

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE: 1 MARCH 2022

INTERIM EXTENSION REQUESTED TO 31 DECEMBER 2025

KEY DATA

ANTI-PERSONNEL (AP) MINE CONTAMINATION: HEAVY

ESTIMATED BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY

157 km²

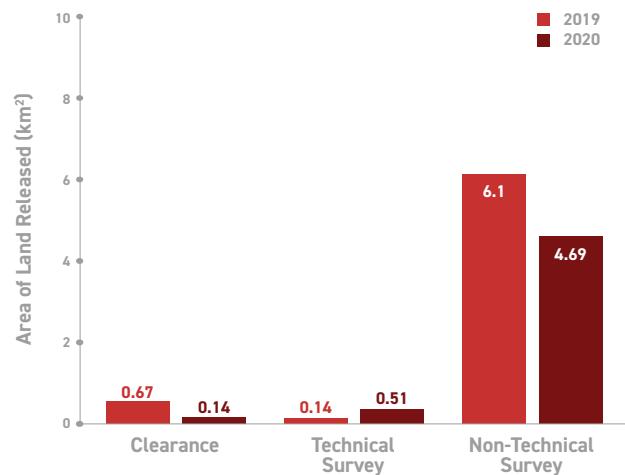
AP MINE
CLEARANCE IN 2020

0.14 km²

AP MINES
DESTROYED IN 2020

9,781

LAND RELEASE OUTPUT



CURRENT LIKELIHOOD OF MEETING 2025 CLEARANCE TARGET (as per the Oslo Action Plan commitment): **LOW**

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Turkey has published a long-awaited strategic plan for 2020–25 setting out five broad goals, including clearance of all mined areas. This was superseded in February 2021 by Turkey's request for a three-year and nine-month extension of its Article 5 deadline until the end of 2025. This provides for non-technical survey of all mined areas, which it expects to result in cancellation of up to a quarter of current contamination estimates and provide the basis for another extension request preparing for completion of Turkey's Article 5 obligations. The Turkish Mine Action Centre (TURMAC) has issued contracts for Phase 3 survey and clearance along the Eastern Border.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Alongside plans for non-technical survey and expectations of substantial cancellation of hazardous areas Turkey should accelerate clearance, which is unacceptably low.
- Turkey should provide details of plans to address the small amount of contamination reported in non-border areas.
- Turkey should plan, implement, and report on mine clearance in territories it controls in northern Cyprus and northern Syria.
- Turkey should set out plans to promote gender and inclusion in mine action.

ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Criterion	Score (2020)	Score (2019)	Performance Commentary
UNDERSTANDING OF CONTAMINATION (20% of overall score)	7	7	Turkey has good knowledge of its mine contamination since 2019 and has, in theory, confirmed all hazardous areas but now plans to refine that understanding by non-technical survey of all mined areas in the expectation this will shrink the area that actually needs clearance by up to 40%.
NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT (10% of overall score)	6	6	Since 2015, Turkey has developed an institutional framework for focused mine action under the control of the military and since 2018 has embarked on significant expansion of its operational capacity although management has suffered from high turnover of senior staff.
GENDER AND DIVERSITY (10% of overall score)	4	4	Turkey makes no reference to gender and diversity in its 2020–25 strategic plan or the Article 5 deadline extension request submitted in early 2021. Military regulations prevent employment of women in military demining teams but TURMAC says women are included in survey and community liaison teams and in non-operational roles. It claims that it takes gender into account in planning new projects and has received training in gender mainstreaming from a UNDP gender specialist.
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING (10% of overall score)	7	7	TURMAC operates an Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) database which became operational in 2018. It supported a desktop review of contamination data in 2019 that led to a significant adjustment in estimates of hazardous areas. Turkey submits comprehensive and timely Article 7 reports.
PLANNING AND TASKING (10% of overall score)	7	6	In 2020, Turkey published a long-awaited strategic plan for 2020–25 that set out five main goals, including becoming mine free by 2025. In This was superseded in February 2021 by Turkey's request for a three-year and nine-month extension to its Article 5 deadline in order to conduct non-technical survey of all hazardous areas with a view to establishing a clear baseline from which to plan how to complete clearance.
LAND RELEASE SYSTEM (20% of overall score)	7	7	Turkey published 44 chapters of mine action standards in 2019 which it prepared in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD).
LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE (20% of overall score)	4	6	Turkey has expanded its military demining capacity since 2018 but land release has steadily declined and area clearance in 2020 was the lowest in four years and the number of mines destroyed in 2020 was barely one third of that destroyed in 2019.
Average Score	6.0	6.3	Overall Programme Performance: AVERAGE

DEMINING CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- Ministry of Defence
- Turkish Mine Action Centre (TURMAC)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- Altay (national sub-contractor under MECHEM and TDI)
- Turkish Armed Forces

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- Denel MECHEM (up to 2020)
- The Development Initiative (TDI) (from 2021)
- RPS-Explosive Engineering Services (QA and QC of the EU project)

OTHER ACTORS

- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION

Turkey reported it has 3,834 mined areas covering a little over 145km² at the end of 2020, down from 150.4km² a year earlier (see Table 1). Most contamination (85%) is along Turkey's 909-kilometre border with Syria where land release accounted for most of the reduction in contamination in 2020. Despite that progress Turkey's estimate of the number of mines along that border remained almost unchanged from a year earlier. Only the estimate of the area affected on Turkey's border with Armenia remained at the same level as a year earlier.¹

Survey activities in 2020 did not result in the addition of any hazardous areas to Turkey's contamination database.²

Turkey reports mines were first laid along the Syrian border in the 1950s to prevent smuggling and later in south-eastern regions for military security.³ Mines inside the country were laid around military installations during the 1984–99 conflict with the Kurdistan Workers' Party (Partiya Karkerên Kurdistan, PKK) in the south-east of the country. These are mostly in Ardahan, Batman, Bingöl, Bitlis, Diyarbakir, Hakkari, Mardin, Şırnak, Siirt, and Tunceli.⁴ According to Turkey, these mines, which were marked and fenced, have been progressively cleared since 1998.⁵ The mines on Turkey's other borders were mostly laid in 1955–59 and on some sections of the border with Armenia, Iran, and Iraq in 1992–95.⁶ Turkey reports that its western borders with Bulgaria and Greece, as well as the border with Georgia, are mine-free.⁷

In addition to mines laid by its security forces, Turkey also reports the presence of mines of an improvised nature that it says were emplaced by non-State armed groups, rendering clearance more challenging.⁸ Devices are mostly remote controlled or victim-activated pressure plate (in which case they fall within the definition of an anti-personnel mine under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, APMBC). Explosive charges are mostly ammonium nitrate supported with plastic explosives.⁹

The number of mined areas along the Iraqi border, as well as part of the Iranian border, is an estimate, as, according to Turkey, precise calculation is hampered by armed group activities and the presence of unconfirmed mined areas. In addition, fewer mines are expected along the Syrian border than indicated because of detonations by smugglers and as a result of wildfires.¹⁰

NORTHERN CYPRUS

Turkey's original Article 5 clearance deadline was 1 March 2014. In 2013, States Parties granted Turkey an eight-year extension until 1 March 2022, for clearance of mines in Turkey, but Turkey did not request additional time for clearance of the areas it controls in northern Cyprus¹¹ (see the report on Cyprus in this work for further information). This puts into question its compliance with Article 5 of the APMBC.

Table 1: Anti-personnel mined area by region (at end 2020)

Region	CHAs	Area (m ²)	AP mines	AV mines
Syrian border	1,526	123,489,492	411,990	194,615
Iraqi border	874	2,842,935	78,917	0
Iranian border	471	15,098,039	116,115	0
Armenian border	43	1,097,077	20,275	0
Non-border areas	920	2,224,495	33,869	0
Total	3,834	144,752,038	661,166	194,615

AP = anti-personnel AV = anti-vehicle

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Turkey adopted Law No. 6586 establishing a national mine action centre under the Ministry of National Defence in February 2015.¹² Its director reports directly to the Undersecretary of the Ministry of National Defence.¹³ The law gave the centre, now known as TURMAC, responsibility for the clearance of mines and/or unexploded ordnance (UXO) to humanitarian standards.¹⁴ It also has responsibility to elaborate policies for clearance; to plan and steer related activities and to monitor their implementation; and to carry out the necessary coordination and cooperation with domestic and foreign institutions.¹⁵ To strengthen project management, TURMAC planned to establish project offices in the regions where it is operational.¹⁶

Turkey reports that the formation of TURMAC has led to significantly increased mine action activities and clearance¹⁷ but a high turnover of senior staff, including the director,

has also had a negative effect on the national mine action programme. In September 2020, the government appointed Colonel Hasan Soydaş as acting director becoming the fourth person to lead TURMAC in five years.¹⁸

Mine action in Turkey is mostly financed by the state. TURMAC and the Turkish Armed Forces demining units are financed entirely by the government.¹⁹ Turkey reported allocating an annual budget of TRY53.2 million (approximately US\$6 million or €5.1 million) for mine action for the years 2020–25.²⁰ It said it was providing an additional TRY25 million to finance a project in Mardin province bordering Syria in 2022–23.²¹

Turkey's Article 5 deadline extension request submitted in March 2021 provided for even higher levels of spending totalling €104.8 million from 2020 to 2025, including €86.3

million provided by the government and €18.5 million by the European Union (EU). It also provides for funding to buy six additional mechanical assets for Turkey's military demining units.²²

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

Turkey does not address gender and diversity in its 2021–25 strategy or in the Article 5 deadline extension request submitted in February 2021. The APMBC Committee on Article 5 Implementation noted this omission in its preliminary observations on Turkey's extension request and said it would welcome additional information on efforts to establish a baseline of contamination through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men.²³

In a statement to the 2021 Intersessionals, Turkey said gender balance is taken into consideration in all mine action activities. It noted that although military demining units do not employ any women, civilian contractors are advised to hire female personnel and that 45% of TURMAC's personnel are women.²⁴ A United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) gender specialist also provided training for 24 TURMAC staff in 2020 and was due to provide two training sessions on gender mainstreaming for a further 50 TURMAC staff in 2021.²⁵

TURMAC says national standards closely follow International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) on gender and that the issue is considered in the preparation of new project documents. Survey and community liaison teams include women to facilitate access and participation by all groups.²⁶

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

TURMAC installed the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) with support from the Geneva International Centre for Mine Action (GICHD) in 2017, and personnel from TURMAC and the armed forces have been trained in its use.²⁷ Turkey reported the system contains all minefield and mine victim data and is used for all reporting and documentation.²⁸ TURMAC conducted information management training for new personnel and for military demining units.²⁹

Turkey has submitted Article 7 transparency reports annually that are both timely and which provide a comprehensive review of plans and performance.

PLANNING AND TASKING

Turkey states that its mine action programme is intended to achieve humanitarian goals and boost security by developing modern integrated border management on its eastern and southern borders.³⁰ In 2020, TURMAC released a 12-page Strategic Mine Action Plan through to the end of 2025 setting out a vision of Turkey becoming mine-free by 2025. It estimated the cost of completion at about US\$332 million, to be financed by the national budget and international sources. The plan identified five goals:³¹

- to clear all of the emplaced anti-personnel mines in Turkey
- to strengthen national capacity and ensure its sustainability
- to reduce the number of mines held in depots for training
- to provide Mine Risk Education and support mine victims; and
- to develop coordination and cooperation with national and international organisations related to mine action.

In February 2021, Turkey requested an extension of its Article 5 deadline for three years and nine months until the end of December 2025, setting out specific aims and timelines. Turkey aims in particular to use the time to complete non-technical survey of all 3,483 confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) with a view to producing baseline data from which to prepare plans for completing mine clearance. TURMAC is expected to conduct non-technical survey on 332 CHAs and to issue commercial contracts for survey of the remaining

3,502 CHAs. Each hazardous area is due to undergo a desk assessment followed by a field visit in accordance with standard NTS methodology. Turkey expects non-technical survey will result in cancellation of around 40 square kilometres of hazardous area.³²

The extension request also sets a target of clearing 183 mined areas covering a little over 10km² in three main regions, including 60 mined areas in 10 provinces located on the borders with Iraq and Syria (5.4km²), 96 mined areas in provinces on the Eastern border (3.6km²) with Armenia and Iran, and 27 areas in Mardin province (1.1km²).³³

BORDERS WITH IRAQ AND SYRIA

Turkey's 2013 Article 5 deadline extension request had projected completing clearance of the Syria border by the end of 2019.³⁴ Turkish officials have described the Syria border as Turkey's easiest clearance task because the terrain is flat and has experienced minimal mine displacement due to environmental factors and the minefields are mostly marked and fenced and well-known to local populations. Turkey, however, was held back by the Syria conflict³⁵ and has made little progress clearing the border.

Clearance operations under way since 2018 focused on Hatay and Kilis provinces.³⁶ The Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 said Turkish demining assets would clear a total of around 3.4km²

in Gaziantep, Hatay, Kilis, Mardin, Şanlıurfa, and Şırnak provinces on the Syrian border at a cost of TLM55 million (US\$8 million) funded from the national budget.³⁷ In Mardin province, the Ministry of Defence envisages it will start working on clearing 27 areas covering nearly 1.06km² in 2022 and the project will last approximately 18 months.³⁸

EASTERN BORDERS

Turkey's Eastern Border Mine Clearance project, which started on the Armenian border, is continuing southwards to the borders with Azerbaijan, Iran, and Iraq.³⁹ The project is supervised by Turkish authorities and implemented in a joint project with UNDP,⁴⁰ which is managing and quality assuring the demining.⁴¹ Denel MECHEM (MECHEM) was awarded a contract to conduct demining as part of a consortium in which national operators would be subcontracted by MECHEM.⁴²

Phase 1 of the project, implemented between June 2016 and the end of 2017,⁴³ released a total of almost 3.3km² of mined area (much less than the 13.5km² envisaged in the Article 5 deadline extension request), destroying in the process 25,667 anti-personnel mines.⁴⁴ Phase 2, which started behind schedule in June 2018 and was completed in December 2019,⁴⁵ resulted in release of close to 1.7km² of land, bringing the total area released in the first two phases to 4.8km².⁴⁶

Phase 3 has four components: clearing 4.24 km², building TURMAC capacity, mine risk education to build public awareness, and non-technical survey of 3,502 minefields. Clearance is to be conducted by a joint venture between

TDI and the national operator Altay, who are expected to deploy up to 15 manual clearance teams supported by mine detection dogs (MDD). The first three components will be funded by the EU. Turkey will allocate €2.12 million to fund the fourth component involving non-technical survey.⁴⁷ After tendering for the third phase during 2020, Turkey issued contracts for the project in December 2020 and started work in June 2021. The request also stipulates that manual clearance is followed by two levels of verification, including an extended search for missing mines and sampling checks conducted using mine detection dogs (MDDs).⁴⁸

NON-BORDER AREAS

Turkey had planned to clear all 873 identified mined areas inside the country by 2021, involving release of 3.1km² and destruction of 34,410 mines. But the only non-border activity conducted up to 2020 was clearance of 0.3km² at a former military range in 2018⁴⁹ and Turkey estimated at the end of 2020 that 2.2km² remained. The mined areas are scattered and TURMAC considers it more practical for clearance to be conducted by military units though their capacity has so far been limited.⁵⁰

Turkey's Article 5 extension request does not set out a timeline for tackling non-border areas. TURMAC reported that in 2021 a gendarmerie demining company would be assigned to clearance of non-border tasks in the south-eastern provinces of Diyarbakir and Siirt and the north-eastern province of Ardahan.⁵¹

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

Turkey issued 44 national mine action standards, including on land release, in February 2019. The standards were prepared with support from UNDP and the GICHD.⁵² A separate set of standards specific to the Eastern Border Clearance project were also reviewed in 2019, including regulations and medical standards for private companies.⁵³

OPERATORS

Turkey's main demining capacity is provided by the military. By 2020, after two years of rapid expansion, total military capacity amounted to 32 teams: 26 Land Forces demining teams with 420 personnel and 6 Gendarmerie teams with 120 personnel. In 2021, Turkey planned to add six Land Forces teams and two Gendarmerie teams, bringing total capacity to 40 teams.⁵⁴

MECHEM, a South African company, is contracted for mine clearance under the EU Eastern Border Mine Clearance Project.⁵⁵ In 2019, MECHEM deployed 15 MDD teams, 6 manual clearance teams (approx. 60 deminers), and 1 MineWolf machine.⁵⁶ Before 2019, MECHEM had subcontracted its demining to a national company, Altay, but in 2019 it recruited Turkish nationals directly.⁵⁷ RPS-Explosive Engineering Services, a United Kingdom-based company, was contracted for quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC).⁵⁸ TURMAC also had oversight of operations on site.⁵⁹

A joint venture between TDI and national organisation Altay won the contract for Phase 3 of the Eastern Border project and will conduct non-technical survey and clearance in the provinces of Ağrı, Ardahan, Kars, and Iğdır. RPS Energy, a United Kingdom-based company won the contract for quality management.⁶⁰

Table 2: Turkish military operational clearance capacities deployed in 2020⁶¹

Operator	Manual clearance teams	Total deminers	MDD teams	Mechanical assets	Comments
Gendarmerie	6	120	0	0	MDDs will be used in 2021
Turkish Land Forces	26	420	0	0	Machines will be used in 2021
Totals	32	540	0	0	

OPERATIONAL TOOLS

Turkey's defence industries developed the Mechanical Mine Clearing Equipment (MEMATT), a light-medium, unmanned demining machine with a tiller attachment, particularly suitable for demining on the flat terrain along the Syrian border. The Ministry of Defence had planned to take delivery of two machines in 2020 and four in 2021, but cautioned that plans could be set back by the COVID-19 pandemic and later reported that it aimed to deploy all six machines in 2021.⁶² It has also exported the machine to Azerbaijan.⁶³

Turkish Land Forces are also planning to deploy mine detection dogs. TURMAC said they would be used for verification following clearance and technical survey with mechanical asset.⁶⁴

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND ARTICLE 5 COMPLIANCE

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2020

Turkey released a total of 5.3km² in 2020, 23% less than the previous year. As in previous years, the overwhelming majority of the area released (97% in 2020) was through survey, all of it conducted by TURMAC. Similarly, all clearance in 2020 was conducted by military demining units and the gendarmerie.⁶⁵

SURVEY IN 2020

Turkey released a total of almost 5.2km² through survey in 2020. TURMAC teams conducted 60 separate non-technical surveys, which resulted in cancellation of 4,688,325m², almost all on the border with Syria, though with a tiny amount (13,517m²) in non-border areas. A further 505,972m² was reduced through technical survey, of which 332,223m² was located along the border with Iran and 158,291m² in Turkey's interior.⁶⁶

Table 3: Reduction through technical survey in 2020⁶⁷

Operator	Province	Area reduced (m ²)
Gendarmerie	Ağrı	332,223
	Siirt	191
TLF	Ardahan	141,458
	Diyarbakir	16,642
	Hakkari	15,458
Total		505,972

CLEARANCE IN 2020

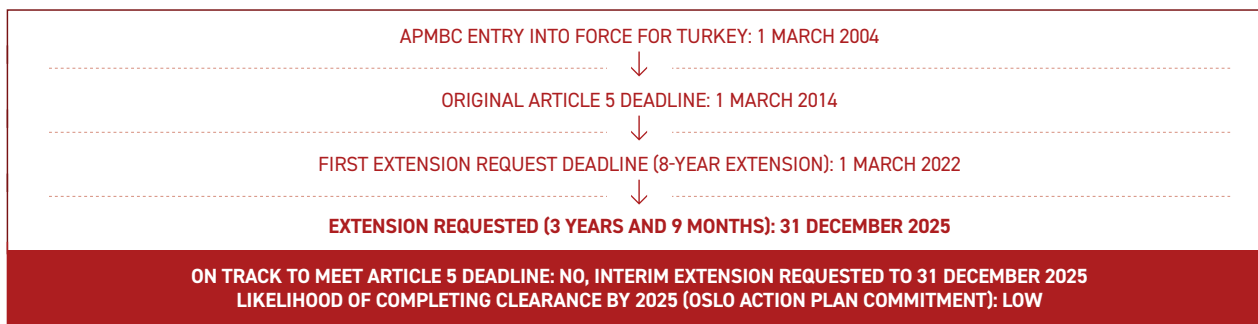
Turkey's military demining capacity increased significantly in 2018 but the amount of land released through clearance has fallen steadily since then (see Table 5). In 2020, Turkey said it cleared 142,073m², about one fifth of the area cleared in 2019 and the lowest amount of land released by clearance in the last four years (see Table 4).⁶⁸

The number of mines destroyed, at 9,781 in 2020, was also barely one-third of that destroyed in 2019. Eight Gendarmerie teams working in Ağrı province on the border with Iran and the interior province of Siirt reportedly destroyed a total of 9,544 mines, the vast majority through clearance. Four Army demining teams working in Hakkâri province at the Iraq Border reportedly destroyed 100 mines. Eight military teams working in Hatay and Şanlıurfa provinces along the Syrian border destroyed a total of four anti-personnel mines of which area clearance, apparently, accounted for only a single mine.⁶⁹

Table 4: Mine clearance in 2020⁷⁰

Region	Area cleared (m ²)	AP mines destroyed	AV mines destroyed
Iran border	85,513	9,443	0
Syria border	21,999	1	3
Iraq border	4,442	100	0
Non-border areas	30,119	237	0
Totals	142,073	9,781	3

ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE AND COMPLIANCE



Under Article 5 of the APMBC (and in accordance with the eight-year extension granted by states parties in 2013), Turkey was required to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2022. Turkey will not meet this deadline.

In March 2021, Turkey submitted a request to extend its deadline until the end of 2025, while making clear that this is only an interim request. The extension represented “only the period of time necessary to gather and assess data on landmine contamination and other relevant information with a view to develop a meaningful forward-looking plan based on this information”. Turkey projects mine action costs in this period at €105 million, all funded by national sources except for €18.5 million provided by the European Union for the Eastern Border project.⁷¹

Turkey plans to clear 10km² by the new deadline of 31 December 2025 but the main focus of the request is on completing non-technical survey of all 3,843 mined areas. Turkey asserts that non-technical survey by TURMAC between 2016 and 2020 resulted in cancellation of between 25% and 40% of areas surveyed. Based on that experience, it expects the new non-technical survey will result in cancellation of up to 40km² or more than a quarter of Turkey’s estimated 145km² of AP mine contamination. Turkey plans to use the resulting estimate of contamination as the basis for another extension request setting out plans to complete clearance.⁷²

The request has a number of gaps. It does not address Turkey’s Article 5 obligations in areas under its control in northern Cyprus and Syria. TURMAC said Turkish Armed

Forces units conducting cross-border operations in Syria had not encountered any minefields but were clearing improvised explosive devices, including improvised mines, and other unexploded ordnance.⁷³ The request also provides no details of plans for clearance of the 90 identified mined areas remaining in non-border areas. TURMAC said it gives higher priority to clearing border minefields and installing border management facilities such as watch towers and patrol roads.⁷⁴ Preliminary observations from the Committee on Article 5 Implementation said it would welcome information on a timeline for approving updated national standards.⁷⁵

Turkey noted only two risk factors that could hold back implementation. It said measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 could interfere with mobilising and deploying survey and clearance teams. Although Turkey’s borders with Iraq and Syria were stable, any outbreak of conflict could interfere with humanitarian activities.⁷⁶

Table 5: Five-year summary of AP mine clearance

Year	Area cleared (km ²)
2020	0.14
2019	0.67
2018	2.08
2017	*0.82
2016	0.12
Total	3.83

* Also included previously unreported clearance output relating to 2016

- 1 Email from Maj. Şamil Koptekin, Deputy Director, Quality Management Department, TURMAC, 4 May 2021.
- 2 Ibid.
- 3 Ministry of National Defence Mine Action Centre, Strategic Plan 2020–2025, undated but 2020, p. 1.
- 4 Email from Maj. Can Ceylan, TURMAC, 24 June 2020.
- 5 Response to Landmine Monitor questionnaire by Elif Comoglu Ulgen, Head, Disarmament and Arms Control Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 14 July 2008; and email from Maj. Can Ceylan, TURMAC, 11 July 2019.
- 6 Article 7 Report (covering 2019), Form D; 2013 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. A-1 and A-5.
- 7 2021 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 7.
- 8 2013 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. A-5.
- 9 Email from Maj. Can Ceylan, TURMAC, 24 June 2020.
- 10 Article 7 Report (covering 2015), Form C.
- 11 2013 Article 5 deadline Extension Request.
- 12 Article 7 Report (covering 2014), "Workplan for mine clearance activities", Annex 1; and Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report, Form A, 2015.
- 13 Presidency Decree No. 1 of 10 July 2018; Article 7 Report (for 2018), Form A; and Statement of Turkey on Clearance, 17th Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 29 November 2018.
- 14 Article 7 Report (covering 2014), "Workplan for mine clearance activities", Annex 1; and Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report, Form A, 2015.
- 15 Article 7 Report (covering 2014), "Workplan for mine clearance activities", Annex 1; and CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report, Form A, 2015.
- 16 Ministry of National Defence Mine Action Centre, Strategic Plan 2020–2025, undated but 2020, p. 8.
- 17 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), Form A.
- 18 Ibid.
- 19 Email from Lt.-Col. Halil Şen, TURMAC, 21 June 2017.
- 20 Article 7 Reports (covering 2019 and 2020), Form A.
- 21 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), Form A.
- 22 2021 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 16.
- 23 Preliminary Observations, Committee on Article 5 Implementation, APMBC Intersessionals, 22–24 June 2021.
- 24 Turkey statement to the APMBC Intersessionals, 22–24 June 2021.
- 25 Email from Mark Frankish, Chief Technical Adviser, Demining and Increasing Border Surveillance Capacity at the Eastern Border, UNDP, 24 May 2021.
- 26 Email from Maj. Can Ceylan, TURMAC, 24 June 2020.
- 27 Statements of Turkey, Standing Committee on Article 5 Implementation, Geneva, 22 May 2019; and on Clearance, 17th Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 29 November 2018; email from Maj. Can Ceylan, TURMAC, 11 July 2019; and Article 7 Report (covering 2018), Form A.
- 28 Article 7 Report (covering 2019), Form A.
- 29 Ibid.
- 30 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), Form A.
- 31 Ministry of National Defence Mine Action Centre, Strategic Plan 2020–2025, undated but 2020, pp. 7–8, 10.
- 32 2021 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 19; email from Mark Frankish, UNDP, 24 May 2021.
- 33 2021 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 20–29.
- 34 2013 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. A-2, A-13, and A-14.
- 35 Article 7 Report (covering 2014), "Workplan for mine clearance activities", pp. 3 and 8; and Statement of Turkey, 15th Meeting of States Parties, Santiago, 29 November 2016.
- 36 Email from Maj. Can Ceylan, TURMAC, 11 July 2019; Article 7 Report (covering 2019), Form A.
- 37 Ministry of National Defence Mine Action Centre, Strategic Plan 2020–2025, undated but 2020, p. 8.
- 38 2021 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 27.
- 39 2013 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. A-14.
- 40 Article 7 Report (for 2014), "Workplan for mine clearance activities", p. 6.
- 41 Email from Hans Risser, UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub, 3 October 2016.
- 42 Interview with Gen. Celalettin Coban and Col. Ali Güngör, TURMAC, in Geneva, 18 February 2016.
- 43 Email from Lt.-Col. Halil Şen, TURMAC, 21 June 2017; interview with Col. Zaki Eren and Maj. Can Ceylan, TURMAC, in Vienna, 20 December 2018; and Article 7 Report (covering 2017), Form A.
- 44 Statements of Turkey on Clearance, 17th Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 29 November 2018; and Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 22 May 2019.
- 45 Statements of Turkey on Clearance, 17th Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 29 November 2018; Article 7 Report (covering 2019), Form A.
- 46 Email from Maj. Can Ceylan, TURMAC, 24 June 2020.
- 47 Email from Maj. Şamil Koptekin, TURMAC, 4 May 2021.
- 48 2021 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 20; email from Mark Frankish, UNDP, 24 May 2021.
- 49 Email from Lt.-Col. Halil Şen, TURMAC, 21 June 2017; Article 7 Report (for 2017), Form A; Article 7 Report (for 2018), Form D; Article 7 Report (covering 2019), Form A.
- 50 Email from Maj. Can Ceylan, TURMAC, 24 June 2020.
- 51 Email from Şamil Koptekin, TURMAC, 4 May 2021.
- 52 Email from Hans Risser, UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub, 3 October 2016; and Article 7 Report (covering 2015), Form F; Article 7 Report (covering 2019), Form A.
- 53 Article 7 Report (covering 2019), Form A; email from Maj. Can Ceylan, TURMAC, 24 June 2020.
- 54 Email from Şamil Koptekin, TURMAC, 4 May 2021.
- 55 UNDP, "Turkey, UNDP begin clearing landmine along eastern borders", 4 April 2016.
- 56 Emails from Maj. Can Ceylan, TURMAC, 11 July 2019 and 24 June 2020.
- 57 Email from Maj. Can Ceylan, TURMAC, 11 July 2019.
- 58 UNDP, "Turkey, UNDP begin clearing landmine along eastern borders", 4 April 2016.
- 59 Email from Lt.-Col. Halil Şen, TURMAC, 21 June 2017.
- 60 Email from Mark Frankish, UNDP, 2 July 2021.
- 61 Email from Şamil Koptekin, TURMAC, 4 May 2021.
- 62 Ministry of National Defence Mine Action Centre, Strategic Plan 2020–2025, undated but 2020, p. 7; Article 7 Reports (covering 2019 and 2020), Form A.
- 63 "Azerbaijan receives new MEMATT mine clearing robots from Turkey", *Global Defense and Security News*, 8 February 2021.
- 64 Email from Şamil Koptekin, TURMAC, 4 May 2021.
- 65 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), Forms A and D.
- 66 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), Form D.
- 67 Email from Şamil Koptekin, TURMAC, 4 May 2021.
- 68 Article 7 Report (covering 2020), Form D.
- 69 Ibid., Forms A and D.
- 70 Ibid., Form D.
- 71 2021 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 16.
- 72 Ibid., pp. 5, 19.
- 73 Email from Capt. Mustafa Torun, Senior Planning Officer, TURMAC, received 12 August 2021.
- 74 Email from Capt. Mustafa Torun, TURMAC, received 12 August 2021.
- 75 Committee on Article 5 Implementation, Preliminary Observations, APMBC Intersessionals Meetings, 22–24 June 2021.
- 76 2021 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 36.