

Seventh Meeting of CCM States Parties
4 – 6 September 2017, Geneva, Switzerland,
Statement by Slovakia

Mr. President,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you for assuming the presidency of the Seventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions and to wish you and the entire Presidency a successful conduct and outcome of this meeting. I also would like to convey our appreciation to Switzerland as a host nation of this meeting and sincerely thank all those who tirelessly contributed towards this end.

Slovakia fully aligns itself with the statement (*to be*) delivered by the distinguished representative of the European Union. In addition, I would like to make the following remarks in my national capacity on the issue of *Storage and Stockpile Destruction (item 8 (b) of the Provisional Agenda)* and to provide the distinguished participants with an update concerning the progress and challenges that Slovakia undergoes regarding the safe and rapid destruction of its cluster munitions stockpiles.

Mr. President,

Even before its accession to the CCM and becoming a full-fledged State Party on 1 January 2016, Slovakia had been actively engaged in applying the most important obligations of the Convention, including notably the commencement of its cluster munitions destruction.

In January 2013, the Chief of the General Staff of the Slovak Republic approved a “Regulation on disposal of cluster munitions belonging under CCM”. Subsequently, in November 2013, the cluster munitions were removed from operational stocks and put into ammunition depots marked as decommissioned in accordance with Article 3, para 1.

Shortly after, on 15 January 2014, the Government of the Slovak Republic adopted “The Action Plan for the Implementation of the Commitments of the Slovak Republic under the CCM” (by Decree No. 22/2014). The most important provisions of this Action Plan include the requirements to:

- adopt appropriate legislative measures to implement CCM in the national legal system;
- arrange for financial resources for destruction of cluster munitions (an estimated amount of € 5,5 million);
- set up a schedule for cluster munitions destruction with the deadline by 1 January 2024 in accordance with the Article 3 para 3;
- and finally not to retain any cluster munition neither for the purpose of new technologies development, nor for EOD specialists training.

Mr. President,

Slovakia has been exerting all the efforts to meet its obligation to destroy its stockpiles of cluster munitions by the stipulated deadline of 1 January 2024. However, there are some stumbling blocks on this road which we are, nevertheless, trying to effectively tackle.

Currently, the main challenge we are facing relates to the destruction of the rocket launcher MLRS M-26. Although Slovakia is able to dismantle MLRS M-26 as such, there are objective technical difficulties concerning environmental impacts of cluster munitions destruction under the above mentioned Slovakia's Action Plan. Our efforts are underway to find viable solutions to and even possible international assistance with this complex issue, so we can proceed without any delay with the destruction of the rocket launcher MLRS M-26 in its entirety.

Mr. President,

As required, Slovakia submitted the overall figures of its cluster munition stockpiles in the initial report that is generally and publicly accessible.

As for the adopted schedule for the destruction of Slovakia's cluster munitions stockpiles, our delegation has hereby prepared, for the ease of reference of the distinguished participants, the following concise power point presentation.

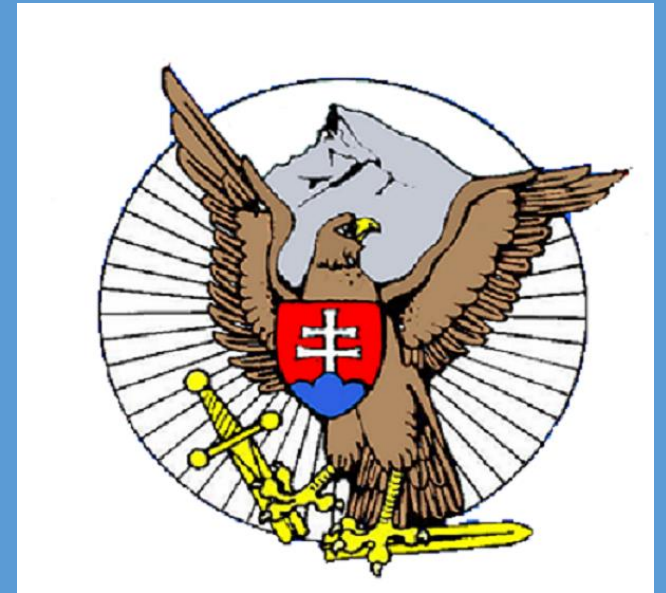
As you may all see right now at the screen, it highlights the key milestones of our destruction process. We are confident to conclude this process by the stipulated deadline of 1 January 2024, and most probably even before that as we are doing our utmost to keep the momentum and proceed with the destruction process as quickly as possible.

The first slide shows the situation as reflected in our latest 2017 report (as to 31 December 2016). The second slide presents the progress achieved in the last 8 months of this year.

Mr. President,

To conclude, let me assure you that Slovakia remains fully committed to meeting all its obligations under the Convention and stands ready to continue to help, assist and work closely with other State Parties, regional and international organizations, NGOs and other relevant partners in promoting and achieving the full implementation of the CCM.

Thank you for your attention.



The schedule of destruction of cluster munitions
stockpile in the Slovak Republic
2017-2023

	% of destroyed CM as of 31 December 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
KMGU BKF AO 2,5 RT	16%	108	108	108	108	108	108	108
KMGU BKF PTAB 2,5	14%	125	125	125	125	125	125	114
AO-10	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
AO-2,5	93%	265	-	-	-	-	-	-
PTAB-2,5	50%	228	228	-	-	-	-	-
ZAB -2,5P	83%	-	-	135	134	-	-	-
ZAB -2,5T	76%	75	-	-	-	-	-	-
RBK 250-PTAB 2,5 M TG 50	53%	84	84	84	84	84	84	84
RBK 500 -225 PTAB 10,5 A	43%	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
RBK 500 375 AO 10	38%	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
RBK 500 AO 2,5 RT	37%	120	180	180	180	180	180	180
122 mm JRKS Agát	30%	53	65	65	65	65	65	65

	% of destroyed CM as of 1 August 2017	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
KMGU BKF AO 2,5 RT	22%	48	96	96	96	96	78	78
KMGU BKF PTAB 2,5	19%	72	120	120	120	120	72	72
AO-10	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
AO-2,5	93%	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
PTAB-2,5	50%	63	63	63	63	63	63	60
ZAB -2,5P	83%	40	33	33	33	33	33	24
ZAB -2,5T	76%	11	11	11	11	11	11	9
RBK 250-PTAB 2,5 M TG 50	58%	42	84	84	42	42	42	42
RBK 500 -225 PTAB 10,5 A	48%	30	60	60	60	60	60	30
RBK 500 375 AO 10	43%	30	60	60	60	60	60	30
RBK 500 AO 2,5 RT	40%	120	180	180	180	180	180	120
122 mm JRKS Agát	34%	40	60	60	60	60	60	59