

**Fourth Meeting of States Parties
To the
Convention on Cluster Munitions
9 to 13 September, Lusaka, Zambia**

Statement by Canada on Stockpile Destruction

Mr. President,

I would like to provide an overview of Canada's efforts in destroying its stockpile of cluster munitions.

Over the past three decades Canada has 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.

The 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 last year, 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. As we reported in our 2012 voluntary Article 7 report, Canada destroyed in December 2011 three projectiles containing 264 sub-munitions to develop a demilitarization standard operating procedure for open detonation as an alternative to commercial demilitarization, should that be necessary.

In July 2012, Public Works and Government Services Canada, the contracting arm of the Government of Canada, advised industry of the

Department of National Defence's requirement for the demilitarization and disposal of its DPICM stocks, as part of this competitive contracting process. The disposal contract was published in April 2013 and will likely be awarded next year.

Once the contract is awarded, it is estimated that it will likely take between 12 to 24 months to complete disposal of all munitions. This lengthy process reflects the care that Canada is taking to address regulatory, environmental compliance and contracting issues.

In summary, Canada is actively working towards the demilitarization of its remaining cluster munitions stocks. We are confident that once the Convention enters into force for Canada, we will be able to meet our Article 3 obligations.

Thank you.