Italy

Intervention on Stockpile Destruction

Thank you Madam coordinator, under your leadership,

We are pleased to share some information concerning the Italian accomplishment with regards to art. 3 of the convention.

The destruction of the stockpiles of cluster munitions started before Italy became member of the Convention, when, on September 21st 2011, the instrument of ratification was deposited by the Italian authorities.

The law of ratification, passed by an overwhelming majority of the Parliament, allocated financial resources for a 5 years plan of destruction activities, from 2011 to 2015. Later on, a new plan was drafted with the aim of reducing from 5 to 4 years the period of time to complete the destruction of Italian stockpile, which initially consisted of 610 MK20 Rockeye (ao) bombs, 414 RBL 755 and 4.044 M26 rockets.

In this framework, a very good and concrete news is that the entire stock of the aerial bombs MK20 and RBL 755, have been already destroyed.

As to the 4.044 M26 rockets, 14% of the stock were disassembled last year, 18% are going to be disassembled during the current year, 27% in 2013 and 41% in 2014.

1% of the more that 2 millions of resulted submunitions were destroyed last year, 27% are going to be destroyed this year, 31% in 2013 and 41% in 2014. At the end of the process, 720 M26 rockets will be transformed in M28 practice rockets.

To conclude, madame coordinator, allow me to underline that, according with this plan, art. 3 obligations will be totally accomplished in 2014, while the destruction process is conducting in a safe and environmentally aware way.

Thank you for your attention.