

KEY DATA

**CCM ARTICLE 4 DEADLINE:
1 MARCH 2030**

Not on track to meet deadline

**CMR CONTAMINATION:
LESS THAN 5KM²**Light
(National authority estimate)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS

Release of cluster munition-contaminated area	Release in 2025 (m ²)	Release in 2024 (m ²)
Clearance	0	0
Technical Survey	0	0
Non-Technical Survey	0	0
Destruction of submunitions during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2024	2023
Submunitions destroyed	0	0

MAIN CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2025

■ None

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

In 2025, Somalia was granted a four-year extension to its Article 4 deadline under the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), with a new deadline set for 1 March 2030.¹ Along with a persistent lack of funding, lack of access to cluster munition-contaminated areas due to ongoing insecurity continued to prevent survey as well as any clearance of cluster munition remnants (CMR) in 2025, and none has taken place since limited clearance in 2022.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Somalia should ensure timely survey and clearance of CMR in accordance with its CCM obligations.
- Somalia should elaborate a comprehensive baseline of CMR contamination as soon as security conditions allow access to affected areas.
- Somalia should make known its financial and resource requirements for mine action, including estimated costs for CMR survey and clearance, even while affected areas remain inaccessible.
- Somalia should finalise and formally approve the new national mine action strategy, currently under development, to replace its plan for 2018–20.

1 Final Report of the Thirteenth Meeting of States Parties to the CCM, 16–19 September 2025, p. 9.

ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Criterion	Score (2025)	Score (2024)	Performance Commentary
UNDERSTANDING OF CMR CONTAMINATION (20% of overall score)	4	4	Eleven SHAs have been identified, with their size, location; and the types and numbers of submunitions they are thought to contain now clearly detailed in Somalia's latest Article 7 report (covering 2025). Due to ongoing insecurity, these areas remain inaccessible and could not be surveyed in order to determine a more accurate baseline of CMR.
NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT (10% of overall score)	4	4	The Somali Explosive Management Authority (SEMA) is the government institution responsible for mine action, but the passage of Somalia's Mine Action Bill has been delayed for several years and, as at June 2026, was still pending approval by the Federal Parliament. As a consequence, SEMA cannot access State funding.
GENDER AND DIVERSITY (10% of overall score)	5	5	Somalia does not yet have a gender policy or implementation plan for mine action, although a policy was under development as at early 2026. Somalia's 2025 Article 4 deadline extension request pledges the promotion of gender equality and the inclusion of persons with disabilities and minority clans in the implementation of the CCM.
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION (10% of overall score)	4	4	Somalia does not yet have an environmental policy or plan for mine action but a section on environmental management is contained within the NMAS.
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING (10% of overall score)	5	5	SEMA's upgrade to the IMSMA Core system, launched in 2022, is expected to be complete by the end of 2026. Somalia submitted a CCM Article 7 report covering 2025 in June 2026. In April 2025, it pledged to submit its reports covering 2023 and 2024 together. These remained outstanding at the time of writing.
PLANNING AND TASKING (10% of overall score)	5	5	Somalia's National Mine Action Strategic Plan 2018–2020 does not contain any specific provisions for survey or clearance of CMR, but SEMA expected to launch an updated strategy in late 2026. Due to lack of access to SHAs, no annual work plans or tasking for CMR have been issued in recent years.
LAND RELEASE SYSTEM (10% of overall score)	6	6	The NMAS for NTS was revised in 2024, with revision of the standard on BAC set to follow. Somalia has 21 police explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) and improvised explosive device disposal teams, but national EOD capacity is limited. HALO is engaged in demining and is capable of dealing with CMR. Somalia has pledged to detail its capacity requirements for CMR survey and clearance once affected areas can be safely accessed.
LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 4 COMPLIANCE (20% of overall score)	2	2	No CMR survey or clearance took place in 2025 and there were no reports of submunitions being discovered or destroyed in Somalia. Somalia did not meet its 2026 Article 4 deadline and was granted a four-year extension.
Average Score	4.1	4.1	Overall Programme Performance: POOR

CLUSTER MUNITION SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- Somali Explosive Management Authority (SEMA)
- Mine Action Department, within the Somaliland Ministry of Defence (MoD)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- Somali armed forces explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) teams
- Police EOD units of the Federal Member States

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- The HALO Trust (HALO)
- Demineco Human Services (DHS) contracted under the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) (ceased operations January 2025)*

* UNMAS sub-contracted UOS teams until June 2024, then DHS from 1 July 2024 to 15 January 2025.²

OTHER ACTORS

- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)
- iMMAP
- UNMAS as part of the UN Transitional Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS)
- United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS)
- African Union Stabilisation Support Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM)

UNDERSTANDING OF CMR CONTAMINATION

The exact extent of CMR contamination in Somalia remains unknown.³ While there has been no baseline survey, contamination appears to be light given the low numbers of submunitions found on the ground so far and with historical survey, clearance, and explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) activities yielding little evidence of a more significant problem.⁴ However, loss of access due to persistent insecurity in recent years has prevented detailed investigation.⁵

In its Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Somalia states it has 11 suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) that may contain CMR across three of Somalia's six⁶ official federal member states: four in Jubaland (in southern Somalia, bordering Kenya); one in Galmudug (in central Somalia); and six in South West state (also known as Koonfur Galbeed) (see Table 1). Somalia estimates that each SHA measures 100m², but has cautioned that the exact size of all contaminated areas has not been determined due to insufficient survey data and lack of access. The estimate of remaining contamination provided in the

Article 7 report covering 2025 remains unchanged from an earlier estimate in Somalia's updated Article 5 deadline extension request submitted in April 2025. That is so, except for the fact that no estimated sizes were provided for SHAs in Jubaland state in the 2025 estimate; and the description of the submunition in Bardere, Gedo, in Jubaland state has been updated from "BL-755 submunition" to "modified BL-755 submunition".⁷ In June 2026, Somalia cautioned again that the extent of CMR contamination, though limited, "remains unclear and requires further verification".⁸

Somalia does not anticipate finding significant additional CMR contamination and has no recorded CMR accidents impacting the population.⁹ No unexploded submunitions were identified during survey of areas recovered from non-State armed groups (NSAGs) in 2024, although it is not stated where this occurred or how much land was surveyed.¹⁰ Contamination data in Somalia's national database are disaggregated by weapon type.¹¹

Table 1: Cluster munition-contaminated area (at June 2026)¹²

State and location	SHAs	Area (m ²)	CHAs	Cluster munition type	Reported quantity
South West, Bakool, Rab Dhuure/Rab Dhuuro	6	600	0	RBK 250-275 containers	6
Jubaland, Gedo, Garbohaarey, Shabeel	1	100	0	RBK 250 container	1
Jubaland, Gedo, Dolow	1	100	0	AO-15CH container	1
Jubaland, Gedo, Bardere	1	100	0	Modified BL-755 submunition	1
Jubaland, Middle Juba, Buale	1	100	0	BL-755 submunition	1
Galmudug, Galgadud, Dusamreeb, Mareer Guur	1	100	0	AO-15CH container	1
Totals	11	1,100	0		11

2 Email from UNMAS Headquarters, 1 August 2025.

3 CCM Article 7 Report (covering 2022), Form A.

4 Email from Rob Syfret, Head of Region, Horn of Africa, HALO, 1 June 2023.

5 Updated 2025 CCM Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 6; and zoom interview with Hussein Ibrahim Ahmed (Jeda), Humanitarian Mine Action Project Manager, UNMAS, and Mahdi Mohamed Elmi, Programme Management Senior Analyst, UNMAS, 1 April 2026.

6 Somalia has six official federal member states, plus the Banadir Regional Administration, which includes the capital of Somalia, Mogadishu. The newest federal member state is North Eastern State (also known as North East Somalia), which was officially recognised by the federal government on 31 July 2025. It formally replaced SSC-Khaatumo, which had been recognised as an interim administration in October 2023. "From Las Anood to the North Eastern State (NES): Implications for Somalia-Somaliland Mediation and Regional Stability", Center for Conflict and Humanitarian Studies, 10 September 2025, <https://bit.ly/4uOKHMG>.

7 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form A; and updated 2025 CCM Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 4.

8 APMBC 2026 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 21.

9 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, pp. 7 and 11; and Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form H.

10 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 6.

11 Interview with Dahir Abdurahman Abdulle, SEMA, in Geneva, 8 April 2025.

12 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form A.

Somalia states that no survey of cluster munition-contaminated areas has been possible in recent years due to severely restricted access, in particular due to control of territory by Al-Shabaab in South West state and Middle Juba, and "ongoing conflict in multiple regions".¹³ At the time of submitting its 2025 extension request, Somalia could not say when security might improve sufficiently for affected areas to become accessible for survey, with the phased transition of security responsibility from the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) to Somali forces still underway, and continued reports indicating a "persistent deterioration of the security situation".¹⁴

In early 2026, SEMA updated that, while the government's offensive operations against Al-Shabaab had improved security in some parts of the country, cluster munition-affected areas still remained inaccessible during 2025, particularly Bakool in South West state, and Middle Juba in Jubaland state.¹⁵ At the Thirteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (13MSP) Somalia reiterated that it would continue to monitor the security situation and respond once CMR-affected areas were recovered by the State.¹⁶

The Ethiopian National Defence Forces and the Somali National Armed Forces are thought to have used cluster munitions in clashes along the Somali-Ethiopian border during the 1977–78 Ogaden War, with the Soviet Union reportedly supplying both parties with cluster munitions during the conflict, in particular PTAB-2.5 and AO-1-Sch submunitions which were produced by the Soviet Union on a large scale.¹⁷ Somalia has also said that the contamination along the border with Ethiopia dates from the "border wars" between 1978 and 1984.¹⁸

In January 2016, Somali media outlets reported an alleged cluster munition attack by Kenyan Defence Forces (KDF), near Bardere city in the Gedo region, and published photographs reportedly taken at the site of the attack that showed dead livestock and remnants of United Kingdom (UK)-made BL755 submunitions and dispensers. The reports alleged that the KDF had used cluster munitions in its air operation against Al-Shabaab.¹⁹ Subsequently, it was reported that unexploded submunitions had been used by Al-Shabaab in improvised explosive devices (IEDs).²⁰ Later in 2016, a United Nations (UN) Monitoring Group investigated the allegations but could not determine whether Kenyan forces had used cluster munitions or not. At the time, it noted the absence of reports of BL755 submunitions among legacy unexploded ordnance (UXO) contamination in Somalia. Kenya denied using cluster munitions.²¹

OTHER EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE CONTAMINATION

Somalia has contamination from other explosive remnants of war (ERW) and landmines across all states and regions of the country²² with mines concentrated along Somalia's border with Ethiopia.²³ See Mine Action Review's *Clearing the Mines* report on Somalia, including Somaliland, for further information.

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Mine action management in Somalia is the responsibility of SEMA, which is under the Ministry of Internal Security (MoIS).²⁴ There is a separate mine action department within the Ministry of Defence (MoD) in the separatist state of Somaliland. SEMA has maintained a presence across Somalia through five of its six federal member states, with state offices in Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Jubaland, Puntland, and South West.²⁵ Each state office has a director and a staff member.²⁶ However, these state offices were forced to pause

activities in 2025, due to a lack of funds. As at May 2026, SEMA was uncertain when they would re-open.²⁷

SEMA serves as the de facto mine action authority for Somalia. However, hopes for full implementation of mine action legislation remain unfulfilled. On 1 June 2024, the Mine Action Bill was finally submitted to the Office of the Prime Minister pending approval by the Federal Parliament.²⁸ The competing priorities of multiple bills have seen repeated

13 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, pp. 2 and 4.

14 Ibid., p. 10.

15 Zoom interview with Abdulkadir Ibrahim, Head of Information Management, SEMA, 23 February 2026; and Article 7 report (covering 2025), Form A.

16 Presentation of Somalia, "CCM First Extension Request", 13MSP, Geneva, 16–19 September 2025, p. 5.

17 Article 7 Reports (covering 2022 and 2025), Form F. Photographs of CMR, compiled by UNMAS Somalia, and dated 2011–2013, including of a PTAB-2.5M, can be found here: "Stabilizing Somalia through humanitarian mine action in Gedo and Hiran regions", UNMAS Somalia, accessed 14 April 2026, <https://bit.ly/4tEUyUq>.

18 Statement of Somalia, CCM Fifth Meeting of States Parties, San José, 2–5 September 2014, p. 2.

19 "Losses shelling forces arrested Gedo and Juba," *Calanka Media*, 24 January 2016 (no longer available online); and "Kenya launches deadly retaliatory attack," *Somalia Memo*, 24 January 2016 (no longer available online). Both sources cited in "Cluster Munition Ban Policy, Somalia", *Cluster Munition Monitor*, accessed 14 April 2026, <https://bit.ly/4t5YJCP>.

20 "Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia S/2016/430", UN Security Council, 9 May 2016, para. 51.

21 "Letter dated 7 October 2016 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea addressed to the President of the Security Council", UN doc. S/2016/919, 31 October 2016, pp. 171–73.

22 Action Plan for APMBBC Article 5 Implementation, October 2022–October 2027, 30 April 2023, p. 16.

23 "The Federal Republic of Somalia Summary of updated Article 5 Work Plan", APMBBC Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 19–21 June 2023.

24 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, pp. 5 and 10.

25 SEMA does not have an office in North Eastern State, Somalia's newest official Federal Member State, formally established in July 2025. Email from Hussein Ibrahim Ahmed (Jeda), UNMAS, 2 June 2026.

26 Ibid., p. 5; and interview with Dahir Abdurahman Abdulle, SEMA, in Geneva, 8 April 2025.

27 Online interview with Dahir Abdurahman Abdulle, SEMA, 1 May 2026.

28 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 5.

delays in the passing of the mine action law, and the bill had still not passed at the time of writing.²⁹ As at June 2026, Somalia reported that the bill was “expected to undergo its first reading and approval within the coming year”.³⁰

No federal funding has been provided since the expiry of SEMA's government grant in 2015.³¹ SEMA has, however, submitted a proposed budget to the MoIS.³² A chronic lack of funding has resulted in significant ongoing operational challenges for SEMA and a lack of effective capacity to plan and execute mine action activities.³³ Furthermore, Somalia's limited resources for mine action have been stretched by the growing challenge of IEDs, which present “one of the most persistent threats to Somalia's security and stability,” according to the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia.³⁴

Despite these challenges, capacity-building efforts have continued. In 2025, The HALO Trust (HALO) organised workshops for SEMA on finance and information management (IM).³⁵ Between 2023 and 2025, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) trained and equipped 61 Somali National Army EOD teams and 21 police EOD teams, and developed train-the-trainer courses.³⁶ It is also establishing a police training school in Mogadishu. In 2025, UNMAS continued to provide technical assistance and support capacity development of SEMA through HALO. This included training of trainers in IM, operations and quality assurance, and management and leadership, with training delivered at SEMA head office and the regional mine action centres.³⁷ As at February 2026, UNMAS was seeking funding to resume capacity development support to SEMA.³⁸

The international non-profit organisation iMMAP³⁹ has a four-year technical and operational capacity building programme for IM in Somalia, which was launched in June 2025. iMMAP's 2026 work plan with SEMA has focused on development of standard operating procedures to facilitate implementation of Somalia's national mine action standards (NMAS) for IM (a process led by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)); on-the-job training in geographical information systems (GIS) and map production; development of interactive dashboards to enhance coordination across mine action and other humanitarian partners; knowledge management and monitoring, evaluation

and learning systems; the updating of SEMA's website; development of a gender policy; and revision of SEMA's information sharing policy, to enhance communication with federal member states and external agencies.⁴⁰

A formal multi-stakeholder coordination structure, including SEMA, the GICHD, HALO, iMMAP, and UNMAS, was established and met once in 2025.⁴¹ However, at the time of writing, it had not been able to meet since, due to funding constraints. SEMA and implementing partners continue to meet as needed, however, and to cooperate through an IM working group.⁴² HALO and SEMA regularly coordinate activities at national and state level.⁴³

SEMA's strategic planning is guided by the 2024–29 strategic plan of the MoIS, which in turn is guided by national policies and Somalia's National Transformation Plan (NTP) for 2025–29.⁴⁴ Somalia has aligned its four-year Article 4 deadline extension with the implementation period for this latest NTP, which aims to address persistent threats to national security from NSAGs as well as other key challenges (such as resource mobilisation, capacity gaps, and the need to strengthen institutional frameworks).⁴⁵ As SEMA points out, progress on these challenges would enable more effective mine action.⁴⁶ One of the strategic goals in the NTP is to enhance the oversight role and processes of the MoIS and its institutions, including SEMA, which is designated responsibility under the NTP to plan, coordinate, implement, and provide oversight of “all mine action programmes and treaty compliance”, including Somalia's obligations under the CCM.⁴⁷ Mine action is also integrated into the Somalia Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, with operations closely coordinated with the Global Protection Cluster.⁴⁸

SEMA set its 2026 priority areas of work as: completion of migration from the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) New Generation to IMSMA Core; implementation of non-technical survey (NTS); delivery of explosive ordnance risk education (EORE); and capacity development, with the support of iMMAP.⁴⁹ In its latest Article 7 report (covering 2025), Somalia restates its need for international assistance in key areas of mine action, including (but not limited to): implementation of nationwide survey; clearance operations; and capacity building of SEMA.⁵⁰

29 Zoom interview with Abdulkadir Ibrahim, SEMA, 23 February 2026.

30 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form A.

31 Email from Mohamed Abdulkadir Ahmed, SEMA, 14 October 2016; and Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 4.

32 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 8.

33 Ibid., pp. 4–5.

34 UNMAS, “UN welcomes launch of Somalia's new strategy to counter IEDs”, 15 September 2025, <https://bit.ly/4ccZqtM>. Zoom interview with Adil Hussain, Country Representative, and Abdelsemed Kedir, Technical Advisor, iMMAP, 3 March 2026; and Zoom interview with Hussein Ibrahim Ahmed (Jeda) and Mahdi Mohamed Elmi, UNMAS, 1 April 2026.

35 Email from Alexia Bousingen, Programme Manager, Somalia/Somaliland, HALO, 6 May 2026.

36 UNMAS, “UN welcomes launch of Somalia's new strategy to counter IEDs”, 15 September 2025.

37 Zoom interview with Hussein Ibrahim Ahmed (Jeda) and Mahdi Mohamed Elmi, UNMAS, 1 April 2026.

38 Zoom interview with Abdulkadir Ibrahim, SEMA, 23 February 2026.

39 iMMAP is an international non-profit organisation that provides information management services to humanitarian and development organisations.

40 Zoom interview with Adil Hussain and Abdelsemed Kedir, iMMAP, 3 March 2026; and email from Adil Hussain, iMMAP, 19 May 2026.

41 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request (June 2025), p. 9.

42 Zoom interview with Abdulkadir Ibrahim, SEMA, 23 February 2026.

43 Email from Alexia Bousingen, HALO, 6 May 2026.

44 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 10.

45 Ibid., p. 1.

46 Presentation by Dahir Abdirahman Abdulle, SEMA, CCM Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 7 April 2025.

47 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, pp. 10–11.

48 Ibid., p. 9. The GPC is a network of NGOs, international organisations and UN agencies engaged in protection work in humanitarian crises, mandated by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), and led by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). See “Global Protection Cluster”, accessed 23 April 2025, <https://bit.ly/4clNmzz>.

49 Zoom interview with Abdulkadir Ibrahim, SEMA, 23 February 2026.

50 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Forms A and H.

FUNDING FOR CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE

The chronic lack of funding for mine action in Somalia continued through 2025 and into 2026, and has been described by UNMAS as the most challenging in a decade.⁵¹ As at May 2026, SEMA was receiving only limited funding through iMMAP's four-year capacity building programme, funded by the Netherlands.⁵² In 2025, it also received some limited financial support from HALO.⁵³ China donated RMB 1 million (approximately US\$137,000) to Somalia in 2024 and again in 2025, for risk education, capacity building, and NTS, though not for CMR specifically. SEMA expected a third grant from PRC in 2026.⁵⁴

In its latest Article 7 report (covering 2025), Somalia states that its Federal Government has no national funding for Article 4 obligations under the CCM, attributing this to "pressing national priorities, including security stabilization, counter-terrorism efforts, and humanitarian responses to recurrent droughts, alongside broader governance and recovery needs".⁵⁵ The government does, however, provide "in kind support to continue coordination, oversight, and regulation" of Somalia's national mine action programme.⁵⁶

Somalia reports that, along with partners, it has made continued efforts to secure donor support, including submission of concept notes developed jointly by SEMA and UNMAS; and targeted outreach and bilateral briefings by UNMAS, to advocate for Somalia's funding needs. Somalia has also consistently participated in recent years in key international mine action fora, including CCM and

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) meetings, and International Meetings of Mine Action National Directors & UN Advisers (NDM), using these platforms to "highlight Somalia's contamination challenges, national priorities, and capacity gaps across mine action pillars". In recent years, these efforts have not yielded significant new funding. SEMA, in coordination with the MoIS, planned to host a high-level mine action coordination meeting in Mogadishu in June 2026, to "re-engage donors and partners" on Somalia's urgent funding needs.⁵⁷

Somalia has not shared a resource mobilisation strategy for mine action but planned to finalise one by 30 April 2027. It is not yet clear if provision to secure funds for release of CMR-affected areas (subject to security conditions and access) will be included in this strategy.⁵⁸ Somalia's updated 2025 extension request states that "no stand-alone budget" is required to tackle CMR, given the relatively limited scale of contamination.⁵⁹ SEMA does, however, caution that the persistent lack of funds presents an urgent challenge to effective mine action, including its ability to meet its extended Article 4 deadline,⁶⁰ with the potential loss of all remaining survey, clearance, and EORE capacity in the country by the end of 2026, if the situation does not improve.⁶¹

For more information on funding, please see the country profile on Somalia on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.⁶²

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

Somalia does not yet have a gender policy and implementation plan for mine action. In the first half of 2026, however, iMMAP initiated a process to develop a gender policy for SEMA, with the support of the Gender Advisor to Somalia's UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator.⁶³ The National Mine Action Strategic Plan for 2018–20 included provisions on gender and diversity. As at June 2026, a new national mine action strategy was being developed.⁶⁴ SEMA highlights the fact that, while it has advocated for gender, diversity, and inclusion (GDI) considerations in survey and community liaison teams, challenges to achieving gender mainstreaming in Somalia remain due to the nature of its patriarchal society. Additionally, SEMA highlights that clan affiliation has significant importance and must also be considered.⁶⁵

SEMA does, though, have a dedicated GDI Officer. It asserts that gender equality will be promoted during the extension period and that significant efforts will be made, working with mine action partners, to recruit women into a variety of roles. The views of women, men, boys, and girls will be recorded during community liaison and risk education activities, to better understand the impact of CMR on affected communities and inform priority setting. Finally, Somalia pledges that the right to inclusion of persons with disabilities and those from minority clans will also be considered.⁶⁶

51 Zoom interview with Hussein Ibrahim Ahmed (Jeda) and Mahdi Mohamed Elmi, UNMAS, 1 April 2026; and email from Alexia Bousingen, HALO, 6 May 2026.

52 Online interview with Dahir Abdurahman Abdulle, SEMA, 1 May 2026; and Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form H.

53 Email from Alexia Bousingen, HALO, 6 May 2026.

54 APMBC Article 7 Report (covering 2023), p. 7; interview with Dahir Abdurahman Abdulle, SEMA, in Geneva, 8 April 2025; Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 7; and email from Dahir Abdurahman Abdulle, SEMA, 2 July 2026.

55 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form H.

56 Ibid., Form I.

57 Ibid., Form H.

58 2026 APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 6.

59 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 7.

60 Ibid., pp. 4–5; and online interview with Dahir Abdurahman Abdulle, SEMA, 1 May 2026.

61 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form H.

62 <https://the-monitor.org>.

63 Email from Adil Hussain, iMMAP, 19 May 2026.

64 Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form A.

65 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 10.

66 Ibid., p. 9.

Table 2: Gender composition of SEMA and regional mine action offices (at end 2025)⁶⁷

Entity	Total staff	Women staff	Total managerial or supervisory staff	Women managerial or supervisory staff	Total operational staff	Women operational staff
SEMA	17	*4 (24%)	N/R	N/R	0	0
Regional offices**	10 (2 per office)	1 (10%)	N/R	N/R	1 (in Puntland state)	0

* Including a GDI officer, two information management assistants and one cleaner. ** SEMA's regional offices were forced to stop operating during 2025 due to a lack of funds, and remained closed at the time of writing.⁶⁸

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

Somalia's NMAS include a chapter on environmental health and safety that requires implementing partners to consider procedures to mitigate the impact of mine action activities on the environment.⁶⁹ In June 2026, SEMA reported to be exploring the development of a dedicated NMAS on environmental management.⁷⁰

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

With the support of the GICHD, SEMA has been undergoing a transition from IMSMA New Generation to IMSMA Core, which it expected to finish by the end of 2026.⁷¹ HALO highlights the need for SEMA IM staff to be sufficiently trained in use of IMSMA Core as part of this transition.⁷² Although no systematic survey or clearance of CMR has been undertaken, for survey and clearance of other EO, mine action operators collect data using standardised protocols and forms, which are submitted to the IMSMA database.⁷³ Operators report that data collection forms are consistent and enable collection of the necessary data.⁷⁴ Information in the database is disaggregated by weapon type⁷⁵ and Somalia's updated 2025 extension request disaggregates land release since entry into force by method of release.⁷⁶

Somalia submitted a sufficiently detailed CCM Article 7 report (covering 2025) in June 2026, its first since the report (covering 2022) submitted in September 2023. At the 13MSP, Somalia stated that it "recognizes the importance of transparency under the Convention" and was "working to address its overdue Article 7 reports."⁷⁷ As at June 2026, Somalia's Article 7 reports covering 2023 and 2024 remained outstanding.

Somalia submitted a timely Article 4 deadline extension request in December 2024, and an updated version in April and then July 2025,⁷⁸ duly addressing requests for further information by the Analysis Group.⁷⁹ SEMA presented a statement on Somalia's extension request at the 13MSP in September 2025.⁸⁰

Somalia's updated 2025 extension request sufficiently addresses most of the points outlined in the Article 4 Extension Request Guidelines,⁸¹ in so far as this is possible, given Somalia's limited information about CMR-affected areas. However, it does not include a budget or outline financial requirements for SEMA's core costs, CMR survey and clearance, or capacity building. As previously mentioned, it says that "no stand-alone budget" is required to tackle CMR, given the relatively limited scale of contamination.⁸² In granting the request, the 13MSP noted that the Convention would benefit from Somalia reporting annually, through its Article 7 reports and at Meetings of States Parties or Review Conferences, on updated information on the security and access conditions and their impact on the implementation; including a detailed and costed work plan when feasible; and on Somalia's funding situation, including finances allocated through the national budget and from international donors.⁸³

67 Online interview with Dahir Abdurahman Abdulle, SEMA, 1 May 2026.

68 Ibid.

69 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 9.

70 2026 APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 41.

71 Zoom interview with Abdukadir Ibrahim, SEMA, 23 February 2026.

72 Email from Alexia Bousingen, HALO, 6 May 2026.

73 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 12.

74 Emails from Rob Syfret, HALO, 1 June 2023; and Clemence Nyamandi, Monitoring and Evaluation Manager, Programme Strategy and Planning Section, UNMAS, 30 May 2023.

75 Interview with Dahir Abdurahman Abdulle, SEMA, in Geneva, 8 April 2025.

76 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, pp. 3–4.

77 Statement of Somalia on Article 4, 13MSP, Geneva, 16–19 September 2025, p. 5.

78 "13MSP", CCM, accessed 27 April 2025, <https://bit.ly/3ES0hCu>.

79 "Statement on Somalia's Extension Request, (Agenda Item 3c, Clearance and Destruction of Cluster Munitions remnants), (delivered by NPA on behalf of Mine Action Review)", <https://bit.ly/4jQyQYL>; and "Comments on Somalia's Article 4 Extension Request, Convention on Cluster Munitions" (CMC), <https://bit.ly/42uV7We>.

80 Statement of Somalia on Article 4, 13MSP, Geneva, 16–19 September 2025.

81 CCM Article 4 Extension Request Guidelines, accessed 28 April 2025, <https://bit.ly/3YhXIWt>.

82 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 7.

83 Final Report of the 13MSP, Geneva, 16–19 September 2025, p. 9.

PLANNING AND TASKING

The National Mine Action Strategic Plan 2018–2020 noted Somalia's status as a State Party to the CCM and its reporting obligations and commitment to complying with the Convention, but did not contain specific provisions on survey and clearance of CMR. The launch of an updated strategy has since been delayed, and it was reported in both 2022⁸⁴ and 2024⁸⁵ that the strategy had been developed but was pending approval from the MoIS. As at June 2026, an updated strategy was still under development and expected to be finalised by the end of 2026.⁸⁶ Alongside these delays in finalising a new national strategy, according to SEMA a persistent lack of secure funding for mine action has impeded the production of annual work plans and planning for specific workstreams.⁸⁷

Although no work plan or prioritisation criteria for CMR survey and clearance have yet been shared, Somalia pledged at the 13MSP that it "will focus on developing

an action plan to address the survey and clearance of cluster munitions".⁸⁸ SEMA also states that these areas are incorporated into operational plans for NTS by operators,⁸⁹ albeit without further detail. Once safe access is possible, Somalia states that implementation of Article 4 will include "clear and measurable indicators and targets, which will be regularly monitored to assess the progress of treaty compliance". An implementation plan will include further details on the schedule of activities, as well as of data collection plans. Operators will be required to submit regular reports on activities and outputs, as well as risks, challenges, and lessons learned.⁹⁰ While it has not yet been possible to issue tasks for survey or clearance of cluster munition-contaminated areas, HALO reports that tasking for release of mined areas has been working well, demonstrating SEMA's capability to manage and issue tasks effectively.⁹¹

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

Somalia has NMAS that are aligned with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), which were first published in 2018. Since then, however, a lack of funding to undertake stakeholder consultation, political instability, and a lack of international technical experts to assist in the review process have all delayed "finalisation" of the NMAS.⁹² Recent progress has been made, however, with the 2024 revision of the NMAS for NTS and risk education.⁹³ Revision of the IM standard was set to be finalised by the middle of 2026,⁹⁴ and a review of the battle area clearance (BAC) standard was due to follow.⁹⁵ HALO has been participating in a working group on NMAS revision with SEMA and the other international partners.⁹⁶ SEMA says it has a quality management system and that it regularly inspects activities and assesses mine action outputs.⁹⁷

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

In 2025, and still in 2026 at the time of writing, HALO was the only active operator in Somalia, though it was not operating in CMR-affected areas.⁹⁸ HALO remains engaged in survey and clearance of landmines and states it is the only organisation capable of conducting clearance of CMR, once affected areas become accessible.⁹⁹ Survey and EOD

of ordnance other than CMR undertaken directly by UNMAS teams in Somalia, including sub-contracted teams, ended in January 2025.¹⁰⁰ Somalia has EOD teams under the Somali National Army and police.¹⁰¹ Somalia also has several local NGO mine action consortia, some of which have received some EOD training by international NGOs.¹⁰² However, to date,

84 Article 7 Report (covering 2020 and 2021), Form A.

85 Email from Ghirmay Kiros, Operations and QA Officer, United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS), 20 May 2024.

86 Online interview with Dahir Abdirahman Abdulle, SEMA, 1 May 2026; and Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form A.

87 Interview with Dahir Abdirahman Abdulle, SEMA, in Geneva, 8 April 2025.

88 Presentation of Somalia, "CCM First Extension Request", 13MSP, Geneva, 16–19 September 2025, p. 7.

89 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 6.

90 Ibid., p. 10.

91 Emails from Rob Syfret, HALO, 1 June 2023; and Alexia Bousingen, HALO, 6 May 2026.

92 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 5.

93 Email from UNMAS Headquarters, 1 August 2025.

94 Zoom interview with Abdulkadir Ibrahim, SEMA, 23 February 2026.

95 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 5.

96 Email from Alexia Bousingen, HALO, 6 May 2026.

97 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 10.

98 Interview with Abdulkadir Ibrahim, SEMA, 23 February 2026.

99 Additional information provided with 2025 revised updated Article 4 deadline Extension Request (June 2025), p. 13; and email from Alexia Bousingen, HALO, 6 May 2026.

100 Prior to that, UNMAS had contracted UOS teams until June 2024 and then Demineco Human Services. Emails from Ghirmay Kiros, UNSOS, 20 May 2024; and UNMAS Headquarters, 1 August 2025.

101 UNMAS, "UN welcomes launch of Somalia's new strategy to counter IEDs", 15 September 2025.

102 These local NGO mine action consortia are: Central Somalia Mine Action Consortium (CESMAC), Shabelle & Hiiraan Mine Action Consortium (SHAHMAC), Jubaland Mine Action Network (JUMAN), Somali Women Association (SWA), and Southwest Mine Action Consortium (SOWMAC). "The Sustainable Outcomes of Mine Action in Somalia", GICHD and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), June 2023, p. 6. Somalia reports that CESMAC and SHAMAC had received some EOD training by international NGOs. APMBC Article 7 Report (covering 2023), p. 4.

these NGOs have been engaged in EORE only.¹⁰³ There are no nationally funded survey or clearance teams operating directly under SEMA.¹⁰⁴

In the updated 2025 extension request, SEMA asserts that survey and clearance capacity operating in-country is sufficient to respond to known CMR hazards. Specifically, SEMA envisages that a team of seven survey and EOD personnel, equipped with basic demining and EOD equipment, is likely to be enough, but that detailed capacity and technical

requirements will be outlined once CMR-affected areas can be accessed.¹⁰⁵ In the additional information provided with the updated 2025 Article 4 deadline extension request of June 2025, Somalia envisaged that two BAC teams (and one manual mine clearance team), but no survey teams, would be available in Somalia annually from 2026 to 2029.¹⁰⁶ However, with the funding situation remaining volatile, it is not possible for Somalia to project future capacity with any degree of certainty.

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 4 COMPLIANCE

In its updated 2025 extension request Somalia clarifies the limited land release of CMR-affected areas undertaken since entry into force of the CCM in 2016 (see Table 3).

Table 3: Land release outputs since becoming a State Party in 2016 (at April 2025)¹⁰⁷

State/region, location	Area released (m ²)	Year of release	Type of land release	Type of submunitions destroyed	Submunitions destroyed
Galmudug, Dusamareb*	150	2022	Clearance	PTAB-2.5M	2
Banadir region, Bangeela	100	2020	Cancellation through NTS	N/A	N/A
South West, Dinsoor	100	2018	Clearance	PTAB-2.5M	1
Totals	350				3

* Also sometimes referred to as Dhuusamareeb, as per Table 4 below.

Separately, in June 2026, HALO responded to a request for further information from Mine Action Review on submunitions destroyed during its operations, and confirmed that it has destroyed four submunitions in Somalia since its operations began (see Table 4). The information provided by Somalia in its updated 2025 extension request (see Table 3), which does not specify which operator was responsible for destroying the submunitions, differs considerably from that provided by HALO. Somalia reports two PTAB-2.5M submunitions were destroyed in Dusamareb, in Galmudug, in 2022, while HALO reports only one such submunition was destroyed five years earlier in Dusamareb (also referred to as Dhuusamareeb)

in 2017. Somalia reports that no submunitions have been destroyed in Hirshabelle, while HALO reports destroying one BLU 97/B (64 mm) submunition here in 2017. Somalia reports destruction of one PTAB-2.5M submunition in Dinsoor, in South West state, in 2018, while HALO reports destroying two of these submunitions in a different region of the state (Bakol), two years later in 2020. Overall, Somalia reports that three submunitions have been destroyed since Somalia became a State Party to the CCM in 2016, while HALO reports that it alone has destroyed four submunitions since operations began, the first of which were destroyed in 2017.¹⁰⁸

Table 4: All submunitions destroyed by HALO in Somalia¹⁰⁹

State/region/District/Village	Date of activity	Type of submunitions destroyed	Submunitions destroyed
Hirshabelle, Hiran, Belet Weyne, Beer-Gadiid	09/09/2017	BLU 97/B (64 mm)	1
Galmudug, Galgadud, Dhuusamareeb, Mareere	20/08/2017	PTAB-2.5M (69 mm)	1
Southwest, Bakol, Yeed, Xaafada Koobaad	10/02/2020	PTAB-2.5M (69 mm)	1
Southwest, Bakol, Yeed	15/10/2020	PTAB-2.5M (69 mm)	1
Total			4

¹⁰³ Online interview with Dahir Abdurahman Abdulle, SEMA, 1 May 2026.

¹⁰⁴ "Partner mapping in response to CCM", additional information provided with the updated 2025 Article 4 deadline extension request of June 2025.

¹⁰⁵ Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 7.

¹⁰⁶ "Partner mapping in response to CCM", additional information provided with the updated 2025 Article 4 deadline extension request of June 2025. No teams are designated for any functions during 2030. This requires clarification, given Somalia's new Article 4 deadline of 1 March 2030.

¹⁰⁷ Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, pp. 2–4.

¹⁰⁸ Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, pp. 2–4; and email from Khadijo Ahmed, GIS and IM Officer, HALO, 7 June 2026. The updated extension request also mentions on p. 12 that two PTAB-2.5M submunitions were destroyed by HALO in Galmudug. No dates are specified. This does not match HALO's records, which record destruction of a single submunition in Galmudug to date (in 2017), as shown in Table 4.

¹⁰⁹ Email from Khadijo Ahmed, HALO, 7 June 2026.

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2025

As in 2024, Somalia did not release any CMR-contaminated areas through survey or clearance in 2025. No new discoveries of submunitions were recorded and no new areas of CMR contamination were added to the national database in 2025.¹¹⁰

ARTICLE 4 DEADLINE AND COMPLIANCE



Under Article 4 of the CCM, (and in accordance with its first extension), Somalia is required to destroy all CMR in areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2030. Somalia is not on track to meet this deadline.

In the updated 2025 extension request, and again at the 13MSP, Somalia reiterated the persistent challenges it has faced in Article 4 implementation during the initial 10-year period, and which may still impede progress during the four-year extension period. These were: a lack of access to contaminated areas due to their control by NSAGs; a lack of safe access to some contaminated areas due to widespread insecurity across the country; consequent inability to undertake survey to further investigate reports of CMR contamination; and consistent and severe under-funding of mine action. Somalia also notes that although efforts were underway to recover areas from the control of NSAGs, no timeline for when the security situation might improve could be predicted.¹¹¹

Despite these significant challenges, SEMA has consistently collaborated with partners in recent years to continue efforts in areas such as capacity building, NMAS revision, and information management, and should be commended for this. However, approval of Somalia’s mine action legislation by the Federal Parliament, a prerequisite for receipt of national funding for SEMA, remains outstanding. It is critical that this matter be resolved and that Somalia secures further funding, both national and international, in order to maintain an effective mine action programme capable of meeting its Article 4 deadline within the extension period, once CMR-affected areas can be accessed.

Table 5: Five-year summary of CMR clearance

Year	Area cleared (m²)
2025	0
2024	0
2023	0
2022	150
2021	0
Total	150

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION

Somalia has established EOD/IED-trained police teams in each member state, which will be available to respond to community call-outs once clearance is complete.¹¹²

110 Zoom interview with Abdulkadir Ibrahim, SEMA, 23 February 2026; email from Alexia Bousingen, HALO, 6 May 2026; and Article 7 Report (covering 2025), Form F.
111 Updated 2025 Article 4 deadline Extension Request, p. 2; and presentation of Somalia, "CCM First Extension Request", 13MSP, Geneva, 16–19 September 2025, pp. 2–3.
112 Interview with Dahir Abdirahman Abdulle, SEMA, in Geneva, 8 April 2025.