

## <u>Statement on Eritrea's Article 5 implementation, delivered by Mine Action Review</u> <u>Intersessional Meetings, 22–24 June 2021</u>

It is extremely disappointing that Eritrea has yet to submit its request to extend its Article 5 deadline and that it remains in serious violation since its Article 5 deadline expired on 31 December 2020.

The situation of non-compliance by Eritrea with respect to Article 5 is of such seriousness that the other States Parties to the Convention should now formally engage the compliance procedure laid down in Article 8 of the Convention. The first step in this procedure is to submit, through the UN Secretary-General, a Request for Clarification to Eritrea. Should Eritrea fail to respond, or to respond adequately, a compulsory fact-finding mission may be authorised by the next Meeting of States Parties.

We urge Eritrea to submit an extension request as soon as possible, so that the request can be considered at 19MSP and so that Eritrea can return to compliance with Article 5.

We encourage Eritrea to seek support, if required, from the Mine Ban community.