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CONOP 5

## LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

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Subject: COUNCIL DECISION in support of building African capacities towards a mine-free Africa

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**COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2026/...**

**of ...**

**in support of building African capacities towards a mine-free Africa**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 28(1) and Article 31(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) The Union should work towards a high degree of cooperation in all fields of international relations, in order to preserve peace, prevent conflicts and strengthen international security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.
- (2) The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (the ‘Convention’) entered into force on 1 March 1999 and constitutes the central international framework for ending the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines.
- (3) On 15 December 2016, the European Council adopted the Global Strategy for the European Union’s Foreign and Security Policy, and Union support for the implementation of the Convention would contribute to the greater human security envisaged in that Strategy.

- (4) On 10 December 2019, the Council adopted conclusions entitled ‘Building a sustainable Europe by 2030 – Progress thus far and next steps’ in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the United Nations, and its Sustainable Development Goals. Moreover, the Union has consistently supported the universalisation and implementation of the Convention through a series of Council Decisions, including Decisions (CFSP) 2017/1428<sup>1</sup>, (CFSP) 2020/905<sup>2</sup>, (CFSP) 2021/257<sup>3</sup> and (CFSP) 2025/781<sup>4</sup>.

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- <sup>1</sup> Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/1428 of 4 August 2017 in support of the implementation of the Maputo Action Plan for the implementation of the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (OJ L 204, 5.8.2017, p. 101, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2017/1428/oj>).
- <sup>2</sup> Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/905 of 29 June 2020 amending Decision (CFSP) 2017/1428 in support of the implementation of the Maputo Action Plan for the implementation of the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (OJ L 207, 30.6.2020, p. 35, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2020/905/oj>).
- <sup>3</sup> Council Decision (CFSP) 2021/257 of 18 February 2021 in support of the Oslo Action Plan for the implementation of the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (OJ L 58, 19.2.2021, p. 41, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2021/257/oj>).
- <sup>4</sup> Council Decision (CFSP) 2025/781 of 14 April 2025 in support of the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan for the implementation of the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (OJ L, 2025/781, 15.4.2025, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2025/781/oj>).

- (5) On 27 May 2024, the Council adopted conclusions on an EU position on strengthening the ban against anti-personnel mines in view of the Fifth Review Conference of the Convention.
- (6) At the Fifth Review Conference of the Convention, held in Siem Reap-Angkor, Cambodia, in 2024, the States Parties to the Convention adopted the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan 2025–2029, which provides a roadmap for the implementation and universalisation of the Convention building on the achievements of previous Action Plans.
- (7) On 14 April 2025, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2025/781 in support of the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan 2025–2029,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

## *Article 1*

1. The Union shall support mine-affected States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (the ‘Convention’) in Africa in strengthening national mine clearance capacities and in fulfilling their obligations under Article 5 of the Convention while meeting the objectives of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The Union shall implement that support through an operational action.
2. The objective of the Union operational action referred to in paragraph 1 shall be to contribute to human security by supporting the implementation of the Convention, in accordance with the objectives of the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan 2025–2029 and of the European Security Strategy.
3. A detailed description of the operational action referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article is set out in the Annex.

## *Article 2*

In order to achieve the objective of the Union operational action referred to in Article 1(2), the Union shall support the following specific objectives:

- (a) strengthening the efforts of States Parties to the Convention in Africa to fulfil their mine clearance obligations under Article 5 of the Convention through capacity-building;
- (b) promoting the exchange of knowledge and expertise related to the implementation of Article 5 of the Convention;

- (c) demonstrating the commitment of the Union and its Member States to the objectives of the Convention and ensuring appropriate visibility of that commitment.

*Article 3*

1. The High Representative for the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (the ‘High Representative’) shall be responsible for the implementation of this Decision.
2. The technical implementation of the projects related to the specific objectives set out in Article 2 shall be entrusted to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) in partnership with the Mines Advisory Group.
3. UNIDIR shall implement the projects related to the specific objectives referred to in Article 2 under the responsibility of the High Representative. For that purpose, the High Representative shall enter into the necessary arrangements with UNIDIR.

#### *Article 4*

1. The financial reference amount for the implementation of the operational action referred to in Article 1 shall be EUR 3 000 000,36.
2. The expenditure financed by the reference amount set out in paragraph 1 shall be managed in accordance with the rules and procedures applicable to the general budget of the Union.
3. The Commission shall supervise the proper management of the expenditure referred to in paragraph 2. For that purpose, it shall conclude the necessary agreement with UNIDIR. That agreement shall stipulate that UNIDIR is to ensure identification and visibility of the Union contribution that are commensurate with the size of the contribution.
4. The Commission shall endeavour to conclude the agreement referred to in paragraph 3 as soon as possible after the entry into force of this Decision. It shall inform the Council of any difficulties in that process and of the date of conclusion of the agreement.
5. UNIDIR shall implement the operational action referred to in Article 1 in accordance with the Decision on strengthening financial governance and transparency within the Implementation Support Unit, adopted at the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention in 2015. UNIDIR shall provide, amongst others, reporting, narrative and quarterly reports, as well as a logical framework and activity matrix as set out in the Annex.

*Article 5*

1. The High Representative shall report to the Council on the implementation of this Decision on the basis of regular reports prepared by UNIDIR. Those reports shall form the basis for an evaluation to be carried out by the Council.
2. The Commission shall provide to the Council information on the financial aspects of the implementation of this Decision.

*Article 6*

1. This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.
2. This Decision shall expire 36 months after the date of conclusion of the agreement referred to in Article 4(3) or six months after the date of its entry into force if no such agreement has been concluded within that period.

Done at ..., ...

*For the Council*

*The President*

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