

**Third Meeting of States Parties
To the
Convention on Cluster Munitions
11 to 14 September, Oslo, Norway**

Statement by Canada on Stockpile Destruction

Mr. President

My aim today is to provide an overview of Canada's efforts in destroying its stockpile of cluster munitions.

Over the past three decades Canada had two types of cluster munitions, the air launched CBU Mk20 Rockeye and the ground-based Dual Purpose Improved Conventional Munitions (DPICM) M483A1 155mm Projectile.

The Rockeye inventory was destroyed by the Canadian Forces Ammunition Depot Dundurn in Saskatchewan, Canada by an Open Detonation program using electric detonators, blasting agents and C4 explosive.

That destruction program was conducted over two years and completed by September 2006. Over 248,000 bomblets contained within 826 bombs were destroyed, after which the area was swept for unexploded ordnance: none were found and complete detonation was confirmed. The Munitions Scrap was removed, screened for trace energetics and identified for future demilitarization.

As we reported in April, the remaining challenge is to destroy the DPICM stocks. The entire inventory of 12,600 Projectiles was declared surplus in late 2006 and removed from operational status in January 2007. Due to the large quantity of projectiles awaiting disposal and the associated workload to dispose of them by open detonation, the preferred option was to contract out the disposal. Also as we reported in our voluntary Article 7 report this year, Canada destroyed three projectiles containing 264 submunitions to develop a demilitarization standard operating procedure for open detonation as an alternative to commercial demilitarization, should that be necessary.

M. le Président,

En juillet 2012, Travaux publics et Services gouvernementaux Canada (TPSGC), le principal organisme contractuel du gouvernement du Canada, a avisé l'industrie du besoin du ministère de la Défense nationale de la démilitarisation et de la destruction de ses stocks de munitions classiques améliorée à double effet (DPICM), via un processus d'appels d'offres concurrentiel. Le contrat de destruction devra être attribué dans la prochaine année.

Dès que le contrat sera attribué, il prendra entre 12 et 24 mois pour compléter la destruction de toutes les munitions. Ce long processus reflète tout le soin que le Canada porte aux questions réglementaires, environnementales et contractuelles liées à la destruction de ses stocks. En résumé, le Canada travaille activement à la démilitarisation de ses armes à sous-munitions.

Merci beaucoup M. le Président.