

EVENING

REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
Seventh meeting of the States parties

1.

EXCEPTIONS FROM THE OTTAWA CONVENTION
18 SEP 2006

2. Mr. Chairman,

22/9

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

~~I feel very honored to be here today among such a distinguished audience from countries all over the world, linked to the common objective of building a safer world by eradicating anti-personnel mines.~~

3.

According to Article 3 of the Ottawa Convention, withholding and transfer of a number of AP mines is allowed for the development and training in mine tracing, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques is allowed.

4

Based on the above Article, the Republic of Cyprus, as already announced in former State Party meetings, as well as officially stated in the National Plan for implementing the Ottawa Convention, maintains the following quantities of AP mines for training purposes:

- | | | |
|---|----------|-----|
| 5 | ▪ M2A1 | 100 |
| | ▪ M2A3 | 100 |
| 6 | ▪ M16 | 100 |
| | ▪ M16A1 | 100 |
| | ▪ M16A2 | 100 |
| | ▪ M16E3 | 100 |
| 7 | ▪ VS 50 | 200 |
| 8 | ▪ GLD112 | 200 |

9) TOTAL 1000 AP mines

Since the last briefing to the Permanent Committee, the aforementioned mines were used by the National Guard for the training of conscripts. Training included tracing techniques, reconnaissance, clearance and destruction of AP mines. After the completion of training, all AP mines were collected and stored in specially designed warehouses, in line with established security measures.

11 Stockpiled mines will remain stored and will be used for National Guard personnel training for the abovementioned

purposes. It is possible that they will be used for the testing of new means and systems of tracing and detecting AP Mines.

12 The numbers of each type of AP mines, withheld for training purposes, are considered absolutely necessary for the National Guard to fully respond to the requirements of personnel training.

13 ~~By controlling Mr. [redacted], we would like to assure you that being fully aware of the human suffering caused by the mine problem all over the world, we remain committed to the full implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of anti-personnel mines and their destruction.]~~ Furthermore, we would like to assure you that the AP stockpiles mentioned above will be used exclusively for personnel training.

14
Thank you Mr Chairman