



17th Meeting of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
Geneva, 26 – 30 November 2018

**STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
ON THE ISSUE OF RETAINED ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES**

Thank you Madam President.

As we have duly stated in our Article 7 Transparency Report for 2017, Croatia retains a certain number of anti-personnel mines, as permitted under the Article 3 of the Convention. The said mines are safely and securely stored in the Croatian Armed Forces' storage site.

The retained mines are used by the Croatian Armed Forces and the Centre for Testing, Development and Training Ltd. (CTDT) for the purposes of training, testing of demining machines, dogs and detectors, as well as scientific activities.

If we look at the previous Article 7 reports, it is obvious that the number of retained mines is steadily decreasing year by year. And since we are expecting to keep similar or even slightly increased level of interest from domestic and foreign companies to conduct testing of their demining machines, we find the amount of retained mines to be fit for the purpose.

Thank you.