

**Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction
Geneva, 21 June 2010**

Intervention on behalf of the UN Mine Action Team

Madame/Mister Co-Chair,

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to deliver the following statement on behalf of the United Nations Mine Action Team (UNMAT), comprising 14 UN partners involved in mine action¹.

Destruction of stockpiles of antipersonnel mines is a key obligation in the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC). It is important to ensure that stockpile destruction activities take place in a timely and secure manner. As you know, the United Nations has assisted a number of countries in fulfilling their Article 4 obligations.

There are now 4 States Parties for which the obligation to destroy stockpiled antipersonnel mines remain relevant, namely Belarus, Greece, Turkey and Ukraine. We urge these States Parties to comply with their Article 4 obligations by destroying their stockpiles as early as possible. The UN stands ready to assist in achieving a 100% achievement of this goal.

Thank you.

¹ UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS), UN Office of Disarmament Affairs (ODA), UN Development Programme (UNDP), UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women (OSAGI), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO) and World Bank.