

## UPDATE ON STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION

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## Background

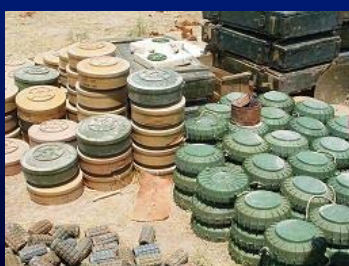
- ✦ Stockpiles of ammunition and weapons littered Afghanistan.
- ✦ Many stockpiles were hidden by rival groups across the country - much of which was remote, mountainous and dangerous.





## Background

- ✦ Afghanistan joined the Ottawa Convention in March 2003 and became the 126th member.
- ✦ As a State Party, Afghanistan committed to destroying all known stockpiles of anti-personnel mines by March 1, 2007.



## Background



- ✦ The Ministry of Defense and UNDP's Afghanistan's New Beginnings Programme began a project to survey stockpiles of weapons and ammunition, including anti-personnel mines.
- ✦ All stockpiled anti-personnel mines and all unserviceable ammunition were to be destroyed under the project.



## *Background*

- ✦ The project today comprises a total of eight ammunition survey teams and has expanded nationwide.
- ✦ Despite increasing insurgency and only after lengthy negotiations, 486,226 stockpiled anti-personnel mines have been destroyed.



## *Progress to Date*



- ✦ Afghanistan has destroyed a total of 486,226 stockpiled anti-personnel mines since joining the Ottawa Convention.
- ✦ This breaks down to an average of 330 stockpiled anti-personnel mines destroyed every day for the last four years.



## *Achieving the Goal*

- ✦ Afghanistan is proud of four years of hard work resulting in the destruction of almost half a million stockpiled anti-personnel mines.



## *Achieving the Goal*



- ✦ Two depots of anti-personnel mines remain north of Kabul.
- ✦ the Panjsheer Province has agreed to the President's Office, MoFA and MoD to submit the last two depots

