

This is Chad's fourth extension request, in which the area suspected of contamination has increased. We note the efforts undertaken by Chad in recent years to obtain a better understanding and estimate of the extent of its contamination, notably thanks to the support from the European Union. We also thank Chad for resubmitting an updated version of its request.

However, the full extent of the problem remains unknown as additional survey still needs to be conducted and the database still needs further work to be fully operational. Hence, new contamination might be still identified, and this would mean that further time and resources than what is currently presented in the extension request might be needed.

Almost no mined area was released by survey or clearance in 2017 or 2018. Both the government of Chad and the National High Commission for Demining (HCND) must address this by showing more focus and commitment to demonstrate that donors' money delivers results.

After careful consideration of Chad's plan, we have little confidence Chad will complete its clearance by 2025 or any time soon.

Among the positive points of the request we see the following:

- Chad has recognized that problems in financial and human resources management and the lack of transparency contributed to the difficulties in meeting its clearance obligations. It is encouraging to see that Chad is taking steps to build up the capacity of its national mine action center. This should result in an improvement in effectiveness, better ownership and help rebuilt trust with the donor community.
- Chad has elaborated a provisional work plan for 2020-2024 providing general information on the number, location and size of the mined areas, as well as a provisional timeline for operations and overall budget with annual breakdown.
- Chad has developed a resource and partnership mobilization strategy covering 2018- 2024 and is committed to make some national contributions to its mine action programme (to cover the salaries and running costs).

Among the points requiring further work and follow up we see the following:

- Chad's work plan and budget still remain very general and lack sufficient details. Once more accurate and coherent baseline is established Chad should revise and present a detailed plan consistent with IMAS terminology, specifying what will be done when, where, with what capacity, and at what annual cost.
- Without delay Chad should take all necessary steps to operationalize its program enabling survey and clearance activities to demonstrate tangible results.
- There are still some discrepancies in the budget which should be clarified to support Chad's resource mobilization efforts. In recent years, the EU has been Chad's sole donor and its funding runs only until 2021. As the lack of funding was one of the re-occurring difficulties faced by Chad in meeting its previous clearance deadlines, it is essential that Chad undertakes significant resource mobilization and donor confidence-building measures to diversify and secure funding for work envisaged under this request.
- While insecurity remains an obstacle for activities in the Tibesti region, Chad should ensure that areas currently accessible are addressed as quickly as possible.

Lastly, it is of utmost importance that Chad keeps States Parties informed about changes in access and on progress in survey and clearance implementation, as well as the database update.