

## CHILE



**ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 1 MARCH 2020**  
 (ON TRACK TO MEET DEADLINE)

<b>MINE ACTION PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE</b>	For 2016	For 2015
Problem understood	7	7
Target date for completion of mine clearance	7	7
Targeted clearance	7	7
Efficient clearance	7	7
National funding of programme	7	7
Timely clearance	7	6
Land release system in place	7	7
National mine action standards	8	8
Reporting on progress	7	7
Improving performance	8	6
<b>PERFORMANCE SCORE: GOOD</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.9</b>

## PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY

Chile significantly increased clearance output in 2016, seemingly putting behind it the allegations of major fraud that had beset the mine action programme in late 2015.<sup>1</sup>

## RECOMMENDATION FOR ACTION

- At the Sixteenth Meeting of States Parties in December 2017, Chile should reconfirm that it will meet its extended Article 5 deadline of March 2020.

## CONTAMINATION

As at the end of 2016, Chile had more than 5.65km<sup>2</sup> of confirmed and suspected mined area across five regions (see Table 1), believed to contain more than 20,000 landmines.<sup>2</sup> Most confirmed contamination is in Arica and Parinacota. The mines were all laid during the Pinochet regime in the 1970s on Chile's borders with Argentina in the south, and with Bolivia and Peru in the north. The mined areas, which typically contain both anti-vehicle and anti-personnel mines, are generally difficult to access and mostly in unpopulated regions. The vast majority of the mines were laid in the northern region, with some minefields located as high as 5,000m above sea level.<sup>3</sup>

**Table 1: Mined area by province (as at end-2016)**

Province	CHAs	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	SHAs	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
Arica and Parinacota	10	1,632,210	1	145,297
Antofagasta	11	309,805	3	2,985,481
Magallanes and Antártica Chilena	13	507,480	0	0
Tarapacá	6	56,817	0	0
Valparaíso	0	0	1	14,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2,506,312</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3,144,778</b>

CHAs = Confirmed hazardous areas      SHAs = Suspected hazardous areas

The impact of residual contamination is reported to be minimal,<sup>4</sup> though a new mine victim was recorded along the border with Peru in May 2016.<sup>5</sup>

## PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

The national mine action programme is managed by the National Demining Commission (Comisión Nacional de Desminado, CNAD), which is chaired by the Minister of Defence. Its main functions are to advise the President, mobilise resources, coordinate demining with state agencies, and develop plans for implementing the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC). At the end of 2015, it was announced that the Chilean authorities were investigating allegations of fraud at CNAD amounting to half a million dollars.<sup>6</sup>

### Standards

Chile developed a joint demining manual for its armed forces in 2014, which includes procedures for destruction of unexploded ordnance (UXO).<sup>7</sup>

### Operators

Demining is conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Navy Peace and Demining Division. Mechanical resources are being used to support manual demining.<sup>8</sup>

## LAND RELEASE

Chile cleared more than 3.5km<sup>2</sup> of mined area in 2016 (see Table 2), almost doubling output in 2015 of 1.9km<sup>2</sup>. It has not reported directly on the number of mines cleared in 2016 but by extrapolation from successive Article 7 transparency reports Mine Action Review estimates that more than 15,000 anti-personnel mines and more than 7,800 anti-vehicle mines were destroyed during the year.

### Clearance in 2016

Clearance in 2016 was conducted over 38 areas in three of the five contaminated regions: Antofagasta, Arica and Parinacota, and Magallanes y Antártica Chilena.<sup>9</sup>

**Table 2: Mine clearance in 2016<sup>10</sup>**

Region	Areas subject to clearance	Area cleared (m <sup>2</sup> )	AP mines destroyed	AV mines destroyed
Antofagasta	14	341,122	N/R	N/R
Arica and Parinacota	11	3,139,874	N/R	N/R
Magallanes and Antártica Chilena	13	42,650	N/R	N/R
<b>Totals</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>3,523,646</b>	<b>N/R</b>	<b>N/R</b>

AP = Anti-personnel

AV = Anti-vehicle

N/R = Not recorded

## ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE

Under Article 5 of the APMBC (and in accordance with the eight-year extension granted by states parties in 2011), Chile 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 2020.

Chile should now meet its extended deadline. In July 2016, the Minister of Defence announced that Chile had completed 72% of its mine clearance and that it was on course to complete clearance in 2020.<sup>11</sup> In its statement to the Fifteenth Meeting of States Parties, Chile reiterated its commitment to fulfil its Article 5 obligations, but without indicating whether this would be possible by 2020.<sup>12</sup>

**Table 3: Clearance in 2012–16 (km<sup>2</sup>)**

Year	Area cleared	Extension request forecast
2016	3.52	1.68
2015	1.89	0.93
2014	2.14	4.22
2013	0.71	1.41
2012	1.34	1.58
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9.60</b>	<b>9.82</b>

Chile hosted the Fifteenth Meeting of States Parties in Santiago in November–December 2016.

1 "Chile investiga un fraude de medio millón de dólares en el seno de la Comisión de Desminado" ["Chile investigates half-a-million-dollar fraud at the Demining Commission"], *Infodefensa.com*, 12 December 2015, at: <http://www.infodefensa.com/latam/2015/12/28/noticia-comision-nacional-desminado-chilena-enfrenta-investigacion-fraude-fisco-medio-millon.html>.

2 Article 7 Reports (for 2015 and 2016), Form C.

3 Article 7 Report (for 2009), Form I.

4 Article 7 Report (for 2015), Form C.

5 Agence France-Presse, "Dominicano gravemente herido al pisar mina en frontera Chile-Perú", *24horas.cl*, 21 May 2016, at: <http://www.24horas.cl/nacional/dominicano-gravemente-herido-al-pisar-mina-en-frontera-chile-peru-2022784>.

6 "Chile investiga un fraude de medio millón de dólares en el seno de la Comisión de Desminado" ["Chile investigates half a million dollar fraud at the Demining Commission"], *Infodefensa.com*, 28 December 2015.

7 Manual No. MDO-90402. Article 7 Report (for 2015), Form F2.1.

8 N. García, "Chile fecha el desminado total de fronteras en 2020" ["Chile will complete the demining of its borders in 2020"], *Infodefensa.com*, 15 July 2016, at: <http://www.infodefensa.com/latam/2016/07/15/noticia-chile-espera-terminar-desminado-fronteras.html>.

9 Article 7 Report (for 2016), Form F2.

10 Ibid.

11 N. García, "Chile fecha el desminado total de fronteras en 2020" ["Chile will complete the demining of its borders in 2020"], *Infodefensa.com*, 15 July 2016.

12 Statement of Chile, 15th Meeting of States Parties, Santiago, 29 November 2016.