



## **STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA ON STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION AND RETENTION**

### **Fourth Meeting of States Parties (4MSP) to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)**

Lusaka, Zambia, 11 September 2013

Thank you Mr Coordinator.

Since we already had the opportunity to elaborate in detail on our efforts regarding the destruction of stockpiled cluster munitions at this year's Intersessional Meeting in April (particularly during the Technical Workshop), allow me to share with you very briefly Croatia's plans in this regard for the following period.

Currently, the Croatian Armed Forces are left with approximately 100 tons of CM stockpiles which are placed in 2 locations that comply with all safety regulations. At present, one of the primary tasks is the development of SOPs (for the final stage of CM disassembly, destruction and disposal) by techniques of open burning and open detonation as well as industrial demilitarization which should be finished during 2013. The selection of the best option(s) for stockpile destruction will depend on several factors, such as the safety of personnel, time, environment impact etc.

Regardless of the NPA's Feasibility Study (which was accepted by Croatia), the Croatian MoD and GS have made alternative plans to conclude the destruction process with their own resources combining OB/OD in the CAF facility and industrial demilitarization techniques. This is being considered to be done in cooperation with a private company.

Let me conclude by saying that we hope to finish the overall destruction process by the end of the next year if not earlier, providing that the adequate financial resources could be located.

Thank you Mr. Coordinator.