Jordan Statement on International Cooperation and Assistance for Achieving the Conventions Aims
10th Meeting of the States Parties - Geneva
November 29 – December 3, 2010

Mr. President,
Your Royal Highness,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

Thank you for allowing Jordan to address the States Parties on its efforts to fulfill its obligations to International Cooperation and Assistance for Achieving the Conventions Aims.

Jordan is pleased to report that earlier this year the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation produced its second 5-year National Mine Action Plan for 2010 to 2015. This second national mine action plan builds on the progress made during the 2005-2009 period. The 2010-2015 plan describes the remaining challenges and NCDR’s plans and activities as it enters the final kilometres of its work to make Jordan a safer place.

Briefly, the 2010-2015 plan outlines how Jordan intends to meet its Mine Ban Convention (MBC) deadline of May 2012, as well as describes efforts for addressing the explosive remnants of war problem, delivering risk education, integrating support for survivors and victims of accidents within national policies, plans and programmes, and efforts to become a global centre for management training.

With regards to Jordan’s efforts to implement this last strategic goal, Jordan has the great pleasure to announce that in October of this year it concluded its second annual Explosive Remnants of War International Senior Managers Training Course, or ERWTC for short. Jordan would like to take this opportunity to thank the United States Department of State Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement for generously funding the two courses - held in 2009 and 2010 - to the tune of 1.28 million USD.

This year’s ERWTC welcomed 30 senior managers coming from a variety of backgrounds and representing both civil and military, governmental and non-governmental organizations to Jordan from 21 of the most affected ERW countries around the world. The ERWTC has, in total, graduated 60 leaders from 33 affected countries from the four-week extensive training program which was delivered by a team of experts from NCDR, James Madison University, the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery, the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining and the Implementation Support Unit, the United Nations Development Program, and the International Committee of the Red Cross as well as other partners.
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The ERWTC covered all aspects of ERW action management, including both general management skills and ERW-specific applications, providing these leaders with advanced, comprehensive training in planning, managing and implementing their national mine and ERW action programs. In addition to receiving extensive training, the participants had the opportunity to share their diversity of experience and expertise among themselves. Leading and teaching were as much a part of the participants’ experience in the course as listening and learning. In this respect, the training course was a clear success in its goal of forging ties within the global ERW community and helping to build an international network of leaders in this field.

Jordan seeks to contribute to international cooperation and assistance in its own small way by continuing to address the need for further training to help build national capacity to deal with the explosive legacies of war that are curtailing reconstruction and recovery in many war-torn societies worldwide. Therefore, Jordan is now working to develop a suite of training services that focus on ERW contamination, specifically on niche areas which draw upon the Jordanian experience. More information on these training services can be found in Jordan’s National Mine Action Plan, copies of which are available here.

In short, Mr. President, Jordan believes that, in this way, it can continue to address Action #36 of the Cartagena Action Plan by promoting technical cooperation, information exchange on good practices and other forms of mutual assistance with other affected States Parties to take advantage of the knowledge and expertise acquired in the course of fulfilling our obligations.

Thank you.