

# ETHIOPIA

**ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 1 JUNE 2020**  
(NOT ON TRACK TO MEET DEADLINE)

## PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

For 2015

For 2014

Problem understood	5	5
Target date for completion of mine clearance	1	0
Targeted clearance	2	3
Efficient clearance	2	3
National funding of programme	2	3
Timely clearance	0	0
Land release system in place	5	5
National mine action standards	6	6
Reporting on progress	1	1
Improving performance	1	0
<b>PERFORMANCE SCORE: VERY POOR</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.6</b>

## PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY

Ethiopia is failing to comply with its obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC). Its mine action programme showed little sign of progress in 2015, as another year went past without land release. From being one of the best mine action programmes a decade ago it is now one of the worst, with little meaningful progress since September 2011. Ethiopia failed to even request an extension to its Article 5 clearance deadline before its expiry in June 2015, putting it in serious violation of the Convention for nearly six months until the late extension request was approved in December 2015. The re-establishment in 2015 of a governmental entity responsible for the national mine action programme, even if not under independent civilian management, is a step forward.

### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Ethiopia should ensure that the newly created mine action authority has sufficient resources to establish an effective mine action programme, because the Ministry of Defence has made scant progress in survey and clearance in recent years.
- Ethiopia should significantly improve the quality and frequency of its reporting both at APMBC meetings and through Article 7 transparency reports.
- Ethiopia should develop a resource mobilisation plan and clarify how financial resources will be used to fulfil its extension request targets.

## CONTAMINATION

In September 2015, Ethiopia reported that nearly 5.9km<sup>2</sup> of confirmed mined areas still remained in the country, along with 314 suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) with a total size of more than 1,193km<sup>2</sup>.<sup>1</sup> According to its March 2015 Article 5 deadline extension request, SHAs remained across six regions (Afar, Benishangul, Gambela, Oromia, Tigray, and Somali), as set out in Table 1. The Somali region is believed to be by far the most heavily affected.<sup>2</sup> Based on past operational experience, however, Ethiopia estimated that after technical survey as little as 0.5% of the SHAs' estimated area would contain mines, which would amount to a total of less than 5.6km<sup>2</sup>. At the same time, it also reported higher estimates that 2% or 3% of the total size of the SHAs could be expected to be confirmed, meaning between 24km<sup>2</sup> and 36km<sup>2</sup> of actual mine contamination would remain.<sup>3</sup>

Table 1: SHAs by region as at end 2014<sup>4</sup>

Region	SHAs	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )
Afar	14	3.7
Benishangul	2	0.05
Gambela	20	0.8
Oromia	13	1.05
Somali	262	1,186.9
Tigray	3	0.7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>1,193.2</b>

1 "Response by Ethiopia to Committee on Article 5 Implementation request for additional information on its APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request", submitted 26 September 2015; and Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, pp. 7, 24, and 41–43. Ethiopia's extension request contains multiple inconsistencies and at least six different sets of figures for the number and size of SHAs remaining throughout the document. Upon requests for clarification, Ethiopia later stated that some of the figures were typographical errors as well as "errors of terminology usage".

2 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, pp. 26 and 42.

3 Ibid., pp. 7 and 42.

4 Ibid., pp. 26 and 42; and Statement of Ethiopia, APMBC Intersessional Meetings (Standing Committee on Article 5 Implementation), Geneva, 9 April 2014.

Due to multiple discrepancies in its reporting on the total number and size of remaining contaminated areas in its 2015 Article 5 deadline extension request, Ethiopia was asked by states parties to the APMBC to clarify its estimates of contamination, as well as to disaggregate information according to suspected versus confirmed hazardous areas.

In its response, on 26 September 2015, Ethiopia confirmed the remaining challenge consisted of 314 SHAs with a total estimated size of 1,193,168,623m<sup>2</sup>; however it only listed four regions as affected (Afar, Benishangul, Somali, and Tigray). It did not provide detail as to the size and location of the contaminated areas or disaggregated figures for CHAs and SHAs. It also reported “suspended minefields” in Benishangul and Tigray over a total size of 753,000m<sup>2</sup>, which it included in a table of “suspended mined areas” (see Table 2).<sup>5</sup>

**Table 2: Areas reported as containing “suspended minefields” in September 2015<sup>6</sup>**

Region	Areas	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )
Afar	6	1.80
Benishangul	2	0.05
Oromia	8	0.10
Somali	27	3.80
Tigray	2	1.50
<b>Totals</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>7.25</b>

Ethiopia has also reported that estimates of contamination do not include the area along the Ethiopia-Eritrean confrontation border where no survey has been carried out and the border has not been demarcated, now under the control of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE). When asked what efforts had made to address this contamination, Ethiopia replied that it had taken steps to clear behind its own defensive lines, but it was not possible to enter or clear the area between the two countries’ defensive lines due to security concerns, and that clearance would have to wait until the demarcation has been completed.<sup>7</sup>

Ethiopia’s mine problem is a result of internal and international armed conflicts dating back to 1935, including the Italian occupation and subsequent East Africa campaigns (1935–41), a border war with Sudan (1980), the Ogaden war with Somalia (1997–98), internal conflict (1974–2000), and the Ethiopian-Eritrean war (1998–2000).

In 2001–04, a Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) identified mine and explosive remnants of war (ERW) contamination in ten of Ethiopia’s eleven regions, with 1,916 SHAs across more than 2,000km<sup>2</sup> impacting more than 1,492 communities.<sup>8</sup> The Afar, Somali, and Tigray regions accounted for more than four-fifths of impacted communities.<sup>9</sup>

The Ethiopian Mine Action Office (EMAO) believed that the LIS had overestimated the number of both SHAs and impacted communities, citing lack of military expertise among the survey teams as the major reason for the overestimate.<sup>10</sup> Indeed, in 2012 Ethiopia reported that subsequent technical survey and non-technical (re-) survey of SHAs identified during the LIS confirmed mine contamination in only 136 areas. However, 60 previously unrecorded hazardous areas were also identified, which were confirmed as mined by technical survey, resulting in a total of 196 confirmed mined areas.<sup>11</sup> Also in 2012, Ethiopia reported that 358 SHAs across an area of 1,200km<sup>2</sup> from the LIS data remained to be re-surveyed.<sup>12</sup>

5 “Response to Committee on Article 5 Implementation request for additional information on its APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request”, submitted 26 September 2015; and Analysis of Ethiopia’s Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 19 November 2015, p. 3.

6 Ibid.

7 “Response to Committee on Article 5 Implementation request for additional information on its Article 5 deadline Extension Request”, submitted 26 September 2015; and Analysis of Ethiopia’s Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 19 November 2015, p. 3.

8 Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA), “Landmine Impact Survey Report, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia”, May 2004.

9 Survey Action Center, “Landmine Impact Survey, Ethiopia, Final Report”, Washington, DC, January 2008, p. 9.

10 Interviews with Gebriel Lager, Deputy Director, EMAO, in Ljubljana, 14 April 2008, and in Geneva, 4 June 2008.

11 P. Simon, “Transitioning Mine Action Programmes to National Ownership: Ethiopia”, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), p. 3; and Statement of Ethiopia, APMBC Intersessional Meetings (Standing Committee on Mine Action), Geneva, 24 May 2012. In its extension request, however, Ethiopia reports that 136 areas were confirmed as mined by re-survey efforts and an 58 additional areas outside the LIS were identified (which would be 194 areas in total), but still reports the total confirmed mined areas remaining as 196. Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, p. 7.

12 Simon, “Transitioning Mine Action Programmes to National Ownership: Ethiopia”, GICHD, p. 3. In its extension request, Ethiopia reported that of the 1,916 SHAs identified by the LIS, 259 areas were later released through “general survey” and 1,207 areas released through technical survey. Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, p. 7.

EMAO expected to clear approx. 3km<sup>2</sup> per year<sup>13</sup>, but it appears that only very limited clearance of 0.1km<sup>2</sup> has taken place since the transfer of EMAO's responsibilities to the Ministry of Defence in 2012.<sup>14</sup> It subsequently requested a five-year extension to its Article 5 clearance deadline of 1 June 2015 until June 2020.

The last known estimate of mine and ERW victims in Ethiopia stems from the 2001–04 LIS, which recorded 16,616 mine and ERW casualties, of whom 9,341 were killed and 7,275 injured. Ethiopia reported that two-thirds of the victims were engaged in herding and farming at the time of the explosions.<sup>15</sup> Mines and ERW are reported to continue to cause socio-economic harm, including through: denying access to agricultural and pasture land, which contributes to food insecurity and serious economic hardship for certain communities; blocking access to water for communities and particularly for nomadic pastoralists; and blocking secondary and tertiary roads important to local communities.<sup>16</sup>

## PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

In 2001, following the end of the conflict with Eritrea, Ethiopia's Council of Ministers established EMAO as an autonomous civilian body responsible for mine clearance and mine risk education.<sup>17</sup> EMAO developed its operational capacities effectively with technical assistance from Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF).<sup>18</sup> In 2011, however, EMAO's governing board decided that the Ministry of Defence was better suited to clear the remaining mines because Ethiopia had made significant progress in meeting its APMB C clearance obligations and the remaining threat did not warrant a structure and organisation the size of EMAO. It has further asserted on numerous occasions that a civilian entity such as EMAO would have difficulty accessing the unstable Somali region.<sup>19</sup>

In response to the decision to close EMAO and transfer demining responsibility to the army's Combat Engineers Division, NPA ended its direct funding support<sup>20</sup> and had completed the transfer of its remaining 49-strong mine detection dog (MDD) capacity to EMAO by the end of April 2012,<sup>21</sup> with some MDD handlers and support staff transferred to the federal police.<sup>22</sup> The Combat Engineers Division took over management of the MDD Training Centre at Entoto where it conducted training in demining in early 2012.

The transition of EMAO to the Ministry of Defence appeared to be in limbo for several years in 2013–15,<sup>23</sup> until September 2015, when Ethiopia reported that oversight of national mine action activities had been re-established as "one Independent Mine Action Office" under the Combat Engineers Main Department.<sup>24</sup> This office would include a number of sub-departments, including for operations, risk education, information management, quality assurance, and training, and it noted that a demining company, technical survey and explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) teams, and a mechanical demining team had been formed.<sup>25</sup>

Under its extension request, Ethiopia reported that from 1 December 2015 to the end of May 2020, it would deploy four demining companies and four survey and rapid-response teams.<sup>26</sup> In June 2015, Ethiopia stated that over the past two and a half years, four demining companies with a total of 140 men had received "basic humanitarian deminers' training", with the first training course held from July to November 2013.<sup>27</sup> In September 2015, it indicated that the trainings and drills would commence for the demining company, while the technical survey teams would receive refresher trainings on survey and land release procedures. It requested technical support for trainings on International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) for all teams.<sup>28</sup>

13 EMAO, "Draft Strategic Planning 2011–13"; and Simon, "Transitioning Mine Action Programmes to National Ownership: Ethiopia", GICHD, p. 3.

14 Statements of Ethiopia, APMB C Intersessional Meetings (Committee on Article 5 Implementation), Geneva, 25 June 2015; and Geneva, 9 April 2014.

15 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, p. 6.

16 Ibid.

17 Council of Ministers, Regulation No. 70/2001, 5 February 2001.

18 A. Borchgrevink et al., "End Review of the Norwegian People's Aid Mine Action Programme in Ethiopia 2005–2007: Final Evaluation", Norad Collected Reviews 36/2008, June 2008, p. 5.

19 Statements of Ethiopia, APMB C Intersessional Meetings (Committee on Article 5 Implementation), Geneva, 25 June 2015; April 2014; and 24 May 2012.

20 Email from Aubrey Sutherland-Pillai, Programme Manager, NPA, 22 August 2012.

21 Email from Kjell Ivar Breili, Programme Manager, NPA, Ethiopia, 25 May 2010; and Simon, "Transitioning Mine Action Programmes to National Ownership: Ethiopia", GICHD, March 2012, p. 11.

22 Email from Aubrey Sutherland-Pillai, NPA, 22 August 2012.

23 In March 2013, a representative from the Ministry of Defence confirmed that transfer of all demining assets had been completed and reported that it was preparing to deploy survey and clearance teams to the Somali region. Ethiopia noted, though, that its demining capacity had been reduced due to secondment of three demining groups to the UN peacekeeping operation in Sudan. Presentation of Ethiopia, Ministry of Defence Combat Engineering, African Union/ICRC Weapon Contamination Workshop, Addis Ababa, 5 March 2013.

24 Statements of Ethiopia, APMB C Intersessional Meetings (Committee on Article 5 Implementation), Geneva, 9 April 2014 and 25 June 2015; "Response to Committee on Article 5 Implementation request for additional information on its Article 5 deadline Extension Request", submitted 26 September 2015; and Analysis of Ethiopia's Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 19 November 2015, p. 3.

25 "Response to Committee on Article 5 Implementation request for additional information on its Article 5 deadline Extension Request", submitted 26 September 2015; and Analysis of Ethiopia's Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 19 November 2015, p. 3. In its 2015 extension request, Ethiopia reiterated that the Ministry of Defence was better placed to hold responsibility for the national mine action programme as in addition to the military having better access to remaining mined areas, and that it would be better placed to budget for operations with limited funding, and that it would more effectively employ available mine action capacity on the basis that Ethiopian forces participate widely in peacekeeping operations around the world.

26 APMB C Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, p. 44.

27 Statements of Ethiopia, APMB C Intersessional Meetings (Committee on Article 5 Implementation), Geneva, 25 June 2015; and 9 April 2014.

28 "Response to Committee on Article 5 Implementation request for additional information on its Article 5 deadline Extension Request", submitted 26 September 2015.

## Standards

Under its extension plan targets, Ethiopia stated in 2015 that its National Mine Action Standards (NMAS) would be “developed and updated” and that standard operating procedures (SOPs) for mine clearance and land release would be updated using the current IMAS. These had been previously updated with support from NPA.<sup>29</sup>

## Quality Management

In its extension request, Ethiopia reported that operations had been “employing overall quality management including quality assurance and quality control efforts to ensure that operations are in accordance with NMAS and IMAS”.<sup>30</sup>

## Information Management

Ethiopia also reported that EMAO had previously installed and customised a new version of the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) database and had been working on capacity development to upgrade data processing. However, it stated that database challenges remained and until “the gap” in the IMSMA system could be resolved, the National Defence Force would “continue using alternative data processing packages together with IMSMA for planning, reporting, and analysis”. In its extension request, Ethiopia requested technical advisory and training support to finalise the IMSMA database and make it fully functional.<sup>31</sup>

The quality of Ethiopia’s reporting on its mine action activities in recent years has been poor. As of mid-September 2016, Ethiopia had not submitted any updated annual Article 7 transparency reports mandated by the APMBC covering years 2012–15. This is a violation of the APMBC. Its March 2015 extension request is riddled with inconsistent figures and mathematical errors.

## LAND RELEASE

Ethiopia has reported that, in 2002–12, almost 60km<sup>2</sup> of mined areas were cleared while nearly 1,200km<sup>2</sup> of SHAs were released by technical survey, with the destruction of 9,260 anti-personnel mines, 1,466 anti-vehicle mines, and 197,985 items of unexploded ordnance (UXO).<sup>32</sup> Of the total 1,916 SHAs recorded, 259 were released by “general survey”, 1,207 were “confirmed mine free” through technical survey, and an additional 136 areas confirmed to contain mines.<sup>33</sup>

Ethiopia did not report any further survey or clearance for 2015 or the first half of 2016. Previously, in April 2014, Ethiopia had informed states parties to the APMBC that in January–November 2013 its rapid-response teams had visited more than ten ERW-impacted communities in “Amhar, Oromiya, south and Somalia regional states” clearing more than 100,000m<sup>2</sup> and destroying ten anti-personnel mines and 176,000 items of UXO.<sup>34</sup> No details were given as to the exact location of the spot tasks.

In its extension request, Ethiopia stated that four demining teams and four technical survey and rapid response teams were scheduled to start clearance and survey as at November 2015, and an additional four technical survey and rapid response teams would be deployed in December 2015. Prior to deploying any clearance operators, training and refreshment courses were held from 15 July to 30 September 2015, it said.<sup>35</sup> Further training courses were also set to begin in September 2015.<sup>36</sup>

## ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE

At the APMBC Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties in December 2015, Ethiopia was granted an extension to its Article 5 mine clearance deadline to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, for a period of five years until 1 June 2020. Ethiopia is not on track to meet this deadline.

Ethiopia’s original Article 5 deadline expired on 1 June 2015. It failed, however, to submit an extension request with sufficient time to allow states parties to consider extending the deadline prior to its expiry, thus placing Ethiopia in serious violation of the convention until the approval of the late request by the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties on 4 December 2015.<sup>37</sup>

29 APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, p. 11.

30 Ibid., p. 8.

31 Ibid., p. 37.

32 Ibid., p. 24. Ethiopia also included a table of munitions destroyed which reported the destruction of 9,363 anti-personnel mines, 1,373 anti-vehicle mines, and 141,112 items of UXO. It previously reported slightly different figures of destroying 9,278 anti-personnel mines and 1,266 anti-vehicle mines. See Simon, “Transitioning Mine Action Programmes to National Ownership: Ethiopia”, GICHD, pp. 16–17.

33 “Response to Committee on Article 5 Implementation request for additional information on its Article 5 deadline Extension Request”, submitted 26 September 2015; and Analysis of Ethiopia’s Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 19 November 2015, p. 2.

34 Statements of Ethiopia, APMBC Intersessional Meetings (Committee on Article 5 Implementation), Geneva, 25 June 2015; and 9 April 2014.

35 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, pp. 11 and 44.

36 “Response to Committee on Article 5 Implementation request for additional information on its Article 5 deadline Extension Request”, submitted 26 September 2015; and Analysis of Ethiopia’s Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 19 November 2015, p. 3.

37 The request is dated 31 March 2015 but according to the Implementation Secretariat Unit it was not received until 16 June 2015. See <http://www.apminebanconvention.org/states-parties-to-the-convention/ethiopia/>.

Previously, in 2014, Ethiopia informed states parties that it intended to request a two-year extension to its Article 5 deadline.<sup>38</sup> In March 2015, however, Ethiopia submitted a request for an extension of five years until 1 June 2020 to complete survey and clearance of all remaining mined areas.<sup>39</sup> In the request, Ethiopia provided the following intended yearly milestones and targets:

- In 2015–17, non-technical survey (NTS) and technical survey would be carried out on all remaining 314 SHAs covering a total area of more than 1,193km<sup>2</sup>. Of this, 22 SHAs with an area of almost 30km<sup>2</sup> would be addressed in 2015; 149 SHAs covering 516km<sup>2</sup> in 2016;<sup>40</sup> and a further 143 SHAs with a size of almost 648km<sup>2</sup> in 2017.<sup>41</sup>
- It further projected that a total of 0.45km<sup>2</sup> would be cleared in 2015; 4.88km<sup>2</sup> in 2016; and 4.8km<sup>2</sup> in 2017: a total of 10.135km<sup>2</sup>.
- In 2018–20, clearance would continue in the surveyed areas, mainly in the Somali region.<sup>42</sup> Ethiopia promised that an updated workplan would be submitted to states parties by April 2017.<sup>43</sup>

Previously, in 2010, Ethiopia said it would clear all mines by 2013 (two years ahead of its deadline) if sufficient funding were available.<sup>44</sup> By March 2013, however, following the closure of EMAO and transfer of

responsibility for mine action to the Ministry of Defence, Ethiopia reported it was unlikely to meet its Article 5 deadline due to secondment of demining units to Sudan, and gaps in training, equipment, and funding.<sup>45</sup>

In its March 2015 extension request, Ethiopia listed the following reasons for its inability to comply with its 1 June 2015 Article 5 deadline: insecurity in and around some suspected and confirmed mined areas; the absence of basic social services and infrastructure necessary for mine action operations in rural areas; continuous redeployment of demining teams in scattered mined areas; lack of funding; the finding of additional hazardous areas; climate factors such as a three-month rainy season; and a lack of precise information on the number and locations of all mined areas in the country.<sup>46</sup>

With no functioning mine action programme as at the end of 2015 and little progress reported in clearance since September 2011 (see Table 3), Ethiopia's ability to meet its future extension request plan is dubious. As of mid-September 2016, Ethiopia had not submitted annual Article 7 transparency reports since 2012, itself a violation of the APMBC. The inconsistencies and errors throughout its extension request do not provide sufficient clarity on or confidence in the true extent of mine contamination remaining or a realistic estimate of when clearance could be completed.<sup>47</sup>

38 Statement of Ethiopia, APMBC Intersessional Meetings (Standing Committee on Mine Action), Geneva, 9 April 2014. Ethiopia had confirmed informally that it intended to request a two-year extension to its Article 5 deadline until June 2017. ICBL meeting with Muez Gebre Tsadik, Ministry of Defence, in Geneva, 10 April 2014.

39 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, p. 10.

40 Ibid., p. 46. In the extension request Ethiopia appears to give different figures for the number and amount of SHAs to be addressed per year: in a separate table also on p. 46, it also reports that 12 SHAs covering 28.3km<sup>2</sup> would be surveyed in 2015. On p. 45, however, it reverses figures for clearance and survey and erroneously reports that over the course of 2015, 452,890m<sup>2</sup> would be addressed by non-technical and technical survey, while a total of 28.1km<sup>2</sup> would be cleared. It also reports a different figure of 160 SHAs with a size of more than 517.5km<sup>2</sup> to be surveyed in 2016 in the table on p. 46.

41 APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, pp. 45–46. However, these figures add up to 1,193,826,634m<sup>2</sup>, which is greater than any of the four slightly different figures reported in the extension request as the total size of the remaining SHAs. Likewise, the alternate figures listed in the preceding footnote total 1,193,681,680m<sup>2</sup>, which is also greater than any figure reported for the size of the total remaining SHAs. To add to this confusion, in its statement to the APMBC Intersessional Meetings in June

2015, Ethiopia reported that only 22 SHAs covering an area of 647,810,293m<sup>2</sup> would be addressed in 2015–17. Statement of Ethiopia, APMBC Intersessional Meetings (Committee on Article 5 Implementation), Geneva, 25 June 2015.

42 Statement of Ethiopia, APMBC Intersessional Meetings (Committee on Article 5 Implementation), Geneva, 25 June 2015; and Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, p. 47.

43 Statement of Ethiopia, APMBC Intersessional Meetings (Committee on Article 5 Implementation), Geneva, 25 June 2015; and APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, p. 45.

44 Statement of Ethiopia, APMBC Intersessional Meetings (Standing Committee on Mine Action), Geneva, 23 June 2010; and statement of Ethiopia, APMBC Tenth Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 2 December 2010.

45 Presentation of Ethiopia, African Union/ICRC Weapon Contamination Workshop, Addis Ababa, 5 March 2013.

46 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, pp. 40–41.

47 According to figures presented in the request, as of March 2015, 5.9km<sup>2</sup> of land is confirmed as mined and it is estimated that an additional 35.8km<sup>2</sup> will be confirmed to contain mines following survey; yet Ethiopia's extension request outlines the clearance of 10.1km<sup>2</sup> by 2020.

**Table 3: Mine clearance in 2011–15<sup>48</sup>**

Year	Area cleared (km <sup>2</sup> )	Anti-personnel mines destroyed	Anti-vehicle mines destroyed
2015	N/R	N/R	N/R
2014	N/R	N/R	N/R
2013	0.10	10	N/R
2012	N/R	N/R	N/R
2011	0.84	508	57
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>57</b>

N/R = Not reported

In its extension request, Ethiopia claims it will cost a total of more than US\$37 million to complete clearance by May 2020, a seemingly inexplicable increase from the \$10 million that EMAO reported was required to clear all remaining areas in 2012.<sup>49</sup> The request stated that Ethiopia would cover most of the mine action programme's administrative costs, including QA, information management, and training to respond to residual contamination, but did not report the size of its national contribution.<sup>50</sup>

Ethiopia affirmed that primary concerns around implementing its extension request milestones and completing clearance by 2020 included the security situation in affected areas, funding, population movements, high metallic content in hazardous areas, and heavy rainy seasons.<sup>51</sup> Specifically, Ethiopia reported that as of March 2015, it was now possible for military demining to commence in the Tigray border minefield. However, it said that addressing the Afar, Benishangul, Gambela, Oromia, and Somali mined areas presented challenges due to insecurity and lack of infrastructure, social services, and access in remote areas.<sup>52</sup>

Ethiopia has called on a number of occasions for technical and financial support from international NGOs to meet its mine clearance obligations.<sup>53</sup> In June 2015, Ethiopia requested the transfer of mine detection and clearance technologies from states parties to assist in clearing mine and improvised explosive devices.<sup>54</sup>

48 Simon, "Transitioning Mine Action Programmes to National Ownership: Ethiopia", GICHD, pp. 16–17; and Statement of Ethiopia, Intersessional Meetings (Standing Committee on Article 5 Implementation), Geneva, 9 April 2014.

49 Statement of Ethiopia, APMBC Intersessional Meetings (Standing Committee on Mine Action), Geneva, 24 May 2012.

50 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, p. 48. Ethiopia also reported that the government had contributed a total of US\$8 million to demining in 2001–12. It reported that over the same period a total of US\$80 million had been spent on demining in Ethiopia thanks to other donor contributions. Article 5 deadline Extension Request, 31 March 2015, p. 33.

51 Ibid., pp. 48–49.

52 Ibid., p. 42.

53 Ibid., pp. 48–49.

54 Statement of Ethiopia, APMBC Intersessional Meetings (Committee on Article 5 Implementation), Geneva, 25 June 2015.