



## **United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action**

### **Third Review Conference of States Parties to the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention**

#### **Statement on “Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines”**

##### **Agenda item 7 (b)**

**Maputo, Tuesday 24 June 2014**

*Delivered by Ms. Agnès Marcaillou, Director, United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)*

The following statement is delivered on behalf of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action<sup>1</sup> (IACG-MA), comprising 14 United Nations entities involved in mine action.

Stockpile destruction constitutes one of the core humanitarian provisions in the Convention. Overall, States Parties have been successful in implementing their obligations under Article 4, even by the time of the Second Review Conference. At this Third Review Conference, the United Nations urges the six States Parties for which Article 4 still remains relevant to destroy their stockpiles of anti-personnel mines.

The United Nations, upon request by States Parties, will assist those States Parties struggling to meet their Article 4 deadlines. In addition, the United Nations is ready to assist countries requiring an assessment of their stockpiles. Such assessments are a means to confirm that no anti-personnel mines remain in stock other than those put aside for detection and clearance training purposes, as was the case recently in Cote d’Ivoire.

It is important that the States Parties for which this article continues to be relevant find ways of keeping others updated on their progress at the national level, in addition to the information contained in their annual transparency reports.

It is also important to remember that full compliance with the destruction of the remaining stockpiles of anti-personnel mines can be a reality in a relatively short period of time.

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<sup>1</sup> The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) / United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), UN Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), UN Development Programme (UNDP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) (Observer status), and the World Bank (Observer status).

The United Nations urges relevant States Parties to complete their stockpile destruction obligations as soon as possible and within the deadlines.

Finally, the IACG-MA would like to thank Norway and Poland, Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction, for their efforts in encouraging states to fulfill this obligation.

Thank you.