

HONDURAS STATEMENT

STANDING COMMITTEE ON STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION

10.05.2001

Thank you Mrs. Co-chair,

I strongly support the intervention from Peru delegation and I thank very much for the clear and useful presentation of the Colonel Mc Donough from the OAS as well as the other speakers.

On behalf of Honduras peoples, we want to express our deep concern in demining Programme in my country. Since the very beginning, Honduras Government demonstrated with facts the political will to the application of the Ottawa Convention in the country itself and in the region; it has destroyed its stockpile and it is at the last stage of its mine clearance programme, in the way we could reach our goal to finish the programme for September of this current year.

But, we are facing with delays due to the lack of financial funds...YES, Mr. Co-chair, it is very sad to say this but it is real truth, we are at this moment obliged momentarily to delay the mine clearing programme, and for this reason, I make an appeal to the international community to mobilize the necessary financial resources to contribute with Honduras and the OAS to reach our goal to finish the demining mine clearance before September Third Meeting of the States Parties, so Honduras, together with the international community we could share and evaluate the successful results as the first country in the AMERICAS to complete the demining Programme.

Thank you Mrs. Co-chairs.