



*Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus
Geneva*

*Ambassador
Permanent Representative*

Geneva, 9 February 2021

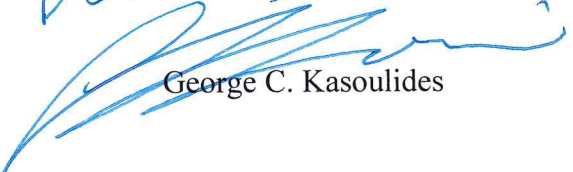
Dear colleague,

I have the honour to refer to your letter, dated 21 December 2020 and, in accordance to the provisions of Article 5, paragraph 3 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, to hereby formally submit a request, on behalf of the Republic of Cyprus, to extend until 1 July 2025 the deadline for completing the obligations emanating from Article 5, paragraph 1, namely to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control.

The Republic of Cyprus is compelled to renew its request to extend the deadline as the circumstances, which led to the initial Decision, taken at the 12th Meeting of the States Parties, as well the subsequent ones in relation to Cyprus, remain unchanged. In this effect, the request is submitted due to the continuous inability of the Republic of Cyprus to fulfill the obligations of Article 5 paragraph 1 in certain parts of Cyprus' territory which contain mined areas and in which antipersonnel mines have been or are suspected to be emplaced. Although they form part of Cyprus' sovereign territory, they are de facto outside the effective control of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus as a result of the continuous occupation by Turkey.

Thorough analysis regarding Cyprus' request can be found in the supporting documentation submitted with the initial request which continue to remain valid in tis entirety.

Please accept, Dear colleague, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Best regards

George C. Kasoulides

Chileshe Veronica Nkole
First Secretary
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations
Chair of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation

CC:
Permanent Mission of Belgium to the United Nations
Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations
Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations
Director, Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit