Co-chairs for the Meeting  
Delegates of States Parties and Representatives of Mine Action Organizations  
Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of my government and the state of Eritrea allow me to begin with expressing my gratitude and thanking you for getting this usual opportunity in attending here this floor and update you the Current progress of Mine Action in Eritrea led by the Eritrean DEMINING Authority. It was reported in the 11th meeting of states parties which was convened in Phnom Phen, Cambodia that Eritrea could not accomplish its Article 5, Mine Clearance obligations detailing certain impeding circumstances and hence have requested an extension period until February 2015 to identify the exaggeratedly LIS recorded areas. Based on that we have drafted a national Mine Action strategic plan 2011 to 2015 with the following general objectives.

- To make area reduction by at least 50% until our second request submission period in 2014, focusing our activity mainly on non-technical surveys to eliminate the recorded impacted areas.
- Continue clearance with the priorities of remaining High and Medium impacted areas until 2015.
- Continue to conduct MRE activities to prevent new casualties until full clearance is justified.

Since the request for the extension period, Eritrea is conducting Demining and already started to execute non technical means of surveys in the LIS recorded areas of the regions.

From the start of 2011 until the first quarter of 2012, the demining teams conducted mine clearance mainly focusing on Zoba Anseba and made 10 communities or villages mine free in the Sub Zobas of Hamelmalo, Keren, Halhal and Habero by clearing 33 mined locations and destroying 1012 AP, 25 AT and also destroyed 995 ERW in four Zobas (regions). The amount of cleared areas in figure is 3,227,860 square meters.
In general, Mine Clearance and destruction of ERW is conducted in the following Zobas and Sub Zobas,
Zoba Gash Barka, in Sub Zoba Shabuko.
Zoba Maakel, in Sub Zobas Gala Nefhi and Berik.
Zoba Anseba, in sub Zobas Keren, Halhal and Habero.
Zoba Semienawi Keih Bahri, in Sub Zoba Afabet.

Clearance progress from the start of 2011 to the first quarter 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Mine</th>
<th>AP</th>
<th>AT</th>
<th>ERW</th>
<th>No. Cleared Locations</th>
<th>Cleared Area in sq.ms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quantity destroyed</td>
<td>1012</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>995</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>3,227,910</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Communities or Villages visited in the Six Zobas (Regions) and verified by Non – Technical survey to be Free from Land mines and ERW are 31 in number and area verified to be free of mines is 12,850,318 sq.mtrs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ser. Number</th>
<th>Name of Zoba (region)</th>
<th>Number of Comm. or villages visited</th>
<th>Verified Area in square meters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Debub</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>330,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Debubawi Keih B</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10,833,676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Semienawi Keih B</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>48,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Maakel</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>617,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gash Barka</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>957,529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Anseba</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>31</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,850,318</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the sphere of Mine Risk Education repeated awareness is delivered by the teams out reaching the impacted communities through out the country.
Visited Zobas and SubZobas are the following:

**In Zoba Maakel, Sub Zobas Gala Nefhi and Berik**
**Zoba Anseba, Subzoba Keren**
**Zoba Debub, Subzobas AdiQuala, Adi-Keih and Tsonora**
Sensitizing workshops were also conducted for students, teachers, health focal persons and community volunteers. To specify some of the main activities:

- In January 2011, capacity building for 48 community volunteers residing in the Zobas Semienawi Keih Bahri and Anseba was delivered in keren town.
- In February 2011, MRE assisted with exhibitions was delivered for 25,000 people in Massawa during the Fenkil Operation memorial ceremony.
- In April 2011, MRE work shop was given to 523 teachers training Institute students in Asmara.
- In July 2011, During the Eritrean national festival, EDA prepared MRE exhibition and delivered Mine Risk awareness for about 300,000 participants in asmara Expo Venue.
- In November 2011, MRE work shop was conducted for 42 Health Focal Persons in Afabet, Zoba Semienawi Keih Bahri and simultaneously for other 74 health focal persons in Massawa, the same Zoba.

As a result all the activities conducted by our teams, the total number of MRE beneficiary people since the start of January 2011 until the first quarter of 2012 are 368,413.

The MRE teams also reported that there were 21 Mine and ERW victims during the afore mentioned period out of which 2 were deceased and 19 injured. From the injured victims 5 were females.