

Mrs. Co-Chair,

allow me to share with you and the other member states some information concerning the transfer and destruction of the stockpile of Greek mines.

As mentioned in previous occasions a contract has been signed with the Bulgarian Company Videx Jsc for the destruction of landmines possessed by the Greek Army. The total quantity of landmines to be destroyed is 1.568.159.

The operation on transfer and destruction of the above mentioned landmines has begun in 24.11.2008 and will be completed by the end of 2009.

At present, the total number of transferred and destroyed landmines accounts 225.962 and till the end of the week the transfer of another 50.000 mines will be completed, bringing the total number at 275.962 mines.

Mrs. Co-chair,

As a member of the EU, Greece is working together with the other Member-States for the fulfillment of the Ottawa Convention to the most convenient way for international peace and security.

Thank you for your attention