

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 1 MARCH 2026

NOT ON TRACK TO MEET DEADLINE AND COMPLIANCE WITH ARTICLE 5 IN SERIOUS DOUBT

KEY DATA

ANTI-PERSONNEL (AP) MINE CONTAMINATION: LIGHT

MINE ACTION REVIEW ESTIMATE

0.5km²

AP MINE
CLEARANCE IN 2023

25,465m²

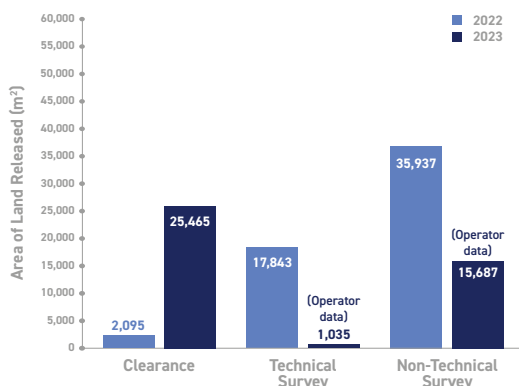
(OPERATOR DATA)

AP MINES
DESTROYED IN 2023

13

(OPERATOR DATA)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUT



CURRENT LIKELIHOOD OF MEETING 2025 CLEARANCE TARGET (as per the Oslo Action Plan commitment): **NONE**

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Clearance by Humanity & Inclusion (HI) increased in 2023 reflecting an improved security environment. The Senegalese National Mine Action Centre (CNAMS) gave Mines Advisory Group (MAG) operational accreditation paving the way for an acceleration of survey. The government appointed a new director to lead CNAMS, which led to more advocacy and engagement between CNAMS, other government departments, and international stakeholders.

FIVE-YEAR OVERVIEW

Senegal's mine action has emerged from a state of paralysis due to continuing insurgency and lack of donor support which meant that for several years no mines were cleared. Progress in peace talks between the government and the Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance (Mouvement des forces démocratiques de Casamance, MFDC) has opened up areas previously inaccessible due to insecurity. With the support of international operators funded by the European Union (EU) and European nations, in the past two years mine action in Senegal has started to gain new momentum.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Senegal should demonstrate its commitment to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) by stating definitively whether mines remain around the Djirak or other military bases and provide detailed plans for clearing any remaining mined areas around military bases.
- CNAMS should establish a national mine action platform to provide a forum for discussion and improved coordination among all stakeholders.
- CNAMS should streamline information management and reporting procedures.

- CNAMS should report in detail on the progress of its review of national mine action standards.
- Senegal should provide details of the arrangements and capacity available for tackling current and residual contamination identified after completion.

ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Criterion	Score (2023)	Score (2022)	Performance Commentary
UNDERSTANDING OF CONTAMINATION (20% of overall score)	4	4	The slow progress of survey in 2023 meant Senegal remained unclear about the extent of its mine contamination 22 years after adhering to the APMBC. The number of confirmed hazardous areas increased from 21 (affecting 0.2km ²) at the end of 2022 to 27 (affecting 0.3km ²) at the end of 2023, but 112 areas remained to be assessed in addition to 11 suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) whose size also remains unknown.
NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT (10% of overall score)	4	3	Senegal relies on donor funding to cover the costs of mine survey and clearance. The appointment of a diplomat as the new CNAMS director in 2023 has brought more proactive management, advocacy, and engagement with international stakeholders but was also accompanied by other staff changes and delays in policy implementation. Government funding for mine action remained modest at about US\$0.5 million in 2023.
GENDER AND DIVERSITY (10% of overall score)	5	5	CNAMS says it employs women in senior positions, that there is equal opportunity for men and women in mine action, and that it encourages women to seek employment in the sector. HI, which said women made up a third of all staff and a half of its operations staff, was preparing in 2024 to recruit a clearance team composed mainly of women. The APMBC Committee on Article 5 Implementation continues to seek details from CNAMS on how it takes account of women, girls, boys, and men in its assessment of mine contamination and impact.
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION* (10% of overall score)	5	Not Scored	Senegal has a national mine action standard on environmental management. HI, the only operator conducting clearance in 2023, says environmental protection is at the forefront of its operational planning and the addition of mine detection dogs to its toolbox in 2023 enabled it to reduce mechanical clearance of vegetation and fuel consumption.
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING (10% of overall score)	5	5	CNAMS operates an Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) New Generation database and following up recommendations of a December 2022 workshop has taken some steps to clean up data and update and simplify reporting forms. Hazardous area data suffers from gaps and new survey of tasks is normal before clearance. Senegal has submitted Article 7 transparency reports annually.
PLANNING AND TASKING (10% of overall score)	5	5	With funding available from the European Union and the Netherlands, Senegal updated its 2020 Article 5 extension request work plan to provide for non-technical survey (NTS) to better define the extent of contamination and clearance to facilitate the return of villagers displaced by conflict. CNAMS said in 2023 that it planned TS in all known CHAs in 2024 as well as NTS of 21 locations in Ziguinchor.
LAND RELEASE SYSTEM** (10% of overall score)	5	5	CNAMS introduced national mine action standards in 2009 and updated them in 2013 but started another revision in 2021 (supported by MAG in 2022), focusing on new standards for evidence-based NTS as well as updating standards for technical survey, clearance, accreditation, risk education, and marking.
LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE (20% of overall score)	4	4	The total area released through survey and clearance in 2023 was almost the same as in 2022 but the amount of land cleared increased sharply and looked set to rise further in 2024. The absence of a clear statement by Senegal on whether it has completed clearance of mined areas around military installations calls into serious question its compliance with the APMBC and even the treaty prohibition on use of landmines.
Average Score	4.5	4.4	Overall Programme Performance: POOR

* New criterion introduced in 2024 to assess performance.

** The weighting of this criterion was previously 20% of overall performance score, but is now given a 10% weighting.

DEMINEING CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- National Commission for the Implementation of the Ottawa Convention
- Senegalese National Mine Action Centre (CNAMS)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- APIT Humanitaire Développement (APIT)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- Humanity & Inclusion (HI)
- Mines Advisory Group (MAG)

OTHER ACTORS

- APOPO

UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION

Senegal still does not know the precise extent of its AP mine contamination but is gaining a better understanding as progress towards ending Africa's oldest insurgency allows survey of previously insecure areas. At the end of 2022, Senegal estimated its total mined area at 1.7km² but in the middle of 2023, it reduced the estimate to around 1.5km².¹

Senegal reported 27 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) in four of its forty-five departments at the end of 2023, up from 21 CHAs a year earlier, and said they covered 0.4km² (see Table 1).² It reported 11 suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) which had yet to be surveyed to determine their size as well as a further 112 areas that needed to be assessed: in Bignona (101 areas), Oussouye (4), and Ziguinchor (7).³

Table 1: AP mine contamination by region (at end 2023)⁴

Region	CHAs	Area (m ²)	SHAs*
Bignona	10	111,375	8
Goudomp	1	17,776	2
Oussouye	9	77,240	0
Ziguinchor	7	132,984	1
Totals	27	339,375	11

* Size unknown

HI has reported the presence of a mixture of AP mine types, including Belgian PRBM 35, Portuguese M969 and M441, Russian POMZ and PMN, and Chinese Type 59s.⁵ It also found TMN-46 and TM-57 anti-vehicle (AV) mines and two improvised explosive devices. All the mines found by HI in the Casamance region were located on roads or tracks.⁶

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

The National Commission for the Implementation of the Ottawa Convention, created in 2005, serves as the national mine action authority for Senegal charged with developing a mine action strategy, promoting economic rehabilitation of mine-affected areas, and overseeing the work of a national mine action centre. The commission, which is chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, includes representatives of the presidency of Senegal and government ministries. Senegal has said the Commission's effectiveness had suffered from

high turnover of ministerial representatives, resulting in delays in decision-making and even from a lack of rules on decision-making.⁷

Demining operations in Casamance are coordinated by CNAMS (the Centre Nationale d'Action Antimine au Sénégal), which was set up by decree in 2006. CNAMS has three departments: Operations and information management; Risk education; and Administration, finance and logistics.⁸ Regional mine action coordination committees have been

1 Statement of Senegal, Intersessionals Meetings, Geneva, 21–23 June 2023.
2 Article 7 Report (covering 2023), Form D.
3 Ibid.
4 Ibid.
5 Email from Emmanuel Sauvage, Programme Director, HI, 24 April 2023.
6 Email from Emmanuel Sauvage, HI, 3 July 2024.
7 2020 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 9, 75.
8 Ibid., p. 10.

established in Kolda, Sédhiou, and Ziguinchor departments. CNAMS is responsible for promoting the national mine action programme; mobilising resources; coordinating survey and conducting demining; designing and implementing a victim assistance programme; accrediting demining organisations; and monitoring and evaluating activities.⁹

The government appointed a diplomat as the new director of CNAMS in February 2023 who has reportedly worked closely with other government departments and increased international advocacy for Senegal's mine action programme. The change of leadership brought additional changes in CNAMS direction but some of these are slowing down implementation as the new management reviewed proposed mine action plans.

Senegal said in 2022 the government had allocated CFA1.5 billion (approximately US\$2.5 million) for mine action and had set a five-year budget of 3.6 billion CFA (approximately US\$6 million) without specifying the time period. It also reported receiving €1.5 million from the EU to support operations by HI and "ongoing support" from the United States.¹⁰

In 2023, Senegal said the government provided FCA300 million (US\$0.5 million). International funding for mine action included €1 million from the EU, €0.8 million from the Netherlands, and unspecified "constant support" from the United States.¹¹ Senegal said Algeria has also agreed to provide assistance to its mine action programme but has not reported receiving any funding.¹²

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

CNAMS has stated there is no gender discrimination in Senegal's mine action programme and staff are recruited on the basis of competence.¹³ The new CNAMS director affirmed in 2024 that women are encouraged to work in mine action in line with equal opportunity criteria and cultural conventions.¹⁴

CNAMS reported in 2022 that it employed five women, including its information management manager, and has not reported any change since.¹⁵ Senegal has not provided any indication of whether existing estimates of contamination take account of the perspectives of women and girls as well as

men and boys and the Committee on Article 5 Implementation has requested information on this point in successive intersessional meetings.¹⁶

HI, the only international organisation conducting survey and clearance in 2023, employed seven female staff out of a total of twenty-two, including one woman manager and half of its twelve operations staff, including a demining team leader.¹⁷ MAG had a community liaison operation composed of two two-strong mixed-gender teams, a supervisor and an information management officer (both male) and a female support services officer.¹⁸

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

Senegal passed a law on management and protection of the environment in 2001. National standards (NOSAM) adopted in 2009 and reviewed in 2021–22 included a standard on environment, NOSAM 05.30, which provides guidelines on minimum environmental protection measures.¹⁹

HI said it puts environmental protection at the centre of its operations. It previously reported it had introduced a standard operating procedure (SOP) on environmental management which is taken into account when planning operations.²⁰ HI added mine detection dogs (MDDs) to its operational capacity in 2023 and as a result stopped its systematic use of a mechanical digger except in preparing sites inaccessible to dogs because of dense vegetation. As a result, HI said it had reduced its use of the digger and its fuel consumption by one third.²¹

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

CNAMS is in the process of upgrading its information management. In 2021, CNAMS had two information

management (IM) staff with a single desktop computer that had been provided more than five years earlier by Norwegian

9 Presentation by CNAMS, "National Stakeholder Dialogue: Towards a Mine-Free Senegal" workshop, Dakar, 29–30 October 2018.

10 Statement of Senegal, Twentieth Meeting of the States parties to the APMB (20MSP), Geneva, 21–25 November 2022.

11 CNAMS presentation, Individualised Approach, Geneva, 27 June 2023.

12 Statement of Senegal, Side-event, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 21 June 2023.

13 Email from Ibrahima Seck, CNAMS, 21 May 2020.

14 Email from Papa Maguèye Diop, Director, CNAMS, 21 July 2024.

15 Email from Ibrahima Seck, CNAMS, 23 May 2022.

16 Committee on Article 5 Implementation, "Preliminary Observations", Intersessional Meetings, 21–23 June 2023 and 18–20 June 2024.

17 Email from Emmanuel Sauvage, 3 July 2024.

18 Email from François Fall, HMA Advisor for West Africa, MAG, 26 June 2024.

19 Ibid.

20 Email from HI, 24 April 2023.

21 Email from Emmanuel Sauvage, HI, 3 July 2024.

People's Aid (NPA) and operated an Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) New Generation database. MAG provided two laptops in 2022–23 with capacity to support IMSMA Core and ArcGIS and a permanent ArcGIS desktop licence but CNAMS still requires reporting in hard copy as well as digitally.²²

Following a December 2022 workshop on information management organised by MAG, CNAMS conducted a review comparing physical archives to data held in the IMSMA database which was completed in the middle of 2023. The review led to a limited data clean-up and the removal of some duplicate reports. However, some of the data are imprecise with many hazardous areas reportedly indicated by a dot

rather than a polygon.²³ Operators do not have access to the database but note that task dossiers require updating and non-technical survey (NTS) is considered necessary before land release activities.²⁴

CNAMS IM staff participated in a regional workshop in Guinea in 2023 and hosted another workshop in April 2024 which focused on simplifying data collection forms and clarifying IM procedures relating to tasking and data validation. Recommendations produced by the workshop were under consideration by the CNAMS director at the time of writing.²⁵

MAG added a regional IM expert to its team in Senegal in 2023 enabling it to provide more sustained support to CNAMS.²⁶

PLANNING AND TASKING

Senegal's Article 5 deadline extension request submitted in 2020 set out a work plan for 2021–26 but it was unable to implement it due to lack of access to mined areas as a result of continuing conflict, lack of financial resources, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. A work plan for 2023–25 said CNAMS had sent HI task files for NTS in 2023 in seven locations in Ziguinchor that had been abandoned by the local population but who were now returning.²⁷

Senegal's statement to the intersessional meetings in Geneva in June 2023 restated general goals to conduct NTS with a view to determining the extent of contamination.²⁸ CNAMS has said it gives priority to areas where security permits access, where there is pressure from the population to return to

the land, and where socio-economic projects are planned or delivering benefits to the population.²⁹ CNAMS said priorities are determined in consultation with local communities.³⁰

Senegal said in 2023 that it planned to address 20 hazardous areas in two departments of Ziguinchor (Bignona and Oussouye) covering a total of 208,931m² in 2024.³¹ However, Senegal's Article 7 report submitted in July 2024 called for TS of all known CHAs totalling 339,375m² in 2024. It identified 21 previously abandoned locations in Ziguinchor, which it said had been designated for NTS by MAG in 2024, including 11 of the 112 areas listed as needing to be visited. It also called for TS of eight areas in Bignona in 2025.³²

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

Senegal's national mine action standards were developed in 2009 and partially revised in 2013³³ when amendments were made to standards for accreditation, technical investigation, the minimum depth for mine clearance, and the use of machines and MDDs in demining.³⁴ CNAMS started another revision in December 2021, focusing on standards for NTS and TS, clearance, accreditation, explosive ordnance risk education (EORE), and marking.³⁵

In December 2022, CNAMS decided in a workshop organised by MAG to review land release methods and procedures. It also decided to produce a roadmap including a new national land release standard, revision of NTS standards, criteria for land cancellation, quality management methods. It was also due to develop a procedure for formalising the results of NTS. As of August 2024, it was unclear how CNAMS intended to follow up and implement these proposals.³⁶

22 Emails from Melanie Broquet, MAG, 25 August 2022; and François Fall, MAG, 27 August 2024; and online interview with François Fall, MAG, 12 August 2024.

23 Email from François Fall, MAG, 26 June 2024 and interview 12 August 2024.

24 Email from Emmanuel Sauvage, 3 July 2024.

25 Email from François Fall, MAG, 26 June 2024.

26 Email from Melanie Broquet, MAG, 24 April 2023.

27 Article 7 Report (covering 2022), Form D.

28 Statement of Senegal, Intersessional meetings, Geneva, 19–21 June 2023.

29 Email from Ibrahima Seck, CNAMS, 23 May 2022.

30 Email from Papa Maguèye Diop, CNAMS, 21 July 2024.

31 Article 7 Report (covering 2022), Form D.

32 Article 7 Report (covering 2023), Form D. Senegal identifies a total of 27 CHAs totalling 339,375m² (see Table 1) but the 2024 task list in the report identifies 29 CHAs with the same total area.

33 Email from Ibrahima Seck, CNAMS, 21 May 2020.

34 Presentation by CNAMS, "National Stakeholder Dialogue: Towards a Mine-Free Senegal" workshop, Dakar, 29–30 October 2018.

35 Emails from Ibrahima Seck, CNAMS, 23 May 2022; and Roxana Bobolicu, MAG, 29 September 2022.

36 MAG brochure: "Humanitarian Mine Action in Senegal, Updating the Land Release Process", December 2022; and emails from Melanie Broquet, MAG, 24 April 2023; and François Fall, MAG, 26 June 2024.

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

CNAMS has not provided details of capacity available in 2023. In 2020, it said it had a total of 14 operations staff.³⁷

HI remained the only international demining operator conducting survey and clearance in Senegal in 2023. HI was present in Senegal from 2014 until October 2017 when it suspended operations because of lack of funding.³⁸ With new funding from the United States, operations resumed in 2019 and in October 2021 it signed a partnership agreement with the EU for a €1.5 million project in the Casamance area of southern Senegal. The project included earmarked funding of €1 million for NTS, TS, and clearance as well as for delivery of risk education with a partner organisation, ASVM. The remaining €0.5 million is earmarked for support to conflict-affected communities and the return of the displaced.³⁹

HI's total staff of 17 in 2023 included a six-person multi-task team demining team, two staff working on community liaison and NTS, a two-person team operating a mechanical digger and in cooperation with international NGO APOPO, it deployed two handlers with MDDS for technical survey. HI said the dogs had greatly enhanced productivity, particularly in areas of light vegetation where they eliminated the need for ground

preparation and could operate much faster than manual and mechanical teams.⁴⁰ In 2024, HI planned to add another demining team employing mostly women.⁴¹

MAG has conducted a weapons and ammunition management programme in Senegal since 2020 but in 2022 it received organisational accreditation for a demining project which initially focused on providing technical support to CNAMS, particularly in information management. In August 2023, MAG received operational accreditation for NTS and risk education allowing it to start community liaison activities in October 2023 and conduct contamination baseline assessments. In 2023, MAG was tasked to investigate 24 locations; it started NTS in 2024.⁴²

HAMAP-Humanitaire started a project in Senegal in December 2023 with a local partner, APIT Humanitaire Développement, which received accreditation from CNAMS for NTS and risk education (EORE) in July 2024 and was working in four communes of Bignona department. HAMAP had two international staff, a coordinator and EOD-qualified technical adviser, while APIT had 25 staff, including an NTS/EORE manager and seven NTS/EORE personnel.⁴³

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2023

CNAMS recorded release of a total 64,902m² in Basséré, Darsalam, and Kouring in 2023, of which 15,687m² was reduced through TS.⁴⁴

HI released a total of 42,187m² of mined area in 2023, a 25% drop on the previous year's result attributable to a much lower amount of land reduced through TS, but clearance has accelerated sharply. The 2023 output comprised 15,687m² cancelled through NTS; 1,035m² reduced through TS; and 25,465m² through clearance (see Tables 2 and 3, respectively), compared with 2,095m² cleared the previous year.⁴⁵

SURVEY IN 2023

Table 2: Release of mined area through survey in 2023 (HI data)⁴⁶

Department	Area cancelled through NTS (m ²)	Area reduced through TS (m ²)
Nyassia	15,687	0
Basséré	0	1,035
Totals	15,687	1,035

³⁷ Email from Ibrahima Seck, CNAMS, 21 May 2020.

³⁸ Email from Julien Kempeneers, HI, 26 September 2016.

³⁹ Emails from Catherine Gillet, HI, 10 May 2021; and Emmanuel Sauvage, HI, 13 April and 6 September 2022.

⁴⁰ Email from Emmanuel Sauvage, HI, 2 September 2024.

⁴¹ Email from Emmanuel Sauvage, HI, 3 July 2024.

⁴² Emails from Melanie Broquet, MAG, 24 April 2023; and François Fall, MAG, 26 June and 27 August 2024.

⁴³ Emails from Julien Kempeneers, Mine Action Unit Manager, HAMAP, and Diane Lopiccio, Coordinator, HAMAP, 27 August 2024.

⁴⁴ Article 7 Report (covering 2023), Form D. The sum of the areas listed in the report amounted to 67,902m².

⁴⁵ Emails from Emmanuel Sauvage, 3 July and 2 September 2024.

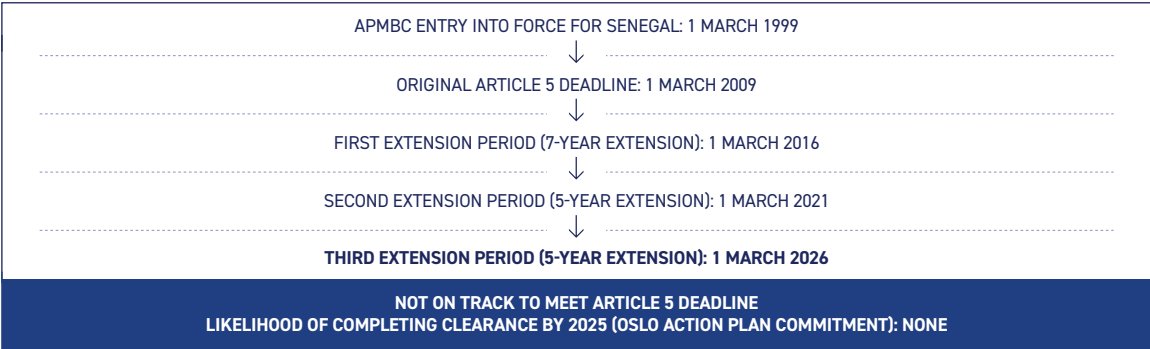
⁴⁶ Email from Emmanuel Sauvage, 3 July 2024.

CLEARANCE IN 2023

Table 3: Mine clearance in 2023 (HI data)⁴⁷

Department	Areas cleared	Area cleared (m ²)	AP mines destroyed	AV mines destroyed	ERW destroyed
Basséré, Kouring, Darsalam	3	25,465	13	3	8

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE AND COMPLIANCE



Under Article 5 of the APMBC (and in accordance with the five-year extension granted by States Parties in 2020), Senegal is required to destroy all AP mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2026. In all likelihood, it will not meet this deadline.

Insecurity preventing access to confirmed and suspected mined areas combined with a lack of funding have held back survey and clearance over many years. Since 2021, advances in peace negotiations and funding from the EU have given new momentum to mine action in Senegal but CNAMS acknowledges that it will probably not complete clearance of mined areas within the existing Article 5 deadline.⁴⁸ Furthermore, Senegal has yet to provide definitive information on whether mines remain around the Djirak or other military bases and provide detailed plans for clearing any remaining mined areas around military bases. Failure to provide information on this, puts Senegal's compliance with the APMBC in serious doubt.

Key challenges include lack of information on the extent of Senegal's mine contamination and continuing funding constraints. Operations in 2023 resulted in the clearance of 13 AP mines, underscoring the need for NTS and the

difficulties facing survey in depopulated areas. HI received funding from the EU and the Netherlands in 2023 and believed it would receive the same support in 2024 but it appears to fall short of Senegal's assessment of the funding required. In June 2023, Senegal estimated it would need 11.2 billion CFA (approximately US\$18.5 million) to cover the costs of demining as well as CFA 372 million (US\$0.6 million) for risk education and CFA550 million (US\$0.9 million) for victim assistance.⁴⁹

Table 4: Five-year summary of AP mine clearance

Year	Area cleared (m ²)
2023*	0.03
2022*	0.02
2021	0
2020	0
2019	0
Total	0.05

* Includes technical survey

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION

Senegal has reaffirmed that any residual mine threats will be dealt with by a specialised unit of Senegal's military engineers but has not provided details of military engineers' capacity.⁵⁰ The Committee on Article 5 Implementation received the same information but has repeatedly requested more details.⁵¹

47 Ibid.

48 Email from Papa Maguèye Diop, CNAMS, 21 July 2024.

49 Email from Emmanuel Sauvage, 3 July 2024.

50 Email from Papa Maguèye Diop, CNAMS, 21 July 2024.

51 "Clarifications du Sénégal aux questions du comité d'examen de la 3ème demande d'extension", 22 September 2020; Preliminary Observations, Committee on Article 5 Implementation, Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 18–20 June 2024.