

**CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING,
PRODUCTION, TRANSFER OF
ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION
Article 7 Report**

State Party: *Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka*

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January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Form A:

1. National implementation measures

The Sri Lanka National Mine Action Completion Strategy was developed by the NMAC with the support of GICHD in collaboration with all other stakeholders. In March 2023, the Government of Sri Lanka endorsed the Sri Lanka National Mine Action Completion Strategy¹ 2023-2027, demonstrating the government's strategic commitment to completion.

The first of four strategic objectives focuses on land release and the implementation of an inclusive and transparent completion survey that facilitates Sri Lanka's Article 5 completion. This process will allow the Government of Sri Lanka to declare their administrative areas "mine free," indicating confidence that all known mined areas have been identified and cleared, with no further evidence or suspicion of mines on their land at this time. The completion survey process is being implemented throughout all Grame Niladaree Divisions (Sri Lanka's Smallest Administrative Boundary) to identify any previously unknown explosive ordnance and to declare areas free from any suspicion or presence of explosive ordnance (EO).

The second strategic objective is to maintain strong national ownership of its mine action program by ensuring that its structures are well-equipped and resourced. This commitment aligns with Oslo 57 and Lausanne 58 Action Plans action number 1, emphasizing national ownership and financial commitments. NMAC pledges to coordinate regularly and transparently with the Sri Lankan government, international donors, operators, and other partners, organizing bi-annual coordination meetings. This effort supports OAP action number 43 on national coordination and aligns with Grand Bargain principles.

Under the third objective of the Management of Residual contamination, Sri Lanka aims to shift from proactive survey and clearance of known explosive ordnance (EO) contamination to reactively addressing reported residual contamination by 2027. IMAS 04.10 defines residual contamination as the contamination that persists after all reasonable efforts to remove it. Recognizing the importance of timely planning for this transition, Sri Lanka's previous strategy included managing residual contamination, with the SLA HDU responsible for this task. In line with OAP action #26, the GoSL will continue planning collaboratively with stakeholders. The Police Task Force will handle explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) callouts under the 2022 Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines Act. The SLA HDU, with its extensive experience, is well-positioned to manage future residual contamination. Ensuring the SLA HDU is well-equipped and trained in IMSMA Core is crucial for a smooth transition. Sustainable EORE structures will be strengthened to promote safe behavior and inform communities about EO risks and reporting Procedures With the anticipated completion of all known contaminated areas by the end of 2027,

¹ <https://www.gichd.org/publications-resources/publications/sri-lanka-national-mine-action-completion-strategy/>

the Government of Sri Lanka is committed to ensuring that relevant plans are in place to ensure a smooth demobilization of mine action staff currently employed by four operators (MAG, HALO, DASH and SHARP), as outlined in Strategic Objective 4 “Staff Transition” of the National Mine Action Completion Strategy 2023-2027. This strategic objective draws upon the framework developed by MAG for its own workforce, with MAG assuming a leadership role in staff transition within the mine action sector in Sri Lanka. The staff transition process consists of three main phases, which are structured to be implemented before and during the gradual demobilization of staff, continuing until the completion of clearance and phase-out.

Form B

2. Stockpiled anti-personnel mines

NMAC reported that all stockpiled AP mines, except training purpose have been destroyed in 24 Aug 2021 almost a year earlier than the deadline set by the convention.

Form C

As of 31 December 2024, the Sri Lanka armed forces retained 6,121 anti-personnel mines for purposes permitted under Article 3 of the Convention.

Table 1: Retained for Development and Training

Type	Quantity Remained	Lot number
P4 MARK II	5621	SL Army 006. 013. 012. 009. 092. 004. 091. 007. 036. 008. 093. 001.021.090. 028. 008. 050. 007. 006. 031. 092. 020.045. 044. 014. 013. 092. 085. 007. 007. 008. 007. 086. 007. 048. 009. 059. 092. 089. 006.093. 095. 053. 003. 033. 013. 018. 015. 008. 005. 048. 052. 031. 008. 006. 032. 001. 004. 028. 030. 013.031. 014. 047. 007. 030.044. 004. 091. 045. 008. 007. 071. 024. 007. 010.006. 003. 006. 008. SL Air Force 030. 060. 001. 064. 019. 058. 057. 021. 002. 022. 006. 018. 020. 022. 024. 025. 038. 043. 044. 048. 050. 059. 067. 011. 029. 037. 046. 026.013.063. 027. 005.
TYPE 72	80	51-95-652A. 40-95-652A.
VS 50	345	EJD-001. EJD-001. EJD-001.
TYPE 1969	38	Unknown
PRB 409	13	FMP-1-01-01-74
Mine AP (CH)	7	No Lot
Mine Anti-Personal(POF)	17	No Lot

The Sri Lanka armed forces authorized to retain anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes: the Sri Lanka Army, Sri Lanka navy and Sri Lanka Air force. It retains anti-personnel mines for training mine detection dogs, testing demining machines and studying the effect of the blast of various types of anti-personnel mines on demining equipment. During the course of 2024, authorized institutions used 2,304 anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes as follows.

Table 2: Transferred for Development and Training

Type	Quantity	Lot number
P4 MARK II	2042	SL Army 004. 008. 091. 029. 011. 029. 008. 008. 048.055. 010. 007. 020. 047. 090. 028. 090. 020. 028. 014. 008. 010. 008. 005. 058. 009. 029. 017. 032. 029. 093. 048. 018. 032. 015.013. 007. 047. 084. 033. 006. 032. 018. 006. 008. 004. 013. 011. 004. 093. 004. 023. 017. 005. 033. Air Force 059. 006. 058. 043. 022. 060.019.057.042. 039.
TYPE 72	108	SL Army 22-95-652A. 01-95-652A.
VS 50	96	EJD-001
TYPE 1969	48	Unknown
PRB 409	10	FMP-1-01-01-74.

Form D

3. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines

As of 31 December 2024, there were 634 areas primarily located in the North and East, as well as other subordinate districts, known to contain anti-personnel mines, totaling **17,646,604** square meters. Additionally, there were 206 areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, totaling 5,548,484 square meters. These areas, whether confirmed or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, are distributed across 10 districts within all four provinces of Sri Lanka, as outlined below:

Table 3: Summary of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines as of 31 December 2024

Province	District	Number of areas known to contain anti personnel mines	Number of areas suspected to contain anti personnel mines	Total number of areas known or suspected to contain anti personnel mines	Amount of area known to contain anti personnel mines(square meters)	Amount of area suspected to contain anti personnel mines(square meters)	Total amount of area known or suspected to contain anti personnel mines(square meters)
Northern	Jaffna	16	3	19	570,451	127,505	697,956
	Kilinochchi	76	9	85	1,602,024	361,724	1,963,748
	Mannar	166	48	214	2,078,014	794,420	2,872,434
	Mullaitivu	298	48	346	12,296,966	1,897,434	14,194,400
	Vavuniya	41	33	74	553,350	1,314,788	1,868,138
NCP	Anuradhapura	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Polonnaruwa	1	4	5	3,103	40,926	44,029
NWP	Puttalam		1	1		25,265	25,265
Eastern	Ampara	2	15	17	11,135	296,992	308,127
	Batticaloa	19	24	43	242,360	531,990	774,350
	Trincomalee	15	21	36	289,201	157,440	446,641
Total		634	206	840	17,646,604	5,548,484	23,195,088

Source: IMSMA, NMAC

Throughout the year 2024, Sri Lanka Mine Action Centre (NMAC) declared 164 areas totaling 6,052,907 square meters as safe zones, free from the suspected presence of anti-personnel mines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW), to be used for normal human activities. These areas, located in eight districts in three provinces were officially released for human activities. In total of 1,407 anti-personnel mines and 1,345 other explosive items, including 15 anti-vehicle mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO), were safely removed in accordance with the national mine action standards.

Table 4: Land released and destroyed items in 2024

Province	District	In square meters				No of Items destroyed			Number of areas released
		Cancelled area	Reduced area	Cleared area	Total area released	APs	ATs	Number of Other explosives	
Northern	Jaffna	41,824	69,199	148,615	259,638	33	1	21	8
	Kilinochchi	10,804	43,811	1,263,004	1,317,619	415	3	689	25
	Mannar		19,111	208,874	227,985	46	8	21	10
	Mullaitivu		654,059	2,409,915	3,063,974	773	2	478	73
	Vavuniya		157,000	467,049	624,049	40	1	100	8
NCP									
Eastern	Polonnaruwa		2,790	28,114	30,904	1			2
	Ampara							3	
	Batticaloa		49,149	383,050	432,199	62		25	
	Trincomalee	1,107	4,145	91,288	96,540	37		8	22
		53,735	999,264	4,999,908	6,052,907	1,407	15	1,345	164

Source: IMSMA, NMAC

Sri Lanka’s national mine action completion strategy, based on the 15,379,942.45 square meters of CHA remaining as of September 2022, was officially endorsed by the Government of Sri Lanka in March 2023. The first of four strategic objectives focuses on land release and the implementation of an inclusive and transparent completion survey that facilitates Sri Lanka’s Article 5 completion. Sri Lanka’s completion process will allow the Government of Sri Lanka to declare their administrative areas “mine free”. This means that they are confident that all known mined areas have been identified and cleared and that there is no further evidence and/or suspicion of mines, at this time, on their land. The process formalizes the mechanisms around the ongoing survey and clearance so that the Government can document the ‘completion’ of administrative areas in a consistent and transparent manner. This will enable the Government to demonstrate that All Reasonable Effort has been made to identify and clear all mined areas, as per its article 5 obligations. ‘Completion’, in the context of Sri Lanka, refers to Sri Lanka fulfilling its APMBC Article 5 obligations and identifying and clearing anti-vehicle (AV) mines and other explosive ordnance (EO).

Sri Lanka’s Completion Survey will go beyond its article 5 obligations, with the inclusion of AV mines in the completion declaration. In addition, any Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) identified during the survey shall be reported through relevant mechanisms. Given the probabilities of residual ERW contamination, these items are not included in the declaration form. The completion process standard operating procedure (SOP) outlines the process in detail and has been translated into Tamil and Sinhala.

As of 30 April 2025, the completion survey has been commenced throughout the 1,385 GN divisions, and all have been validated. Out of these 1,030 GNs have been recommended for declaration by ensuring not any EO contamination while survey teams recommended follow up visits to 353 GNs. The completion survey process includes dedicated non-technical survey (NTS) activities to identify any unidentified/unreported/unrecorded contamination. Since the inception of the completion survey process from 01 December 2023, newly identified hazardous areas by province are listed below;

Table 5: Newly identified hazards areas by province as at 31 December 2024

Province	Number of new hazards areas	Hazard area in square meters
Northern	188	6,174,194
Eastern	37	469,529
NCP and NWP	5	56,357
Total	230	6,700,080

Note: NCP- North Central Province and NWP- North Western Province

Source: IMSMA, NMAC

Due to the identification of previously unknown contamination, the contamination baseline from September 2022 of 15.4 sq km has increased by another 13 sq km. Out of that, in the year 2024, 6,052,907 Square meters was released for community use as safer land, ensuring the absence of any AP mines and all other ERW. As of now, the total remaining contamination area is **23,195,088** Square meters (CHA- **17,646,604** / SHA- **5,548,484**) based on reported data in IMSMA in 2025, NMAC expects that a total number of 196 areas, totaling 5,889,880 square meters, will be released in the Northern, Eastern, and NCP provinces. However, during the completion survey, there is a possibility of discovering additional, previously unknown contaminated areas. As a result, the projection may vary accordingly. In June 2024, NMAC will analyze various completion scenarios together with GICHD and operators, based on the remaining contamination and available funding. This will allow Sri Lanka to determine a realistic Article 5 completion date, based on updated contamination and funding information.

The Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL) expects further financial, capacity development and strategic support from the donor community and the GICHD to strengthen the demining organization and expedite the process to achieve the target as expected. In addition to donor funding, the National Mine Action Centre (NMAC) needs GOSL funds for Sri Lanka Army demining operations including MDD, as well as for NMAC and Regional Mine Action Office (RM)OA responsibilities related to clearance, survey, quality assurance, information management, capacity development, and other operational needs. GOSL can provide a detailed project proposal outlining its funding needs and expected results to those interested in supporting its efforts to complete the implementation of Article 5.

Form E

EO risk education and reduction effort

In 2024, risk education activities in Sri Lanka were primarily conducted in schools, targeting schoolchildren and their parents. These groups are considered particularly at risk and serve as effective channels for disseminating safety messages throughout their communities. Several schools reached out to HALO after discovering explosive ordnance on their premises, requesting risk education sessions. Additionally, some school principals specifically requested sessions due to concerns about possible contamination near their villages. These actions ensured that risk education was delivered to those most vulnerable and directly addressed threats identified by the community.

Main groups at-risk in 2024

- Boys (<18 years)
- Girls (<18 years)
- Men (\geq 18 years)
- Women (\geq 18 years)
- Farmers
- Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)
- Scrap metal collectors
- Residents in forested areas

Number of direct beneficiaries reached through risk education in 2024

Men (\geq 18)	: 3,046
Women (\geq 18)	: 4,081
Boys (<18)	: 9,453
Girls (<18)	: 830

Risk education approaches and methods

- Stand-alone risk education sessions
- Distribution of printed materials (e.g., brochures, posters, billboards, leaflets) for the general public and schoolchildren
- Use of entertainment-based approaches (e.g., theatre plays, games, films) to engage schoolchildren

Management and coordination of risk education activities

Risk education in Sri Lanka is well-coordinated through collaboration between the National Mine Action Centre (NMAC) and the Regional Mine Action Office (RMAO). These institutions play a central role in planning, prioritizing, and supervising the implementation of Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) activities across affected areas.

All partner organizations actively contribute to EORE by delivering key messages to vulnerable groups, especially schoolchildren. Their collective efforts play a crucial role in raising awareness and reducing the number of accidents caused by explosive remnants of war.

EORE prioritization

Prioritization of risk education is guided by:

Community requests

Incident data

Risk assessments

These criteria ensure that available resources are directed toward the most vulnerable and at-risk populations.

Number of individuals killed or injured by anti-personnel mines, 1 January-31 December 2024

	Women	Girls	Boys	Men	Total
Killed					
Injured	3				3
Total	3				3

4. Technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines

Not applicable as the Sri Lanka does not produce any anti-personnel mines.

5. Conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities

Sri Lanka has no additional information on the technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines owned or possessed. See the report submitted in 2021 for information that has already been provided by the Sri Lanka on the technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines possessed by Sri Lanka

Form H

6. Victim assistance

a. Data on Direct and Indirect Victims (in reference to Oslo Action #35)

Assessment

During the period 2002 – 2009, IMSMA recorded 1,765 victims of landmines and other explosive ordnances. Of these, the conflict-affected Eastern and Northern Provinces accounted for 93 percent, with 1,451 victims.

Since 2010 with the establishment of the National Mine Action Centre (NMAC), data has been available at the district level and recorded annually. Landmine accidents have significantly decreased over the past decade, dropping from a total of 55 casualties in 2010 to 3 casualties in 2024 – please refer to the table below for a geographic and year-by-year breakdown. This substantial reduction underscores the effectiveness of ongoing mine clearance efforts, explosive ordnance risk education activities, awareness campaigns, and other preventive measures implemented in recent years.

As a State Party that ratifies the UNCRPD in 2016, the Government of Sri Lanka assured its commitment with the submission of the initial state party report as per Article 35(1) of the UNCRPD in 2019² where information on persons with disabilities, including landmine victims, was provided.

As the country approaches the final stages of mine clearance operations, it is important to monitor potential injuries that may occur beyond the scope of data collected by the mine action sector through NMAC, and therefore integrate data collection efforts into mainstream government practices.

In line with the commitments outlined in the National Mine Action Completion Strategy 2023-2027, NMAC acknowledges that its responsibilities with regards to victim assistance primarily entails a facilitating role, ensuring that accurate information on victims of landmines and other explosive ordnances is readily available for coordination and support efforts aimed at addressing their specific needs.

² GoSL initial state party report para 201. Accessed at https://www.stateminsamurधि.gov.lk/web/images/content_image/notices/CRPD_initial_report.pdf

Districts	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Grand Total
Ampara			2													2
Batticaloa	2						1									3
Jaffna	22	13	7	1	2	3			1	5	1					55
Kilinochchi	13	6	6		5		5	2	2	4	3	1	4			51
Mannar	6		7			3					2					18
Mullaitivu	4	8	24		11				2			4	1	2	3	59
Polonnaruwa			2													2
Puttalam	1															1
Trincomalee	5		1					1	1			2				10
Vavuniya	2	3	1													6
Grand Total	55	30	50	1	18	6	6	3	6	9	6	7	5	2	3	207

Source: IMSMA, NMAC

a. Medical care

The Government of Sri Lanka's interventions for the rehabilitation programme are remarkable. These initiatives are mainly derived from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Rural Development, Social Security, and Community Empowerment through their relevant departments. All mine and EO victims approximately 1,765 individuals have received necessary rehabilitation and medical care under the free healthcare system. Their primary medical care is also delivered at the closest primary healthcare unit in their respective areas. Medical assistance and prosthetic support for survivors are also continued by the rehabilitation centers in Jaffna, Mullaitivu and Kilinochchi Northern province and Trincomalee District in Eastern province.

As an example in 2024, an incident occurred during demining operations, resulting in three injuries. The injured individuals were admitted to the nearest hospital for emergency medical care, and two were later referred to the General Hospital for further treatment. This process was managed under the government medical setup to ensure the preservation of life.

By the end of 2025, necessary improvements will be made in referral systems to ensure that landmine victims receive comprehensive support in healthcare, rehabilitation, psychological assistance, and socio-economic inclusion, particularly in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, as outlined in Strategic Objective 2 in Mine Action Completion Strategy under “Coordination and National Ownership.”

b. Physical rehabilitation:

In 2024, the National Rehabilitation Guidelines was published by the Ministry of Health which will explicitly reference landmine victims, aiming to improve the quality, accessibility, and effectiveness of rehabilitation services across the island, including in the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

c. Social inclusion (including sports):

The Department of Social Services under the Ministry of Rural Development, Social Security, and Community Empowerment implements various social and economic inclusion

programs for mine victims and their families. Key interventions are included:

Vocational Training: Providing skills development programs for persons with disabilities to enhance their employability.

Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR): Empowering persons with disabilities and their families by improving access to services, ensuring equal opportunities, and safeguarding their human rights.

Support Networks: Organizing and coordinating assistance at local, divisional, district, and national levels for persons with disabilities and their families.

Rehabilitation of the Visually Handicapped Trust Fund: Offering essential services, rehabilitation, and relief for visually impaired individuals, following global initiatives for disability inclusion.

Medical Welfare Services: Social services officers and development officers are stationed in base hospitals to provide welfare support for low-income patients.

d. Economic inclusion

In addition to the above, the Government of Sri Lanka has implemented a national cash grant call "Aswesuma" programme for low-income individuals, considering their economic and social circumstances as a result of economic crises in Sri Lanka. Persons with disabilities who fall under these categories receive financial assistance under the cash grant scheme.

e. Management and coordination of victim assistance

The National Mine Action Centre (NMAC), established Victim Assistance Committee, comprising the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Rural Development, Social Security, and Community Empowerment, and other key stakeholders such as Human Inclusive, UNICEF, and other relevant UN Organization. Committee meet by quarterly and take decisions as per the Mine Action Strategy and the requirement of Victim Assistance

This committee has decided to conduct a sample Victim Assistance Needs Assessment survey to assess mine/EO victims affected since 2010. This survey began at the end of 2024, and results will be published in May 2025. Its preliminary findings are included under the topic of Victim Assistance Needs Assessment Survey.

This initiative aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the current status and needs of victims, enabling policymakers to develop targeted assistance programs. Based on the survey results, policymakers can identify mine and EO victims more accurately during the implementation of health and social service programs across various government departments

The NMAC works more broadly with the Government Ministries and Department. The

Government of Sri Lanka plans to publish a new Disability Act to replace the existing Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act No. 28 of 1996, ensuring compliance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD), which sets standards for victim assistance. However, due to various concerns, the bill was delayed. Currently, the Disability Rights Bill, with some improvements, is being processed based on Cabinet Decision Memorandum No. 25/0097/818/010 dated 4th February 2025, through the Ministry of Justice, in consultation with the Ministry of Rural Development, Social Security, and Community Empowerment.

Victim assistance needs assessment survey

In 2024, NMAC, with the support of the four in-country operators —MAG, HALO, DASH and SHARP and in collaboration with VA committee members and local authorities, conducted a Victim Assistance (VA) needs assessment survey involving 41 victims (32 male, 9 female) residing in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. This group represents approximately 20% of all victims recorded in IMSMA since 2010.

The survey was conducted to update evidence-based insights and had the following objectives:

Support government agencies, NGOs, and INGOs in the development and implementation of VA policies and programmes for landmine and explosive ordnance (EO) victims.

Ensure that victims' current needs are effectively identified and addressed.

Reinforce the importance of sustained support by conveying a clear message on victim assistance to local and international donors and stakeholders.

Summary of main findings:

All respondents reported injuries or impairments to their upper or lower limbs as a result of EO accidents. Of these, 32% (10 male, 3 female) self-identified as having a disability, based on the Washington Group questions using “a lot of difficulty” or “cannot do at all” as the threshold. However, only seven respondents reported receiving any form of disability-related support—such as disability allowance, Aswesuma benefits, livelihood assistance, or housing aid. This highlights a gap in service delivery and underlines the need for stronger referral pathways and coordination between stakeholders to ensure that victims with disabilities are linked to the support and entitlements available to them.

Livelihood support emerged as the most pressing need among respondents. Half of the respondents (19 male, 2 female) reported difficulties participating in economic activities due to their impairments or disabilities. For most (13 out of 21), this led to a significant reduction in income affecting the entire household. Four individuals reported struggling to cover basic living costs such as housing and food. Qualitative feedback collected during the survey consistently emphasized livelihood support as a top priority.

Nearly one-third of respondents (9 male, 6 female) reported owning homes without proper legal documentation. Unclear or absent land titles create barriers to accessing credit, applying for government support, and making long-term investments in farming infrastructure and technology. Additionally, 5% continue to live in temporary shelters with little or no access to electricity, sanitation, or clean water.

These are the main findings and provide a summary of the assessment. The results have been shared with relevant government departments to inform follow-up actions and ongoing support efforts.

Form I

7. Cooperation and assistance

In 2024, the total budget allocated for mine action activities in Sri Lanka amounted to USD 18,589,319. The budget was primarily directed toward Land Release operations, which received USD 18,515,130. Risk Education was allocated USD 26,036, and Capacity Development received USD 48,153. No specific budget was allocated for Victim Assistance during this period. The Government of Sri Lanka contributed LKR 60.9 million, of which 65% was utilized by the Sri Lanka Army Humanitarian Demining Unit (SLA HDU) for demining operations, including vehicle fleet management.

International donors also played a critical role in funding the national mine action programme. Major contributions included: USD 9,702,484 from the United States, USD 2,062,926 from the Government of Japan, USD 2,465,625 from the German Federal Foreign Office, USD 1,619,700 from Norad (Government of Norway), USD 1,278,550 from Great Britain (DFID and CSSF), USD 979,292 from Canada, USD 301,234 from the Government of Switzerland, USD 152,888 from World Without Mines (FWWM), and USD 26,620 from HDR&D totaling USD 18,589,319 in international contributions.

To support national coordination and stakeholder engagement, NMAC, in collaboration with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), organized workshops, technical workgroup meetings, and donor coordination forums. In 2023, NMAC successfully convened two donor coordination meetings and two completion survey workshops to reinforce the effectiveness of the Sri Lanka Mine Action Programme.

Form J

8. Other relevant matters

The government seeks additional technical and financial assistance to accelerate clearance efforts and to achieve its Article 5 obligations. However, achieving completion by the deadline of June 2028 is, no longer feasible. The main reasons include:

1. The discovery of previously unknown mine contamination
2. Many of the recorded minefields in the national database turned out to be larger than expected. Operators have noted that for every 2 square meters they cleared, they found 1 more square meter of mined land
3. The financial crisis and the COVID pandemic situation resulted in operational stand-down and a significant increase in fuel prices
4. Fluctuation in foreign exchange rates (significant impacts on NGOs receiving international funding in USD and other foreign currency)
5. Reduction in international funding (9% reduction in 2024, compared to 2023)
6. Reduction of funding to the SLA HDU: could not deploy as many operational teams as planned and unable to buy new equipment (vehicles, mine detection equipment, safety equipment, etc)
7. Staff retention: operators are struggling with employing and retaining staff in mine-affected areas, due to significant numbers migrating for financial reasons & uncertainty of Job

Annex II: Simplified Reporting Format

NAME OF STATE [PARTY]: Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

REPORTING PERIOD: 01 /01/2024 to 31/12/2024

(dd/mm/yyyy) (dd/mm/yyyy)

Form A: National implementation measures: changed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unchanged (last reporting: 2023)
Form B: Stockpiled anti-personnel mines: Changed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unchanged (last reporting: 2023) non applicable
Form C: Anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for permitted purposes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> changed unchanged (last reporting: 2023) non applicable
Form D: Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> changed unchanged (last reporting: 2023) non applicable
Form E: Mine risk education and reduction efforts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> changed unchanged (last reporting: 2023) non applicable
Form F: Technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines: changed unchanged (last reporting: yyyy) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> non applicable
Form G: Conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities: Changed: unchanged (last reporting: yyyy) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> non applicable

Form H: Victim Assistance

changed

unchanged (last reporting: 2023)

non applicable

Form I: Cooperation and assistance

changed

unchanged (last reporting: 2023)

non applicable

Form J: Other Relevant Matters

changed

unchanged (last reporting: 2023)

non applicable