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**Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties
3-7 December 2012**

Mine Clearance – Agenda Item 10.b.i

Republic of South Sudan

As of 30 September 2012, there remained in South Sudan 707 areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines.

These areas amounted to 159,367,011 square metres.

In accordance with its obligation to report the location of all mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines, South Sudan, in its initial transparency report, has provided a list of all 707 areas in question.

This list should serve as a benchmark against which progress in implementation can be measured in future years.

In order to address the problems caused by anti-personnel mines and other explosive remnants of war, the Government of South Sudan, during the Comprehensive Peace Agreement period, formed the South Sudan Demining Commission.

This became the South Sudan Demining Authority at independence and was renamed the National Mine Action Authority in August 2012.

The National Mine Action Authority is part of the civil service and has 97 staff positions, of which 69 have been filled.

The NMAA is funded almost entirely by the Government of South Sudan, with capacity-development support from UNMAS and Norwegian People's Aid through a capacity building project funded by the Government of Canada and other partners.

During the CPA period training was provided to the SPLA Engineers in humanitarian demining.

The United States, through its Africa Command, also provides training on a quarterly basis.

South Sudan also has a three national mine action NGOs involved in clearance, although at present only one national, SIMAS, is active in clearance operations due to funding problems.

The United Nations has assisted South Sudan with clearance of mines since the CPA and has been supported by international NGOs and commercial contractors.

As of the 30 September 2012, NPA, DDG and MAG were operational in South Sudan and Danish Church Aid was set to start a new project.

The FSD supports SIMAS. HI is active in MRE & VA.

On 21 June 2012, the President of the Republic of South Sudan endorsed the South Sudan Mine Action Strategy 2012-2016.

In terms of progress in implementing Article 5, between entry into force of the Convention for South Sudan on 9 July 2011 and 1 September 2012, South Sudan has ensured the release of 6,263,731 square metres of land which was known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, with 1,346 anti-personnel mines, 160 anti-tank mines, 175,944 pieces of small arms ammunition and 20,973 UXO destroyed.

Thank you.