

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 1 JANUARY 2021
(ON TRACK TO MEET DEADLINE)

PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE	2017	2016
Problem understood	9	8
Target date for completion of mine clearance	9	8
Targeted clearance	7	6
Efficient clearance	6	6
National funding of programme	2	3
Timely clearance	5	5
Land-release system in place	6	6
National mine action standards	6	6
Reporting on progress	2	3
Improving performance	5	5
PERFORMANCE SCORE: AVERAGE	5.7	5.6

PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)'s mine action programme's land release output increased in 2017, with a small increase in anti-personnel mine clearance reported and a larger increase in survey. Overall, though, mine clearance projects were carried out only on a small scale with limited funding and duration. It remains on track to meet its Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Article 5 clearance deadline by 2021.

In 2017, a new National Mine Action Strategy for 2018–19 was developed, which focuses on fulfilling the country's APMBC Article 5 obligations by 2020. As at mid-2018, according to the United Nations Mine Action Service

(UNMAS) and international mine action operators, the DRC could indeed complete clearance by 2020 with existing capacity and sufficient funding. This is, however, considerably after the 2016 deadline set out in its 2012–16 national mine action strategy.¹ Moreover, throughout 2017, the national mine action programme continued to be hampered by lack of coordination between stakeholders and critical information management challenges. The ability of the authorities to produce a clear and accurate estimate of remaining mine and explosive remnants of war (ERW) contamination remained questionable.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- DRC should establish a realistic and accurate understanding of the remaining mine and ERW contamination, including through re-survey of all remaining suspected hazardous areas (SHAs), many of which are thought to be inaccurate or outdated, and adjust its work plan for coordinated completion of clearance accordingly.
- As soon as it is safe to do so, the DRC should conduct survey in Aru and Dungu territories.
- Further efforts are needed to ensure that the Congolese Mine Action Centre (Centre Congolais de Lutte Antimines, CCLAM) can provide effective information and quality management to the national programme. Significant efforts should be made to ensure the national mine action database is accurate, up to date, and effectively managed and resourced by the national authorities. Updated information should be regularly shared with all mine action stakeholders.
- Mine action data should be recorded and reported according to International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) land release terminology.
- Resources should be provided by the Government of the DRC and international donors to support CCLAM to enable it to carry out essential functions autonomously, without relying on financial support from mine action operators.
- Regular coordination meetings should be held with the national authorities, the United Nations, and mine action operators to share information and improve the implementation of mine action.
- Donors and international stakeholders should seek to complete mine and ERW clearance in the face of the humanitarian crises in the DRC.
- A focus should be placed on building sufficient national capacity to address residual contamination following the exit of international operators.

CONTAMINATION

The DRC is affected by anti-personnel and ERW, a result of armed conflict involving neighbouring states, militias, and armed opposition groups, which have increased since the late 1990s.² According to UNMAS, at the end of 2017, a total of 36 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) and suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) with a total size of 502,591m² remained to be released. There were two SHAs with a total size of just under 4,000m² and 34 CHAs with a combined size of nearly 498,500m².³ Previously, at the end of 2016, a total of 54 CHAs and SHAs with a total size of 851,228m² remained; the total comprised seven confirmed mined areas covering just over 60,000m², and 47 SHAs covering just over 0.78km².⁴

At the end of 2017, six of the DRC's former eleven provinces still contained confirmed or suspected mine contamination, as set out in Table 1.⁵ The figures for contamination provided by UNMAS in Table 1 are not entirely consistent with data given previously to Mine Action Review, but were said to be accurate.

Table 1: Anti-personnel mine contamination by province (at end-2017)⁶

Province	CHAs	Area (m ²)	SHAs	Area (m ²)
Ituri	0	0	5	48,471
Maniema	2	3,993	2	74,726
North-Kivu	0	0	9	5,704
North-Ubangi	0	0	8	163,077
South-Ubangi	0	0	6	174,795
Tshopo	0	0	4	31,825
Totals	2	3,993	34	498,598

In April 2014, DRC reported that 130 SHAs suspected to contain landmines remained in eight provinces (then Equateur, Kasai Occidental, Kasai Oriental, Maniema, North Kivu, Katanga, Province Orientale, and South Kivu). These areas were estimated to cover a total of 1.8km² on the basis of the results of a nine-month-long National Landmine Contamination Survey (NLCS) launched in March 2013.⁷ The Aru and Dungu territories in former Orientale Province, however, were not surveyed due to insecurity, and survey had still to be carried out as at June 2018.⁸

According to figures reported by CCLAM, from 1 January 2014–31 December 2017, a total of 103 mined areas were addressed, releasing a total of just over 1.7km², including 333,934m² in 2014; 493,066m² in 2015; 379,859m² in 2016; 445,150m² in 2017; and 65,318m² from January–March 2018, and four additional mined areas with a size of 90,229m² were “suspended” or “closed”.⁹ It reported a total of 370 anti-personnel mines had been destroyed, including 49 anti-personnel mines found in 2014; 36 anti-personnel mines in 2015; 162 anti-personnel mines in 2016; 26 anti-personnel mines in 2017; and two anti-personnel mines in the first quarter of 2018.¹⁰ These figures are not entirely consistent with previous survey and clearance figures reported by CCLAM, nor with data reported previously to Mine Action Review by UNMAS and international mine action operators.

As at 6 June 2018, the CCLAM claimed that a total of 58 hazardous areas with a size of approximately 600,000m² remained to be addressed. On request of the CCLAM, Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA) agreed to assist with a re-survey of areas in the provinces of Bas Uele, Ituri, Maniema, North Kivu, North Ubangi, South Kivu, Tanganyika, and Tshopo.¹¹ As at August 2018, NPA was preparing to implement a project aimed at reassessing all recorded and newly reported SHAs to allow for better planning and coordination of clearance efforts.¹²

UNMAS reported that mine contamination remaining in DRC in 2017 was limited and that only small numbers of anti-personnel mines were found on an annual basis by operators. Areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines often proved to contain unexploded ordnance (UXO), abandoned ordnance (AXO), or small arms ammunition instead.¹³ In 2017, mine clearance projects were carried out only on a small scale with limited funding and duration, and progress remained relatively static compared with the previous year.¹⁴

NPA stated that it continued to find primarily only UXO in the SHAs it addressed in 2017, and stated that frequently many SHAs contained no anti-personnel mines at all.¹⁵ Humanity and Inclusion (formerly Handicap International, HI) reported that of the two regions where it was operational through local partner AFRILAM in 2017, only two were found to contain anti-personnel mines.¹⁶ Mines Advisory Group (MAG) did not report encountering any anti-personnel mines in its operations in 2017.¹⁷

The impact of remaining mine and ERW contamination in 2017 was predominantly socio-economic. Released land is used for agriculture and settlement development, in addition to opening up access to markets, water, and firewood.¹⁸ In 2017, in one example, clearance of the Bongala road by NPA which is a shortcut linking Gbadolite in North Ubangi province with Gemena in South Ubangi province, reduced the travel time and distance from 185km² and up to seven hours to 155km, taking up to five hours.¹⁹ HI reported that land released to local inhabitants in Tshopo province, which had previously been blocked from cultivation or restricted access to resources, such as water, for many years, was being put to use for socio-economic and community activities such as the construction of houses and agriculture.²⁰

In 2018, UNMAS and operators confirmed that with existing mine action capacity and the maintenance of sufficient funding, the DRC could complete clearance of all contamination in the remaining provinces of Bas-Uele, Equateur, Ituri, Maniema, North-Kivu, Tanganyika, Tshuapa, Tshopo, and South and North Ubangi, before its extended Article 5 deadline of 1 January 2021.²¹

Despite the positive prognosis for completing clearance prior to 2021, in 2018, explosive ordnance continued to pose a significant risk to civilians in DRC, increased by the recent resurgence in armed conflict which has resulted in new ERW contamination, particularly in the eastern and central regions. UNMAS reported that a number of SHAs remained in geographically challenging areas where large numbers of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees were seeking shelter. Children continued to make up nearly four fifths of total reported victims of ERW. For the period 2002–18, UNMAS reported that a total of 2,643 victims of mines and ERW had been recorded in DRC.²²

PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

CCLAM was established in 2012 with support from the UN Mine Action Coordination Centre (UNMACC) and UNMAS.²³ Subsequently, UNMAS provided capacity-building support to CCLAM for its operations until the transfer of responsibility for coordinating mine action activities to CCLAM was completed in early 2016.²⁴

Previously, UNMACC coordinated mine action operations through offices in the capital, Kinshasa, and in Goma, Kalemie, Kananga, Kisangani, and Mbandaka.²⁵ UNMACC was part of the UN Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) peacekeeping mission. UN Security Council Resolution 1925 mandated UNMACC to strengthen national mine action capacities and support reconstruction through road and infrastructure clearance.²⁶

In 2013, demining activities were transferred to the UN Country Team and the Congolese authorities.²⁷ As a consequence, UNMAS operated two separate projects, splitting its activities between support for the Government of the DRC and its in-country team on the one hand, and activities in support of MONUSCO on the other.²⁸ Since 2014, demining has no longer been part of MONUSCO's mandate.²⁹ In 2017–18, UNMAS was assisting MONUSCO operations and mitigating the threat from ERW through explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) operations and risk education.³⁰

Although CCLAM took over responsibility from UNMAS as the national focal point for demining in early 2016, its capacity to carry out accreditation, issue task orders, and report on mine action activities remained very limited in 2017. Its lack of capacity to manage an up-to-date national database and carry out quality management activities continued to be highlighted by operators as critical areas of concern. Little, if any, improvement was seen during the year.³¹

Strategic Planning

The DRC's national mine action strategic plan for 2012–16 set the goal of clearing all areas contaminated with anti-personnel mines or submunitions by the end of 2016.³² Neither goal was met.

In 2017, under CCLAM's coordination, with support from the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), UNMAS, and the Government of Japan, a new National Mine Action Strategy for 2018–19 was developed in a series of workshops in collaboration with mine action operators.³³ The strategy focuses on fulfilling the country's APMB Article 5 obligations by 2020, one year ahead of its 2021 deadline.³⁴

The new strategy contains the following three strategic objectives: effective and efficient management of the explosive threat; ensuring the national programme has the capacity to manage residual contamination in a sustainable manner; and strengthening the legal framework of the mine action programme. These objectives are to be achieved through the adoption of national laws and other implementing measures, by adherence to relevant treaties, through the integration of mine action into national development and poverty reduction strategies, and as a result of the mobilisation of adequate resources.³⁵ According to CCLAM, a workshop on the strategy's implementation would be held in the second half of 2018.³⁶

Legislation and Standards

There is no national mine action legislation in DR Congo, based on available information. In 2017, UNMAS said it would provide technical support to CCLAM to complete the revision of DRC's outdated National Technical Standards and Guidelines (NTSGs) for mine action.³⁷ Revised NTSGs had been drafted by the middle of 2016, but were still under review as at August 2018.³⁸

Quality Management

HI, MAG, and NPA reported that internal quality assurance (QA)/quality control (QC) systems were in place in 2017.³⁹ In 2017, CCLAM controlled external QA/QC after the handover of responsibility for quality management from UNMAS in 2016.⁴⁰ Operators reported that CCLAM carried out QA/QC on all operations and tasks in 2017; however, they also stated that CCLAM staff did not have adequate material and financial resources to plan and carry out autonomous inspection visits during the year. Operators reported having to cover some of CCLAM's costs to allow it to carry out monitoring operations in the field.⁴¹

Information Management

CCLAM assumed responsibility from UNMAS for information management in January 2016. Since then, and despite many years of capacity-building support from UNMAS, and again from NPA in 2017, serious concerns have persisted over the quality of the database and CCLAM's capacity and resources to manage it. Gaps in the data, a lack of maintenance, a lack of capacity to extract and share information from the database, and the absence of coordination meetings with operators, all remained evident in 2017.⁴²

NPA held refresher training courses on information management and use of the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) database and geographic information system (GIS) for CCLAM staff during the year. It reported that while CCLAM had competent technical staff, its limited administrative and financial resources continued to adversely affect its ability to maintain the database, and that, as a consequence, a system of parallel reporting to CCLAM and UNMAS had developed. The situation even appeared to deteriorate in 2017.⁴³ CCLAM once again did not provide information in response to Mine Action Review's requests for data in 2018.

Operators

Four international operators carried out demining operations in the DRC in 2016: DanChurchAid (DCA), HI, MAG, and NPA, along with one national clearance organisation, AFRILAM, and a second national organisation, AAAD, which conducted non-technical survey and mine risk education.⁴⁴

In January–April 2017, NPA deployed five technical survey teams with a total of 22 demining personnel. From April, the project configuration changed to include both demining and the provision of risk education, with the number of technical survey teams reduced to three 15-strong teams and two four-strong risk education teams. It focused on completing clearance of SHAs in Bolomba and Ikela territories in Equateur and Tshuapa provinces, respectively.⁴⁵

In 2017, MAG deployed two multi-task teams (MTT) and two community liaison teams in North and South Ubangi provinces and two MTTs and one community liaison team in Tanganyika province. Personnel totalled 26 deminers and 15 community liaison staff. MAG carried out community liaison, EOD spot tasks, battle area clearance (BAC), and other clearance activities.⁴⁶

With support from HI, AFRILAM deployed three teams with a total of twenty deminers and two community liaison officers in 2017. AFRILAM carried out clearance and EOD spot tasks during the year; however, as funding for 2018 was unable to be secured, AFRILAM and HI's operations ceased on 31 December 2017.⁴⁷

LAND RELEASE

UNMAS and operators reported figures to Mine Action Review that a total of 0.86km² of mined area was released in 2017, of which 0.42km² was by clearance and technical survey, and a further 0.44km² cancelled by non-technical survey.⁴⁸ This is an increase from the total mined area in DRC released in 2016 of just under 0.4km² of mined area, including 0.36km² by clearance and technical survey, and a further 0.04km² by non-technical survey, largely due to a sizeable increase in cancellation by non-technical survey.⁴⁹

Survey in 2017

In 2017, operators cancelled a total of nearly 444,300m² by non-technical survey and reduced a further nearly 192,500m² of anti-personnel mined area through technical survey, while confirming just under 264,500m² as mined.⁵⁰ This is a large increase in survey in comparison with results in 2016 when nearly 37,700m² mined area was cancelled by non-technical survey, 127,300m² of mined area was reduced, and 120,000m² was confirmed as mined.⁵¹

MAG reported that its large increase in non-technical survey cancellation in 2017 was due to deploying to North and South Ubangi to address significantly overestimated SHAs, along with increased access to address areas following cutting of vegetation, enabling a larger amount of SHA to be cancelled.⁵² According to NPA, its survey output increased in 2017 due to a large SHA in Bongala which proved to have very little contamination resulting in significant cancellation, and the erroneous recording of a second task as having a size of 16,000m², which in fact proved to be 160,000m².⁵³

Table 2: Mine survey in 2017⁵⁴

Operator	SHAs cancelled	Area cancelled (m ²)	SHAs confirmed as mined	Area confirmed (m ²)	Area reduced by TS (m ²)
AAAD	0	0	1	50	0
AFRILAM	6	74,870	5	134,949	43,153
DCA	0	0	4	126,302	0
MAG	2	100,000	0	0	13,000
NPA	1	269,402	1	3,157	136,289
Totals	9	444,272	12	264,458	192,442

TS = Technical survey

Clearance in 2017

A total of just over 226,000m² was reportedly released by clearance in 2017, with the destruction of 32 anti-personnel mines and 3,173 items of UXO.⁵⁵ This is almost the same as clearance in 2016 (just over 230,300m²).⁵⁶

HI reported that the significant increase in land release output by AFRILAM in 2017 compared with 2016 was due to the fact that 2016 was dedicated to the recruitment, mobilisation, and accreditation of demining teams, whereas in 2017 the focus was on implementing clearance.⁵⁷

Table 3: Mine clearance in 2017⁵⁸

Operator	Areas cleared	Area cleared (m ²)	Anti-personnel mines destroyed	UXO destroyed
AFRILAM	4 ⁵⁹	18,078	20	2
DCA	3	48,990	9	50
MAG	0	0	1	3,094
NPA	10	158,957	2	27 ⁶⁰
Totals	17	226,025	32	3,173

ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE

Under Article 5 of the APMBC (and in accordance with the six-year extension request granted by states parties in June 2014), the DRC 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 January 2021. It is on track to meet this deadline. As stated above, according to its National Mine Action Strategy for 2018–19, the DRC expects to complete its APMBC Article 5 obligations by 2020, one year ahead of its 2021 deadline. However, this is three years after the DRC previously expected to complete clearance.

In 2018, operators and UNMAS confirmed that it is likely that DRC can clear all mined areas on its territory by its extended Article 5 deadline of 1 January 2021.⁶¹ DRC's first Article 5 deadline request in 2011 largely blamed poor survey by demining operators for the failure to meet its deadline, though poor management and insufficient national ownership of the programme were also major factors.⁶² Initially intending to submit a request for an extension of its initial November 2012 deadline by four years, DRC instead requested a 26-month interim extension primarily to carry out the national survey to provide it with the information needed to submit another definitive extension request in 2014.⁶³

In April 2014, DRC submitted a second request to extend its Article 5 deadline starting in January 2015. The extension indicated that at least 30% of the total mined area could be released through technical survey, indicating that some 1.3km² would need to be cleared.⁶⁴ The extension request estimated that on average 0.21km² would be cleared each year.⁶⁵

The purpose of its current (second) Article 5 deadline extension is to “[a] conduct technical surveys and clear the 130 identified mined areas; and [b] conduct non-technical and technical surveys as well as clear and/or release areas in the territories of Aru and Dungu in the Orientale province”.⁶⁶

Over five years in 2013–17, demining organisations cleared a total of just under 1.1km² of mined area (see Table 4).

Table 4: Mine clearance in 2013–17

Year	Area cleared (m ²)
2017	226,025
2016	211,293
2015	314,562
2014	225,484
2013	110,961
Total	1,088,325

The DRC has reported that challenges for implementing its current extension request plan milestones include funding and logistics, security, geography, and climate, including dense vegetation and heavy rainy seasons.⁶⁷ Operators attributed the DRC's inability to finish clearance by the end of 2016 to a lack of access and the remote, difficult terrain of remaining areas, and additional concerns over sustained funding, upcoming elections, and deteriorating security in certain areas.

NPA planned to complete clearance of SHAs in North and South Ubangi in 2018, and from 2019–20, with sufficient funding and if the security situation permits, to conduct clearance in North Kivu province and other areas which are confirmed as contaminated after resurvey in early 2018.⁶⁸ As noted above, HI and AFRILAM's operations ended in December 2017 due to a lack of funding.⁶⁹

In 2018, MAG, HI, NPA, and UNMAS reiterated concerns over an ongoing decline in funding for mine action operations to address the problem of mines and ERW in the DRC. They reported that with the deteriorating political climate in the country, donors were reluctant to support mine action, prioritising funding to higher-impact humanitarian crises such as cholera and yellow fever outbreaks, flooding, and population displacement.⁷⁰

CCLAM is not known to have received financial resources for mine action from the Government of the DRC in 2017.⁷¹ In 2018, operators reported that CCLAM was entirely dependent on external financial support.⁷² NPA reported that a donor mapping exercise was conducted in 2017 while HI said a mine action resource mobilisation strategy was planned to be developed and approved by the government by the middle of 2018.⁷³

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- 1 Email from Steven Harrop, Chief of Operations, UNMAS, 23 April 2018; Jean-Denis Larsen, Country Director, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), 5 March 2018; Guillaume Zerr, Programme Director DRC, Humanity and Inclusion, (formerly Handicap International, HI), 24 May 2018; and Bill Marsden, Regional Director, East and Southern Africa, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), 11 May 2018.
 - 2 An escalation of conflict between rebel group M23 and Armed Forces of DRC (FARDC) with support of the UN Stabilization Mission in DRC (MONUSCO), from August to November 2013, prior to the disbanding of M23, also resulted in new contamination of large areas of land, including roads and access routes, with UXO. UNMAS, "2015 Portfolio of Mine Action Projects, Democratic Republic of the Congo", at: http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/print/country_portfolio4906-1070-78801.pdf.
 - 3 Email from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 23 April 2018.
 - 4 Email from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 20 September 2017. CCLAM, however, reported in December 2016 that a total of 65 confirmed and SHAs, comprising 36% of all known mine contamination, remained to be addressed, primarily in the north and east of the country. Statement by Sudi Alimasi Kimputu, Coordinator, CCLAM, 15th Meeting of States Parties, Santiago, 3 December 2016.
 - 5 Email from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 September 2017. On 9 January 2015, the National Assembly of the DRC passed a law which redistributed the DRC's then 11 provinces into 25 provinces, plus Kinshasa.
 - 6 Email from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 23 April 2018.
 - 7 Second Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 7 April 2014, p. 10; and UNMAS, "2015 Portfolio of Mine Action Projects, Democratic Republic of the Congo".
 - 8 Ibid.; and statement by Sudi Alimasi Kimputu, CCLAM, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 7 June 2018.
 - 9 Article 7 Report (for 2017), Form D, p. 10.
 - 10 Ibid., p. 15; and Statement of DRC, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 7 June 2018.
 - 11 Statement of DRC, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 7 June 2018; and Article 7 Report (for 2017), Form D, p. 12. According to the DRC's latest Article 7 report, as at 17 April 2018, a total of 56 areas with a size of 535,359m² remained to be addressed: 27 mined areas in the nine provinces identified in its initial survey and 29 newly identified mined areas. The total of 56 areas included 16 areas with a total size of 286,640m² and 15 areas with a size yet to be determined.
 - 12 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 13 August 2018.
 - 13 Email from Pehr Lodhammar, UNMAS, 5 April 2017.
 - 14 Email from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 23 April 2018.
 - 15 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018.
 - 16 Email from Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018.
 - 17 Email from Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018.
 - 18 Emails from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018; and Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018.
 - 19 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018.
 - 20 Email from Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018.
 - 21 Emails from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018; Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018; and Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018; and UNMAS, "2018 Portfolio of Mine Action Projects, DRC", at: http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/print/country_portfolio7490-951-81488.pdf.
 - 22 UNMAS, "2018 Portfolio of Mine Action Projects, DRC".
 - 23 Response to questionnaire by Michelle Healy, UNMACC, 29 April 2013.
 - 24 UNMAS, "About UNMAS Support of One UN and the GODRC", March 2016, at: <http://www.mineaction.org/print/programmes/drc>.
 - 25 UNMAS, "DRC, Overview", updated August 2013.
 - 26 UN Security Council Resolution 1925, 28 May 2010.
 - 27 UN Security Council Resolution 2098, 28 March 2013.
 - 28 UNMAS, "DRC: Support to UN Country Team and the Government".
 - 29 UN Security Council Resolution 2147, 28 March 2014; and UNMAS, "DRC Overview", updated April 2014.
 - 30 UNMAS, "Support to one UN and the GO of DRC", March 2018, at: <http://www.mineaction.org/programmes/drc>.
 - 31 Emails from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018; Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018; and Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018.
 - 32 DRC, "Plan Stratégique National de Lutte Antimines en République Démocratique du Congo, 2012–2016" ["National Mine Action Strategic Plan in DRC, 2012–2016"], Kinshasa, November 2011, p. 28, at: http://www.macc-drc.org/IMG/pdf/Plan_strategique_LAM_2012-2016.pdf.
 - 33 "Stratégie Nationale de Lutte Antimines en République Démocratique du Congo 2018–2019", CCLAM, November 2017.
 - 34 Ibid.
 - 35 Ibid., p. 5.
 - 36 Statement of DRC, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 7 June 2018.
 - 37 Email from Pehr Lodhammar, UNMAS, 5 April 2017.
 - 38 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 13 August 2018.

- 39 Response to questionnaire by Gerard Kerrien, MAG, 8 May 2017; and email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 19 May 2017.
- 40 Ibid.
- 41 Emails from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018; and Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018; and Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018.
- 42 Ibid.
- 43 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 18 April 2017.
- 44 Email from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 14 August 2018.
- 45 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018.
- 46 Each MTT was composed of one Technical Field Manager, a team leader, five deminers, a medic, and two drivers. The community liaison teams consisted of a community liaison manager, four community liaison officers, a medic and two drivers. Email from Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018.
- 47 Email from Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018.
- 48 Emails from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 23 April 2018; Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018; Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May and 30 August 2018; and Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018.
- 49 Responses to questionnaire by Gerard Kerrien, MAG, 8 May 2017; and Seydou N'Gaye and Maryam Walton, HI, 23 March 2017; and emails from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 18 April 2017; and emails from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 September 2017 and 20 September 2017.
- 50 Emails from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 23 April 2018; Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018; Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May and 30 August 2018; and Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018.
- 51 Responses to questionnaire by Gerard Kerrien, MAG, 8 May 2017; and Seydou N'Gaye and Maryam Walton, HI, 23 March 2017; and emails from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 18 April 2017; and Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 and 20 September 2017.
- 52 Email from Gerard Kerrien, MAG, 29 August 2018.
- 53 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 13 September 2018.
- 54 Emails from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 23 April 2018; Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018; Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May and 30 August 2018; and Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018. UNMAS reported discrepancies between the figures reported here by operators and the information contained in the national database. DCA declined to provide data to Mine Action Review in 2018 and figures are those reported by UNMAS instead. Figures for AFRILAM were provided by HI, however, HI reported that the total figures for land reduction through technical survey included a figure of 28,987m² for AFRILAM's operations in Tshopo province, which it could not verify as accurate, nor confirm if the figure reported was for a period which extended beyond the 2017 reporting period.
- 55 Emails from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 23 April 2018; Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018; Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018; Gerrard Kerrien, MAG, 28 August and 30 August 2018; and Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018.
- 56 Responses to questionnaire by Gerard Kerrien, MAG, 8 May 2017; and Seydou N'Gaye and Maryam Walton, HI, 23 March 2017; and emails from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 18 April 2017; and Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 and 20 September 2017.
- 57 Email from Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018.
- 58 Emails from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 23 April 2018; Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018; Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May and 30 August 2018; Gerrard Kerrien, MAG, 28 August 2018; and Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018. UNMAS reported discrepancies between the figures reported here by operators and the information contained in the national database. DCA declined to provide data to Mine Action Review in 2018 and figures are those reported by UNMAS instead. Figures for AFRILAM were provided by HI, however, HI reported that the total figures for land released through clearance included a figure of 15,215m² for AFRILAM's operations in Tshopo province, which it could not verify as accurate, nor if the figure reported was for a period which extended beyond the 2017 reporting period.
- 59 Email from Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018. HI reported that clearance of these areas was not fully completed.
- 60 NPA reported that 11 items of UXO were found and destroyed as spot tasks. Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018.
- 61 Emails from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018; Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018; and Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018.
- 62 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2011, pp. 3 and 49.
- 63 Ibid; and Statements of DRC, Standing Committee on Mine Action, Geneva, 21 June 2011 and 27 May 2013.
- 64 Second Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 7 April 2014, p. 48.
- 65 Ibid., p. 49. The extension request included annual projections of progress to be made during the extension period, though without providing a detailed workplan for each operator in each area in order to achieve them. It also foresaw expenditure of US\$20 million, of which some \$19.4 million would go to demining the 130 mined areas, while the remainder would be spent on survey and clearance in Aru and Dungu. It announced that the Government of the DRC had committed to contribute FC580 million (about \$600,000) a year to mine action activities, starting in January 2015. However, no such funding was provided by the government.
- 66 Analysis of DRC's Article 5 deadline Extension Request, submitted by the President of the Third Review Conference on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions, 18 June 2014, p. 5.
- 67 Analysis of DRC's Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 18 June 2014, pp. 5–6. The DRC had estimated that on the basis of operational and financial capacity for demining in 2009–13, mine clearance could be completed within four years; however, additional time would be needed to conduct survey and clearance in the Aru and Dungu territories, thereby totalling the six years requested.
- 68 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018.
- 69 Email from Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018.
- 70 Emails from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018; Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018; and Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018; and Pehr Lodhammar, UNMAS, 5 April 2017.
- 71 Emails from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018.
- 72 Email from Bill Marsden, MAG, 11 May 2018.
- 73 Emails from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 5 March 2018; and Guillaume Zerr, HI, 24 May 2018.