

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO



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

MINE ACTION PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE	For 2016	For 2015
Problem understood	8	8
Target date for completion of mine clearance	8	8
Targeted clearance	6	7
Efficient clearance	6	6
National funding of programme	3	3
Timely clearance	5	5
Land release system in place	6	6
National mine action standards	6	6
Reporting on progress	3	4
Improving performance	5	6
PERFORMANCE SCORE: AVERAGE	5.6	5.9

PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)'s mine action programme's land release output declined slightly in 2016, though it is still on track to meet its Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Article 5 clearance deadline by 2021. According to the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), as at September 2017, the DRC appeared likely to complete clearance by 2019. This is a further year behind the 2016 deadline set out in its 2012–16 national mine action strategy.¹

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- DRC should finalise a detailed workplan to fulfil its Article 5 obligations as soon as possible.
- DRC should develop a national mine action strategy with realistic timelines and clear objectives.
- 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.
- In particular, DRC should significantly improve the quality of the national mine action database to ensure that it is accurate, up to date, and under effective national management.
- Greater efforts should be made to ensure reporting and recording of mine action data according to International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) land-release terminology.
- 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 anti-vehicle mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), a result of decades of conflict involving neighbouring states, militias, and rebel groups since gaining its independence in 1960.² According to UNMAS, at the end of 2016, a total of 54 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) and suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) with a total size of 851,228m² remained.³ At the end of 2015, a total of 71 CHAs and SHAs remained covering an estimated 1.3km²; the total comprised 13 confirmed mined areas covering less than 0.2km², and 58 SHAs covering just over 1.1km².⁴

At the end of 2016, 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 (as at end-2016)⁶

Province	CHAs	Area (m ²)	SHAs	Area (m ²)
Equateur (now South-Ubangi, North-Ubangi, Equateur)	3	38,527	21	434,204
Orientale (now Tshopo, Ituri, Bas-Uele)	2	22,384	16	301,083
Maniema	2	3,993	0	0
North-Kivu	0	0	8	8,442
Katanga (now Tanganyika)	0	0	1	42,000
Kasai-Occidental	0	0	1	595
Totals	7	64,904	47	786,324

In April 2014, DRC reported that 130 SHAs affected by mines remained in eight provinces (then Equateur, Kasai Occidental, Kasai Oriental, Maniema, North Kivu, Katanga, Province Orientale, and South Kivu) covering an estimated 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.⁸

As at December 2015, the DRC reported that 45 of the 130 SHAs had been cleared during the year, covering some 0.9km², putting three of the DRC's then eight remaining contaminated provinces in a position to be declared cleared of mines, once quality management had been completed.⁹ Clearance of former South Kivu province was completed following a CCLAM survey in early October

2015 that cancelled the last remaining SHA.¹⁰ UNMAS cautioned, however, that four SHAs were newly identified in 2016 and further hazards might be identified in the future, particularly in Aru or Dungu.¹¹

As at September 2017, survey of Aru or Dungu had still not been possible due to security concerns, though according to UNMAS, survey could be completed by humanitarian demining organisations within a four-month period, once funding and accessed are secured.¹²

In May 2017, the last known area containing cluster munition remnants contamination in the DRC with a size of 3,900m² was cleared.¹³

In 2017, UNMAS reported that anti-personnel mine contamination remaining in DRC 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.¹⁴ Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) confirmed it found primarily only UXO in the SHAs it addressed in 2016, and stated that frequently many SHAs contained no anti-personnel mines at all.¹⁵ Handicap International (HI) reported that of the three zones where it was operational in 2016, only one was found to contain anti-personnel mines.¹⁶ Mines Advisory Group (MAG) did not report encountering any anti-personnel mines in its operations in 2016, and found only one anti-vehicle mine during the year.¹⁷

Throughout 2016, ongoing conflict continued to add ERW, and munitions remained a constant and significant risk to civilians, as well as placing wide-ranging restrictions on socio-economic development and recovery. In 2002–17, UNMAS reported that a total of 2,563 victims of mines and ERW had been registered in the DRC.¹⁸

Released land is used for agriculture and settlement development, in addition to opening up access to markets, water, and firewood.¹⁹ NPA reported that, in April 2017, of all the land it had released and returned to local communities in 2016, 8% was found to be used for construction and 92% for other activities, such as agriculture and livestock grazing. Most areas were put back into productive use immediately after being handed over, it said.²⁰ HI reported that land released to local inhabitants in Tshopo province in November was being cultivated four months later, having been blocked for years prior.²¹

PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

CCLAM was established in 2012 with support from the UN Mine Action Coordination Centre (UNMACC) and UNMAS.²² 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 2016.²³

Previously, UNMACC coordinated mine action operations through offices in the capital, Kinshasa, and in Goma, Kalemie, Kananga, Kisangani, and Mbandaka.²⁴ 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.²⁵

In 2013, demining activities were transferred to the UN Country Team and the Congolese authorities.²⁶ 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.²⁷ Since 2014, demining has no longer been part of MONUSCO's mandate.²⁸ In 2017, UNMAS reported it was assisting MONUSCO operations and mitigating the threat from ERW through explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) operations and risk education.²⁹

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 2016.³⁰

In June 2017, following the expiration of the DRC's 2012–16 national strategy, which was developed with the support of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), the GICHD reported that, together with UNMAS, it would work closely with CCLAM to develop the DRC's next national mine action strategy.³¹ According to the GICHD, the first strategy development workshop was organised in Kinshasa in September 2017, bringing all relevant national and international stakeholders together to analyse the context, agree on the mine action programme's overall vision and mission, and define strategic goals and objectives. Fulfilment of DRC's Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Article 5 obligations will be a main focus of the next national strategy, it said.³²

In granting DRC's second Article 5 deadline extension request, states parties to the APMBC called on the DRC to present a detailed workplan by 30 April 2015 on the implementation of its remaining clearance obligations throughout its extension period. It did not, however, do so, and as at September 2017 had still to submit a workplan.

Standards

In September 2017, UNMAS reported that the DRC's outdated National Technical Standards and Guidelines (NTSGs) had been revised and national mine action standards had been developed, which, following review by the CCLAM, were expected to be published by the end of the year.³³

Quality Management

MAG, HI, and NPA reported that internal quality assurance (QA)/quality control (QC) systems were in place in 2016, and that UNMAS controlled external QA/QC, prior to handing over responsibility for quality management to the CCLAM.³⁴ According to UNMAS, only limited QA was carried out by CCLAM in 2016 due to lack of funding for travel or the deployment of personnel. UNMAS said it undertook regular QA of UN-contracted operators, but reported that the size of the country and lack of adequate and affordable transport and infrastructure often precluded timely quality management. No sampling was undertaken in 2016.³⁵

Information Management

The CCLAM assumed responsibility from UNMAS for information management in January 2016. Subsequently, despite many years of capacity-building support from UNMAS, and from NPA in 2016, serious concerns persisted over the quality of the database and CCLAM's capacity and resources to provide adequate management of it. Gaps in data, inadequate maintenance, a lack of capacity to extract and share information, and the absence of coordination meetings with operators, were all evident during the year. NPA, which hosted information management training courses together with the GICHD for CCLAM in 2016, reported that while the Centre 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.³⁶ CCLAM did not provide information in response to Mine Action Review's requests for data in 2017.

LAND RELEASE

UNMAS has reported to Mine Action Review that a total of less than 0.4km² of mined area was released in 2016, of which 0.36km² was by clearance and technical survey, and a further 0.04km² cancelled by non-technical survey.⁴⁴ This is a decrease from the total mined area in DRC released in 2015 of just over 0.74km² of mined area, including 0.43km² by clearance and technical survey, and a further 0.31km² by non-technical survey.⁴⁵

In September 2017, UNMAS reported it was working on a data reconciliation project together with the GICHD to try and ensure that the database is up-to-date and accurate in order to facilitate compliance with the DRC's Article 5 obligations by the end of 2019. It expected to maintain closer links with the CCLAM information management section in the future in order to monitor that data is recorded accurately.³⁷

Operators

Five international operators carried out mine survey and clearance operations in the DRC in 2016: DanChurchAid (DCA), HI, MAG, commercial company Mechem, and NPA, along with a national demining organisation, AFRILAM.³⁸

In 2016, UNMAS contracted two multi-task teams (MTTs) for clearance operations in Kasai Central, Kasai Oriental, Lomami, and Maniema provinces. The teams primarily carried out explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) tasks, destruction of AXO, and battle area clearance (BAC). UNMAS also contracted three MTTs directly in support of MONUSCO operations in the provinces of Haut-Uele, Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, and Tanganyika; the teams mainly provided explosive hazard management support for the mission's activities.³⁹

In 2016, MAG employed 24 demining personnel for survey and clearance activities.⁴⁰ NPA began operating with one MTT, one mine clearance team (MCT), and four technical survey teams, for a total personnel of 52. In April, the teams were reconfigured into non-technical and technical survey teams, but with the focus on technical survey. As at November 2016, increased resources allowed two MTTs to be deployed to assist the Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC).⁴¹

HI commenced a two-year project in partnership with AFRILAM in 2016 with funding from the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs. AFRILAM deployed three teams of 14 deminers, while HI provided staff for quality management oversight and information management assistance.⁴² Under contract from UNMAS, from mid-2015 to mid-2016, MECHEM deployed five MCTs in the east of the country, until funding for its contract ceased in March 2016.⁴³

Survey in 2016

In 2016, operators cancelled a total of nearly 37,700m² by non-technical survey and additionally reduced nearly 127,300m² of anti-personnel mined area through technical survey, while confirming just over 120,000m² as mined.⁴⁶ This compares to results in 2015 when 0.31km² of mined area was cancelled by non-technical survey, 0.12km² of mined area was reduced, and 0.17km² was confirmed as mined.⁴⁷

Table 2: Mine survey in 2016⁴⁸

Operator	SHAs cancelled	Area cancelled (m ²)	SHAs confirmed as mined	Area confirmed (m ²)	Area reduced by TS (m ²)
MECHEM	0	0	0	0	0
NPA	3	37,682	0	0	120,127
DCA	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
HI	0	0	4	120,419	7,171
Totals	3	37,682	4	120,419	127,298

N/R = Not reported

Clearance in 2016

A total of just over 230,300m² was released by clearance in 2016, with the destruction of 28 anti-personnel mines and 101 items of UXO.⁴⁹ This is a decrease from the total mined area cleared in 2015 of just over 314,000m².⁵⁰

In addition, in 2016, NPA stated that two fuzeless anti-personnel mines and one anti-vehicle mine were found and destroyed in spot tasks.⁵¹ MAG reported destroying one anti-vehicle mine in a spot task and HI reported destroying one anti-personnel mine and eight items of UXO outside its demining tasks.⁵²

Table 3: Mine clearance in 2016⁵³

Operator	Areas cleared	Area cleared (m ²)	AP mines destroyed	AV mines destroyed	UXO destroyed
MECHEM	3	45,835	22	0	0
NPA	17	180,645	0	0	101
DCA	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
HI	1	3,847	6	0	0
Totals	21	230,327	28	0	101

AP = Anti-personnel

AV = Anti-vehicle

TS = Technical survey

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 at mid-2017, according to UNMAS, the DRC should complete clearance by 2019. This is in advance of its deadline but yet another year behind the end-2016 deadline set out in its national mine action strategy.⁵⁴

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".⁵⁵

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.⁵⁶ 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 2014.⁵⁷

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.⁵⁸ The extension request estimated that on average 0.21km² would be cleared each year.⁵⁹

The extension request included annual projections of progress to be made during the extension period, though without providing a detailed workplan with a monthly breakdown of activities for each operator in each area in order to achieve these.⁶⁰ 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 will be spent on survey and clearance in Aru and Dungu.⁶¹ It announced that the Government of the DRC had committed to contribute FC579,831,000 (about \$600,000) a year to mine action activities, starting in January 2015.⁶² Operators reported, however, that in 2016 no funding was provided by the government for mine action operations, and only very limited support was given to the CCLAM.⁶³ According to UNMAS, in 2017 the Government of the DRC did not have a budget allocation for mine action operations.⁶⁴

Over five years in 2012–16, demining organisations cleared a total of nearly 1.2km² of mined area (see Table 4).

Table 4: Mine clearance in 2012–16

Year	Area cleared (m ²)
2016	211,293
2015	314,562
2014	225,484
2013	110,961
2012	354,189
Total	1,216,489

As at September 2017, the DRC had not submitted a detailed workplan on the implementation of its extension request targets nor any annual Article 7 transparency reports since 2014. This is a violation of its treaty obligations.

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.⁶⁵ In June 2015, the DRC reported to states parties that after six months of implementation of its second extension request, it had concerns over declining international funding and the consequences for its ability to achieve its extension targets.⁶⁶

Operators MAG, HI, and NPA were initially optimistic that DRC would meet its national goal of completing clearance by the end of 2016, but became increasingly less so as the year went on, though they remained confident that the DRC would be able to meet its 2021 Article 5 deadline on time, if not earlier. They attributed the DRC's inability to finish 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.⁶⁷

In 2017, MAG and NPA raised concern over declining funding for mine action in the DRC.⁶⁸ UNMAS expected mine action capacity to decrease over the course of the year due to difficulties in obtaining funding, donor concerns over the current political impasse in the country, and higher-impact humanitarian crises such as cholera and yellow fever outbreaks, flooding, and increasing displacement of populations.⁶⁹

1 Email from Steven Harrop, Chief of Operations, UNMAS, 4 September 2017.

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, 20 September 2017. The 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.

4 Email from Colin Williams, Chief of Operations, UNMAS DRC, 1 September 2016.

5 Email from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 September 2017. On 9 January 2015, the National Assembly of the DRC passed a law which enacted the proposed redistricting under the 2006 Constitution of the DRC's 11 provinces into 25 provinces, plus Kinshasa.

6 Email from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 September 2017.

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.

9 Statement by Sudi Alimasi Kimputu, CCLAM, 14th Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 1 December 2015. The three provinces were Bandundu, Bas-Congo, and Kinshasa.

10 Email from Colin Williams, UNMAS, 16 October 2015.

11 Emails from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 September; and Colin Williams, UNMAS, 17 October 2016 and 16 October 2015; and response to questionnaire, 19 May 2015.

12 Email from Pehr Lodhammar, UNMAS, 5 April 2017.

13 Emails from Jean-Denis Larsen, Country Director, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), 19 May 2017; Matthieu Kayisa Ntumba, Operations Manager, NPA, 18 and 20 June 2017; Colin Williams, UNMAS, 12 June 2017; and Pehr Lodhammar, Programme Manager, UNMAS, 14 April 2017.

14 Email from Pehr Lodhammar, UNMAS, 5 April 2017.

15 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 18 April 2017.

16 Response to questionnaire by Seydou N'Gaye, Senior Technical Advisor, and Maryam Walton, Mine Action Coordinator, HI, received by email via Julien Kempeneers, Deputy Desk Officer, Mine Action Department, HI, 23 March 2017.

17 Response to questionnaire by Gerard Kerrien, Country Director, received by email via Llewelyn Jones, Director of Programmes, MAG, 8 May 2017.

18 UNMAS, "2017 Portfolio of Mine Action Projects, DRC", at: http://www.mineaction.org/sites/default/files/print/country_portfolio7111-1530-34206.pdf.

19 Response to questionnaire from Michelle Healy, UNMACC, Kinshasa, 29 April 2013. In addition, MONUSCO uses released land for their field bases and airport terminals.

20 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 18 April 2017.

21 Response to questionnaire by Seydou N'Gaye and Maryam Walton, HI, 23 March 2017.

22 Response to questionnaire by Michelle Healy, UNMACC, 29 April 2013.

23 UNMAS, "About UNMAS Support of One UN and the GODRC", March 2016, at: <http://www.mineaction.org/print/programmes/drc>.

24 UNMAS, "DRC, Overview", updated August 2013.

25 UN Security Council Resolution 1925, 28 May 2010.

26 UN Security Council Resolution 2098, 28 March 2013.

27 UNMAS, "DRC: Support to UN Country Team and the Government".

28 UN Security Council Resolution 2147, 28 March 2014; and UNMAS, "DRC Overview", updated April 2014.

- 29 UNMAS, "Support to one UN and the GO of DRC", March 2017, at: <http://www.mineaction.org/programmes/drc>.
- 30 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.
- 31 Information provided to Mine Action Review by Åsa Massleberg, Advisor, Strategic Management, GICHD, 20 June 2017.
- 32 Information provided to Mine Action Review by Åsa Massleberg, GICHD, 20 June and 21 September 2017.
- 33 Email from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 September 2016.
- 34 Responses to questionnaire by Gerard Kerrien, MAG, 8 May 2017; and Seydou N'Gaye and Maryam Walton, HI, 23 March 2017; and email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 19 May 2017.
- 35 Email from Pehr Lodhammar, UNMAS, 5 April 2017.
- 36 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 18 April 2017.
- 37 Email from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 20 September 2017.
- 38 Email from Julien Kempeneers, HI, 14 April 2016.
- 39 Email from Pehr Lodhammar, UNMAS, 5 April 2017.
- 40 Response to questionnaire by Gerard Kerrien, MAG, 8 May 2017.
- 41 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 18 April 2017.
- 42 Response to questionnaire by Seydou N'Gaye and Maryam Walton, HI, 23 March 2017.
- 43 Email from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 20 September 2017.
- 44 Responses to questionnaire by Gerard Kerrien, MAG, 8 May 2017; and Seydou N'Gaye and Maryam Walton, HI, 23 March 2017; and email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 18 April 2017; and emails from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 September 2017 and 20 September 2017.
- 45 Emails from Colin Williams, UNMAS, 6 May 2016 and 19 May 2015.
- 46 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.
- 47 Email from Colin Williams, UNMAS, 2 September 2016.
- 48 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 and 20 September 2017; Julien Kempeneers, HI, 20 September 2017; Maryam Walton, HI, 22 September 2017; and Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 and 20 September 2017. 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 2016 preventing reporting of any demining it conducted.
- 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 Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 and 20 September 2017.
- 50 Email from Colin Williams, UNMAS, 2 September 2016.
- 51 Email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 18 April 2017.
- 52 Responses to questionnaire by Gerard Kerrien, MAG, 8 May 2017; and Seydou N'Gaye and Maryam Walton, HI, 23 March 2017; and email from Julien Kempeneers, HI, 20 September 2017.
- 53 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 and 20 September 2017; Maryam Walton, HI, 22 September 2017; and Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 and 20 September 2017. HI reported that clearance of the two areas was not completed in 2016 and remained ongoing as at March 2017. UNMAS reported discrepancies between the figures reported here by operators and the information contained in the national database. According to the information held in the national database, a total of 201,946m² was cleared in 2016; however UNMAS stated that operators' records were not always sent to UNMAS. DCA declined to provide data to Mine Action Review in 2016.
- 54 Email from Steven Harrop, UNMAS, 4 September 2017.
- 55 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.
- 56 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2011, pp. 3 and 49.
- 57 Ibid; and Statements of DRC, Intersessional meetings (Standing Committee on Mine Action), Geneva, 21 June 2011 and 27 May 2013.
- 58 Second Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 7 April 2014, p. 48.
- 59 Ibid., p. 49.
- 60 Ibid., p. 81.
- 61 Ibid., p. 12.
- 62 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 7 April 2014, p. 52.
- 63 Responses to questionnaire by Gerard Kerrien, MAG, 8 May 2017; and Seydou N'Gaye and Maryam Walton, HI, 23 March 2017; and email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 18 April 2017.
- 64 Email from Pehr Lodhammar, UNMAS, 5 April 2017.
- 65 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.
- 66 Statement of DRC, Intersessional meetings (Committee on Article 5 Implementation), Geneva, 25 June 2015.
- 67 Emails from Llewelyn Jones, MAG, 7 May 2016; Julien Kempeneers, HI, 14 April 2016; and Pehr Lodhammar, NPA, 12 April 2016.
- 68 Response to questionnaire by Gerard Kerrien, MAG, 8 May 2017; and email from Jean-Denis Larsen, NPA, 18 April 2017.
- 69 Email from Pehr Lodhammar, UNMAS, 5 April 2017.