

**MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION
OF THE
CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND
TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

Geneva, 20 June 2011

Statement by the Delegation of Germany

- as delivered -

Thank you Madam Co-Chair.

Let me start by congratulating you and your fellow Co-Chair for your efforts in advancing implementation of Article 4 of the Convention.

Germany considers the destruction of all stockpiles of anti-personnel mines a cornerstone for the achievement of our shared vision of a world free of anti-personnel mines. Only destruction can irreversibly ensure that anti-personnel mines will never be used again in the future. Germany shares the concerns expressed today about the recent reports about the use of APM in Libya; we are also deeply concerned about the use of APM in Southern Sudan and call on all sides to stop this practice immediately.

At the same time, it is our common concern to ensure compliance of all States Parties with their obligation to destroy all stockpiles of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 4. It is of utmost importance that those who have missed their four year deadlines for completion of obligations under Article 4 spare no efforts to get back into the status of compliance with the Convention. As the destruction process can pose serious technical challenges, partnership and sharing technical expertise become all the more relevant.

We thank the delegations of Belarus, Greece, Turkey and Ukraine for their updates on progress made and their further plans to ensure compliance as soon as possible. Germany would like to confirm the information just provided by Turkey. In accordance with a contract between NAMSA and the private, certified German destruction company "Spreewerke Lübben", 631 projectiles 155mm, each containing 36 anti-personnel mines (type ADAM), altogether 22.716 anti-personnel mines, entered into German territory on 3 March 2011. While the transfer has been authorised by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology, all contracting obligations are between NAMSA and the "Spreewerke Lübben".

Madam Co-Chair,

Let me also use this opportunity to thank the Turkish government who, like others before, has chosen to rely on the experience of a leading German company in the field of demilitarisation. We are confident that the destruction process will be finalised well before the contract ends. Once achieved, the completion of the destruction will be verified by a technical expert of the Office for procurement of the German Armed Forces and a certificate of compliance will be given to NAMSA.

I thank you, Madam Co-Chair.