

Press Release

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UNMAS Mali finalises the demolition of 85 obsolete SA 3 missiles.

Bamako, Friday 6 June 2014- At the request of the Ministry of Defence and of Ex-combattants, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) destroyed in a period of two months 85 SA 3 missiles at a demolition site in Tientienbougou.

Today, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in Mali concluded the destruction of 85 obsolete and non-serviceable surface-to-air SA 3 missiles. The operations were conducted from April to May 2014 with UNMAS implementing partner, The Development Initiative (TDI).

The last two missiles were destroyed today in the presence of the Malian authorities and UNMAS Programme Manager, Charles Frisby.

“Those obsolete missiles constituted a grave danger for the population. That is why we requested UNMAS to destroy them”, says Colonel Touré, from the Malian Air Force.

The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) launched in September 2013 a pilot project in the field of Physical Security of Stockpiles of Weapons and ammunition Management (PSSM). The 2014-2015 PSSM Action Plan, which was approved by the Ministry of Defence, includes: the destruction of expired stockpiles of weapons and ammunition, the rehabilitation of armories, the set-up of temporary storage sites, trainings to the Malian Defence and Security Forces and the elaboration of national standards.

Within the next few months, MINUSMA will proceed with the refurbishment of 5 armories in Bamako and the regions, and the destruction of 60 tons of obsolete ammunition.

[A movie about the missiles destruction is available here](#)

For more information:

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