

ICRC intervention

Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction 22 May 2012

Re: The destruction of previously unknown stockpiles

The ICRC would like to join the Co-chairs in congratulating the **Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia** for both its transparency in declaring its recently discovered stockpiled anti-personnel mines at the 11th Meeting of States Parties, and for having taken swift action to destroy these 1,248 mines only months afterwards. These actions, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Cartagena Action Plan*, set a good example for other States that might find themselves in a similar situation.

Similarly, although it is not represented today, we would like to thank **Guinea Bissau** for their attention to this issue and for their commitment to ensure the destruction of its recently discovered stockpiles. We look forward to hearing soon that the destruction of this stockpile has been completed.

We also wish to thank **Nigeria** for its thoroughness and commitment to ensuring that any previously unknown stockpiled anti-personnel mines that are uncovered in the verification operation will be dealt with according to the *Cartagena Action Plan*.