

ZIMBABWE'S PRESENTATION ON STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION

Introduction

1. Action 16 of the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan (SRAAP) calls for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines. Countries committed to this action are required to destroy their stockpile in accordance with the Convention, and Zimbabwe is no exception. Zimbabwe like any other affected countries must report on its progress ensuring transparency.

Aim

2. The aim of the presentation is to give an update on the Zimbabwe's stockpile destruction.

Scope

3. The presentation will cover the following:
- a. Stockpile destruction.
 - b. Retained mines.
 - c. Significance of Zimbabwe's stockpile destruction.
 - d. Challenges.
 - e. Conclusion.
 - f. Questions and Discussion.

Stockpile Destruction

4. Zimbabwe has undertaken efforts to destroy stockpiles of anti-personnel mines, in line with APMBC requirements. The country reported on its stockpile destruction activities, although challenges remain due to financial constraints for acquiring Free From Explosive (FFE) mines. On 15 November 2000, Zimbabwe completed the destruction of all stockpiled antipersonnel mines that it owned, possessed, or had under its jurisdiction or control, thus fulfilling its obligations under Article 4 of the Convention. Zimbabwe complies with Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan

(SRAAP) because no new stockpiles have been discovered, and none are expected to be discovered.

Retained Mines

5. Zimbabwe retained anti-personnel mines for training and other permitted purposes under Article 3. During this period, the country retained the four hundred and fifty (450) landmines as following:

- a. R2M2 – 110.
- b. PMD6 – 340.

6. The country made progress in destroying some of the retained mines. To date a total of fifty (50) R2M2 and fifty (50) PMD6 retained anti-personnel mines were destroyed. This entails that Zimbabwe only possess sixty (60) R2M2 and two hundred and ninety (290) PMD6, constituting three hundred and fifty (350) retained anti-personnel mines for training purposes.

Significance of Zimbabwe's Stockpile Destruction

7. The significance of stockpile destruction in Zimbabwe aligned with action 16 of the SRAAP is crucial for ensuring humanitarian safety, fulfilling international obligations, and promoting national development. Through systematic destruction of these stockpiles, Zimbabwe not only mitigates risks to the civilian population but also demonstrates its commitment to the SRAAP. This action creates safer communities and facilitates good environment. Furthermore, the successful destruction of stockpiles enhances national security by reducing the potential for non-state actors to access these mines. Through this process, Zimbabwe can strengthen international partnership and support, bolstering its capacity in mine action and contributing to long-term stability and developmental goals.

Challenges

8. Zimbabwe has retained the bear minimum number of landmines for training purposes only. In as much as we would have wished to destroy more, the country does not have either financial resources or technical expertise to procure or produce FFE mines for training purposes. In light of that, only the bearest minimum has been kept for training purposes.

Conclusion

9. Progress in stockpile destruction is critical to enhancing national security and fulfilling international commitments. The country is dedicated to fulfil Action 16 of the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan obligations. We call upon all States Parties to consider and implement Action Plan 16 albeit challenges that they may be facing.

Questions and Discussion