

Mr. President, Excellencies, ladies and gentleman,

I would like to use this opportunity to share the experiences and achievements of Bosnia and Herzegovina in process of Implementation of Article 3 namely destruction of cluster munitions stockpiles. I would also like to reiterate our appreciation of the hospitality and efforts that the Government of Lebanon invested in hosting the second meeting.

Since August 2010 the Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of BiH are working intensively on identifying, inspection and disposal of cluster munitions in military stockpiles. The activities of BiH Ministry of Defence is supported and assisted by the office of United National Development programme in BiH with whom we have extensive and longstanding cooperation and partnership in disposal of weapons and ammunition/remnants of war.

Ministry of Defence has identified significant and unstable quantities of cluster munitions in military stockpiles. Given the BiH history of being a key manufacturer of weapons and ammunition before the war, BiH relied on use of national capacities for disposal of CM. The stocks that are being destroyed, as we speak include:

1. KB 1 and KB 2 – bomblets
2. FAB 275 M91 bombs
3. Air fuel bombs BL 755
4. ORKAN rockets

The CMs are being destroyed in combination of use of national capacities and international assistance. The activities are implemented within UNDP project and funded by European Union using the industrial disposal and environmentally benign methods.

However, our work does not stop there. Further inspections of stocks also identified additional quantities requiring immediate attention. These include: FAB 100 M-80, FOTAB 50 and SAPY/DURANDAL rockets. The activity plan for their safe transport and destruction being developed.

In addition, the Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of BiH have provided logistical support in transportation of industrial stockpiles that will be destroyed with the support of UNDP and EU.

The MoD of BiH would like to once again extend our appreciation of assistance and partnership provided by UNDP and EU. Without the financial assistance and support BiH would require years to get rid of all stockpile of cluster munitions.

Mr. President,

Thank you for the opportunity to share the experiences of BiH in process of stockpile destruction.