Our comments will be brief and I refer all delegations to our Landmine Monitor Fact Sheet on Article 7 on the table outside.

Transparency has been and will remain important to the success of this convention.

It provides States Party, and States Not Party with important information and is a confidence building measure.

New contamination by improvised mines is believed to have occurred in some states parties such as Nigeria and Cameroun, however neither have filed a transparency report for the past 7 years.

At least 12 states with outstanding clearance obligations are yet to provide their Article 7. Some many years overdue, including two states which formerly served as presidents of the meetings of states parties.

Transparency reporting, annually, under this convention is an obligation, not an option.