

STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION AND RETENTION

Thank you Madam Chair ,

The Czech Republic has not intended originally to intervene during this session. The reason why we are doing so is information provided by MONITOR FACT SHEET distributed this morning. In part of this document named "Signatories Retaining" is briefly stated: **The Czech Republic has stated it will retain cluster munition.**

Let me please to provide you with additional facts to this incomplete and not quite accurate information. Cluster Munitions were excluded from armament of the Army of the Czech Republic already in 2006 together with all sub-munitions. The Czech Republic has not stockpiled a single piece of cluster munitions since 2010, when the last 67 pieces of cluster munition and hundreds of bomblets were destroyed. What we retain today is only cluster sub-munition or bomblets, without container, not cluster munitions as such. Currently it makes 653 pieces of sub-munitions retained for training of EOD specialists. The Czech Republic has determined this quantity to be the "minimum number absolutely necessary" for training and research purposes as stipulated by the Convention on the basis of a training plan for EOD specialists, with a 5-year outlook.

Thank you Madam Chair