

## **Coordination Report: Storage and Stockpile Destruction**

### **Coordinators: Croatia and Mexico**

[MEXICO]

Thank you Mister President,

We would like to express our recognition and gratitude to you Mr. President, for the hard work and the support provided to the Storage and Stockpile Destruction Coordinators, Croatia and Mexico.

Mister President, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, dear colleagues,

Croatia and Mexico have shared the honor and responsibility as coordinators for storage and stockpile destruction in the Convention on Cluster Munitions, since the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of States Parties to the CCM. In this sense, please bear in mind that the information presented today corresponds to figures current as of August 2017. So, we encourage all delegations to use this session to report on any recent progress related to the implementation of storage and stockpile destruction provisions under the Convention.

[Ladies and gentlemen,]

#### **I. Provisions of the Convention and program set out by the Dubrovnik Action Plan**

Since the Convention's entry into force, 39 States Parties declared they held cluster munitions stockpiles. To this day, more than 80% of these stockpiles have been destroyed.

The goals set out by the Dubrovnik Action Plan in relation with Stockpile destruction are as follows:

1. Increase the number of States parties that have finished their stockpiles destruction
2. Increase levels of reporting on matters pertaining to article 3 implementation, including information on the amount and planned use of sub-munitions retained

3. Increased exchange of information of good and cost effective stockpile destruction practices including on safety, environmental impact and efficiency
4. Increase exchanges of promising practices
5. Apply an appropriate approach to retention
6. Announce declaration of compliance on stockpile destruction
7. Act upon unexpected developments

[Ladies and gentlemen,]

## **II. Progress report since the 6th Meeting of States Parties to the CCM**

As previously mentioned, since entry into force of the CCM, a total of 39 States parties have reported to have obligations under Article 3.

Of these, 29 have declared completion of their stockpile destruction or indicated the destruction of their stocks before the ratification of the CCM. Ten (10) States parties still have obligations under article 3.

Since the 6th Meeting of States Parties to the CCM, one State party, France, announced compliance with their obligations under article 3, ahead of their mandatory deadline for stockpile destruction.

Through their annual reports under Article 7, eight (8) States parties provided information on the status and progress of their stockpile destruction obligations. Of these, seven (7) States parties reported that they expect to achieve completion of their stockpile destruction obligations before their respective deadline.

### **[CROATIA]**

In accordance with action 2.1 of the Dubrovnik Action Plan, five (5) States Parties have reported that a destruction plan is in place and/or that progress has been made in the destruction process; two (2) State Parties informed in their 2016 Article 7 reports that they were in the process of developing a plan for the destruction of cluster munitions; and one (1) State Party

reported that it had requested technical assistance to assess needs and develop a destruction plan.

Finally, eleven (11) States Parties reported that they retain or have retained cluster munitions and explosive sub-munitions for training purposes and/or for the development of countermeasures in accordance with provisions granted under Article 3 (6). Out of these, five (5) States Parties reported on the use of retained cluster munitions, leading to an overall decrease in numbers. Only one (1) State Party reported that the number of retained cluster munitions had not decreased in 2016, as there had been no EOD training conducted on the retained type of munitions.

In order to contribute to progress towards the fulfilment of the States Parties obligations, we are pleased to inform that, during our tenure, the Coordinators on Stockpile Destruction and Retention held bilateral meetings with a number of States Parties, in which these States were reminded of their obligations under Article 3 of the Convention and were encouraged to provide an update on the progress towards the implementation of their commitments. Additionally, the Coordinators sent targeted letters to the States Parties with overdue submissions of initial or annual transparency reports, inviting them to inform on the status of the implementation of their obligations under Article 3.

[Ladies and gentlemen,]

### **III. Potential issues in the field of Stockpile destruction**

The Coordinators would like to highlight a few of the questions identified for further reflection by States Parties:

- How can States parties most efficiently support destruction of small or limited stockpiles of cluster munitions?
- How can international cooperation and assistance between States with stockpiles and States with destruction capacities be optimised?
- How can the dissemination of information on innovative and cost-effective technologies to destroy stockpiles be ensured more effectively?

- How to ensure that the amount of explosive sub-munitions retained or acquired does not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for the purposes permitted under the CCM?

As already mentioned, we encourage you to present any progress related to the implementation of storage and stockpile destruction provisions under the Convention.

This concludes the report of the coordinators on storage and stockpile destruction.

Thank you for your attention.