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This subject please quote No

PRESENTATION ON MINE CLEARANCE, MINE RISK EDUCATION AND MINE ACTION TECHNOLOGIES - GENEVA/ JUNE 4 TO 5 2008

On the out set I should point out that Uganda is committed to the treaty obligations as set out in Article 5. Uganda's plan is to clear all the identified mined areas by August 2009 as set out in the treaty.

Uganda is therefore discussing with her partners (GICHD, Hand Cap International, Danish demining Group etc) to assist in both technical and mechanical capacities to deal with the suspected mine field in Kitgum district at the boarder with Southern Sudan. A GICHD team led by Mr. Kerry Brinkert was in Kampala recently over this goal.

Uganda's demining programme is on course, and since the last up date, the demining personnel have been increased to 68 in number. 12 of whom have recently under gone medical training, curtsey of the Danish Demining Group (DDG). 41 are already deployed and 27 pending deployment, which will be concluded soon, i.e. in the first or second week of June 2008.

Over the past six months, the following work in respect of article 5 has been accomplished in Northern Uganda:

1. Pader district: 35 areas were cleared with 6 anti personnel mines and 237 UXOs were destroyed
— munitions in estellar
2. Gulu, Kitgum and Amuru, clearance has been conducted with a total of 144 UXOs destroyed; no land mines were found in this area.
3. Training of 12 para- medics taken from the demining teams has been conducted with the aid of DDG and GICHD

Our priorities for external assistance include but not limited to mechanical mine clearance capacity, establishment of the dog component and additional technical support for technical surveys.

Lastly, I should mention that Uganda is supporting the Oslo process of developing a new treaty on cluster munitions, Uganda will in Sept host an African meeting with a view of committing all African leaders to sign and ratify the treaty when it comes up in December 2008.

Thank you.

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