argentina's transparency report in accordance with Article 7 of the Mine Ban Treaty, however, a total of 20,000 mines remain on the Islands.

5. Does the UK have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- UK and Argentina met five times in 2005 and 2006 to discuss the implementation of a feasibility study for demining, now expected to take place between November 2006 and March 2007.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- In March 2003, the UK announced the creation of a National Mine Action Authority to oversee future clearance work. However, in June 2006, the UK reported that "in order to carry out the Feasibility Study, there is no requirement to create a National Mine Action Authority (NMAA). Once the clearance phase is started, the NMAA will be formally created."

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- The British army, which is expected to undertake clearance operations, has extensive experience in demining. It is not known if the Argentinean army will also be involved.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- There is no ongoing demining program in The Falklands.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- According to the Exchange of Notes Agreement of 2001, the costs of the feasibility study will be shared by both countries, in proportion to the number of mines laid by each party during the 1982 conflict. Therefore, it was expected that Argentina would be responsible for most of the financial costs, while the UK would take care of the technical aspects of the study.
- In June 2006, the UK reported that “the budget for the field survey has been agreed between UK and Argentina and has been approved by both governments. For commercial reasons, the details of this budget have not been released yet.” The proposed share of the budget between each country is not known.

Endnote

¹ Argentina claims jurisdiction over the Falklands/Malvinas and thereby accepts responsibility for clearance of all antipersonnel in mined areas on the Islands.

VENEZUELA

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Venezuela is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 October 2009.**

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Venezuela emplaced mines around six naval posts. The Navy reported to Landmine Monitor in April 2006 that since the mines were laid, it has maintained "standard" marking and "double protection" fences around the perimeters of each mined area.
- The same month, however, Landmine Monitor visited the naval post of Río Arauca Internacional and found fencing of approximately one meter in height but in poor condition, with four small "minefield" warning signs that are also in poor condition.

3. What progress has Venezuela made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- No clearance operations have been undertaken since Venezuela became a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty. One mine was accidentally detonated by a marine at Guafitas in September 2004; this is the only confirmed reduction in the number of emplaced mines. There are also unconfirmed reports that a marine at Río Arauca Internacional detonated a mine several years ago.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- Venezuela's mine problem consists of more than 1,000 antipersonnel mines laid by government forces around six naval posts along the border with Colombia (at Atabapo, Cararabo, Guafitas, Isla Vapor, Puerto Páez and Río Arauca Internacional).

5. Does the State Party have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- In July 2005, for the first time, Venezuela provided a timetable for clearance of the antipersonnel mines laid around the naval posts. The mines around Guafitas naval post are due to be cleared in February 2007; Puerto Páez in April 2007; Atabapo in February 2008; Isla Vapor in April 2008; Río Arauca Internacional in February 2009; and Cararabo in April 2009. Information on the criteria chosen to prioritize one base over another was not provided to Landmine Monitor. However, the Navy reported that operations would take place during the "summer months" (December to May) so as to take advantage of better weather conditions.
- Venezuela was initially planning to start clearance operations in 2002. Various reasons have been given for the failure to do so. In February 2003, a Ministry of Foreign Affairs official told Landmine Monitor that the clearance delay was due to a lack of specialized equipment; in 2005, Landmine Monitor was told that an alarm system was required before clearance could be initiated; and in May 2006, lack of equipment and training was given as a reason.
- In April 2006, the Navy confirmed that purchase of this equipment had been approved by the Armed Forces and that a tendering process was being planned, which would be open to national and international companies. The Navy also claimed that the system would be sensitive to movement and sound, and would not contain explosives.
- Venezuela has made very little effort to comply with Article 5 in the almost seven years since it became a party to the treaty.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- There is no national mine action authority or mine action center in Venezuela. On 19 August 2004, a Ministry of Defense resolution assigned Rear Admiral Alcibíades Jesús Paz, the current Commander of the Engineering Corps of the Naval Infantry (Marines), as General Coordinator of mine clearance operations and training. Rear Admiral Paz also has other functions and responsibilities.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- According to Venezuela's April 2006 Article 7 report, a Navy combat engineering company was trained in the use of mine detection equipment in 2005. However, the Navy has stated that the training was "routine," and of a sort that takes place each year.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- Venezuela has yet to initiate a mine action program.
- The Navy reported that the budget for clearance was still not established as of May 2006; however, it claimed that "what can be anticipated is that the operation will be delicate and dangerous," and therefore costly.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- Venezuela has not received external funding for mine action.

YEMEN

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Yemen is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009**.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- A Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) was conducted in 2000 which found 1,078 mined areas affecting 14 high-impact communities, 84 medium and 494 low-impact communities.
- Based on the results of the LIS, Yemen has been implementing technical survey of mined areas. In 2002, two additional mine-affected communities were identified bringing the total of medium impacted communities to 86.
- In 2005, YEMAC marked minefields that could not be cleared with the current technology.

3. What progress has Yemen made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- According to the Yemen Executive Mine Action Center (YEMAC), from the program's start in 1999 to May 2006, 315 square kilometers out of the total of 922 square kilometers of contaminated land were surveyed and cleared resulting in the release of 12 high-impact, 62 medium-impact and 107 low-impact communities.
- Landmine Monitor calculated that Yemen cleared more than 11.2 square kilometers of mine-affected land in 2000–2005.
- Thus, Yemen is releasing massive amounts of suspected hazardous areas as a result of technical survey. In 2005, 101.7 square kilometers were released following technical survey compared to 66.7 square kilometers in 2004.
- Yemen suspended demining operations in two high-impact and two low-impact areas because of a lack of adequate technology. As a result of shifting sand in some desert locations, landmines have sunk further below the surface, in some cases up to two meters in depth. High mineral levels and large numbers of metal fragments make metal detectors ineffective. Such areas could not be cleared with existing technology, and therefore have been marked by laying red painted stones and planting mine signs along the perimeter. Mechanical clearance equipment was tested in Yemen in 2005 in the areas where clearance operations had to be suspended, but the tests did not achieve positive results. Marking and fencing of mined areas, as has been done in Yemen, is only an interim step towards the destruction of all antipersonnel mines in mined areas as required by Article 5.
- Yemen has not yet destroyed all mines cleared from minefields due to a shortage of explosives.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- The LIS estimated in 2000 that 922 square kilometers were affected by landmines.
- As of May 2006, this was reduced to 607 square kilometers. While only some 11.2 square kilometers have actually been cleared since 2000, most of the reduction was achieved through technical survey.

5. Does Yemen have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- Yemen developed a National Mine Action Strategic Plan for 2001–2005, based on the LIS results, which was extended in June 2004 to cover the period 2004–2009.
- The revised strategy aimed to eliminate the impact from landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) by the end of March 2009 by clearing all communities classified as high- and medium-impact and 27 percent of the most critical low-impact areas (147 square kilometers) by March 2009. Thus, **Yemen is not expecting to meet its current legal obligations to ensure the destruction of all antipersonnel mines in mined areas by 1 March 2009**.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- The National Mine Action Committee (NMAC) was established in 1998 as an Interministerial body to oversee mine action.
- YEMAC is in charge of implementing plans and policies approved by NMAC. YEMAC headquarters are in Sana'a with regional branches in Aden and al-Mukalla (Hadramawt).
- A Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining evaluation of UN Development Programme (UNDP) support concluded that significant progress had been achieved in mine action and that the YEMAC has an organizational structure capable of addressing all components of a mine action program. The evaluation also highlighted several gaps, such as the lack of training of YEMAC staff, the lack of munitions destruction facilities and the need to enhance post-clearance community rehabilitation.
- There is no specific mine action law in Yemen. NMAC and YEMAC were created by decree in 1998.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the treaty?

- Mine clearance in Yemen is undertaken by the Engineering Department of the Ministry of Defense with staff seconded to YEMAC. As of June 2006, there were eight mine clearance units, 12 technical survey teams, 19 mine detecting dog teams (each with two dogs and one handler), three quality assurance teams, and one monitoring and evaluation team. Each of the eight clearance units is composed of 27 pairs of deminers.

8. What financial and technical means has Yemen given to the mine action program?

- Yemen is providing the human demining capacity through its Army personnel.
- Contributions made by the Government (especially the salaries and allowances of staff) reportedly amount to more than US\$3 million a year.
- The government has committed to using only national human and financial resources from 1 April 2009 onward to eradicate the remaining mine and ERW problem.

9. What external financial and technical means has Yemen received for the mine action program?

- The Landmine Monitor calculates that Yemen received at least US\$23.7 million for the period 1999–2005.¹ Numerous donors contributed to the mine action program either through UNDP or directly: Canada, Germany, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- YEMAC has received UNDP support since 1999. A first phase was executed by UNOPS (1999–2003). A second phase started in October 2003 and aims at strengthening national capacity for mine action in the country. This phase is due to be followed with a 2007–2009 phase. UNDP support YEMAC with one chief technical adviser and three national staff.

Endnote

¹ 2005: US\$2.5 million; 2004: \$2.6 million; 2003: 3.6 million; 1999–2002: 15 million.

ZIMBABWE

1. What is the Article 5 deadline for clearance?

Under Article 5 of the Mine Ban Treaty, Zimbabwe is required to destroy all antipersonnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control **as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2009**.

2. What efforts have been made to identify, document, report on, mark and fence perimeters of mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control?

- Two surveys were carried out by a commercial company, MineTech International: a technical survey in 2001 in the Malvernia (Songo) to Crooks Corner area and an extensive national general survey in 1994 (though it excluded the Kariba power station). In addition, a survey was completed by a demining contractor sponsored by the UN in 1997 in preparation for the clearance of the Rwenya-Msengezi area.
- A United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) Joint Assessment report concluded in 2000 that the general survey conducted by MineTech provided sufficient information to meet the requirements "of current and future planning."
- However, Zimbabwe reports that the minefield in Lusulu, referred to above, was discovered in 2002 by the Zimbabwe National Army (ZNA) deminers and remains to be surveyed. A general survey of an area of 7 kilometers in Lusulu was planned for 2006, as well as a re-survey for Burma Valley. Neither of these activities had started as of April 2006. The Kariba power station also remains to be surveyed.

3. What progress has Zimbabwe made in destroying antipersonnel mines in areas confirmed to be mined since becoming a party to the treaty?

- It is estimated that between 1.5 and 1.8 million mines were emplaced along 700 kilometers of land, affecting a total area of 210 square kilometers. The Zimbabwe Mine Action Centre (ZIMAC) estimates that 45 percent of the contaminated areas have since been cleared.

4. What is the current size of areas known or suspected to contain antipersonnel mines?

- Zimbabwe's Article 7 report of December 2005 detailed the location of seven minefields, including Victoria Falls to Mlibizi area, for which clearance was completed at the end of October 2005. The remaining mined areas are Msengezi to Nyamapanda South (205 kilometers), Stapleford Forest to Mutare (50 kilometers), Burma Valley (three kilometers), Junction Gate to Jersey Tea Estate (75 kilometers), Malvernia (Sango) to Crooks Corner (50 kilometers) and Kariba power station where mines were laid in an area of just over 1 hectare (10,000 square meters) in 1966 to protect it.
- The Msengezi to Nyamapanda South, Stapleford Forest to Mutare and Burma Valley minefields were all reported to have been partially cleared in the past. In addition, an area described as Lusulu in Gwayi, Matabeleland North, is suspected to be mined. The area was partially cleared in 2002, but still remains dangerous.
- In a November 2005, Zimbabwe declared that a stretch of land "over 350 kilometres long, or covering an area of about 110 square kilometres, still needs to be cleared."
- In April 2006, ZIMAC reported that after a field visit to the Malvernia to Crooks Corner area at the end of 2005, a small, parallel minefield was discovered, raising estimates of the contaminated area from 50 to 70 kilometers.

5. Does Zimbabwe have an up-to-date national strategy or plan that shows how it will comply with its obligations under Article 5?

- In August 2004, Zimbabwe drafted a five-year mine action plan for the period 2005-2009. The plan included the objective of clearance of all mined areas by 2009, depending on adequate national and international funding.
- The plan sets clearance targets for each year: 2005—clearance of the 50-kilometer Gonarezhou National Park (including the Malvernia to Crooks Corner minefield); 2006-2007—clearance of the 205 kilometre Rwenya-Musengezi minefield; 2008—clearance of the 50-kilometer Sheba Forest to Beacon Hill minefield; and 2009—clearance of the 78-kilometer minefield in Manicaland province
- The 2005–2009 Plan does not refer to the Burma valley minefield and the Kariba power station. In April 2006, ZIMAC explained that demining in Burma Valley will take place at the same time as the Stapleford

Forest to Mutare (Sheba Forest-Beacon Hill) clearance operations, as it is relatively close and a small minefield. The following month, ZIMAC explained that the Kariba power station would be cleared after all other areas had been dealt with, as it is not affecting the civilian population; it plans to do so within the timeframe of the Mine Ban Treaty, subject to funding.

- Also in May 2006, Zimbabwe noted that only half of its minefields had been cleared, leaving a significant challenge in attempting to clear all mined areas by 1 March 2009. Clearance of the Victoria Falls to Mlibizi minefield took seven years.
- Zimbabwe stated that it remains committed to meet its 2009 deadline and is prepared to work with any State Party or organization that shares the same vision. However, it claimed that lack of funds remains the major obstacle to complying with the treaty deadline.

6. What structures have been put in place to manage and coordinate a mine action program? Do they have the authority and resources necessary to implement its mandate?

- Zimbabwe's mine action bodies were established in early 2002. The National Mine Action Authority of Zimbabwe (NAMAZ) is responsible for policy-making and the regulation of mine action activities while the Zimbabwe Mine Action Centre implements, coordinates and manages all mine action activities.
- Under the supervision of ZIMAC is the National Demining Office (NDO) established in 1998 with the assistance of the United States to coordinate all demining activities and conduct mine risk education.
- ZIMAC claims that due to lack of funding, the Center is not fully staffed and most employees have other unrelated responsibilities.

7. What demining capacity has been built and used (through national and international efforts) since becoming a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty?

- The only body which undertakes demining activities in Zimbabwe is the ZNA. The ZNA demining corps consists of a full "squadron" of between 150 and 200 people, deployed in three teams. It also has a survey team.
- At least two other demining organizations are based in Zimbabwe, though neither conducts clearance in the country: MineTech International recruits locally and sends deminers to their various areas of operations around the world for short contracts and ECOMINE, which was set up in 2004, is subcontracted by a South African company to recruit and train staff to work in Sudan and Eritrea.

8. What financial and technical means has the State Party given to the mine action program?

- In May 2006, Zimbabwe declared that the national budget for 2006 had allocated US\$270,000 for demining operations.
- Zimbabwe has allocated Z\$310 million (US\$380,060) for demining in 2004. Although this appears a significant increase over previous years' funding, the value of the Zimbabwe dollar has decreased dramatically over the last years. Landmine Monitor has reported that Zimbabwe's national budget for mine action was Z\$40 million (US\$760,000) in 2003; Z\$10 million (US\$190,000) in 2002; and, Z\$5 million (US\$95,000) in 2001. Landmine Monitor does not know how much was allocated in 2005.

9. What external financial and technical means has the State Party received for the mine action program?

- Zimbabwe has not received external funds for its mine action programs since 2001. From 1998-2001, the US government provided more than \$6 million for mine action activities in Zimbabwe. An EU grant of \$4.086 million to clear the Mukumbura to Nyamapanda South (Rwenya) minefield was terminated in December 2000, forcing Zimbabwe to redeploy its demining corps.