

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON STOCKPILE DESRUCTION,  
Geneva, 25 May, 2009**

Madame Chair, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear Colleagues,

With respect to the progress on implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty and State Parties' duties under the treaty to destroy their stockpiles of antipersonnel mines and to clear all their mined areas of antipersonnel mines, I am using this opportunity to inform you on my country's progress on the issue.

Firstly I wanted to remind that The Republic of Serbia has become state party of the Ottawa Convention in 2003 (more precisely on 18 September 2003).

**Stockpiles Destruction**

We submitted the national implementation report for Article 7 for the period 1 January to 31 December 2008 lately and, if you allow me, I would brief you on main data from the report.

The total number of APM's in Serbia that were retained (in accordance with the Article 3 of the Ottawa Convention) is 3.589 peaces, out of which 3.199 are in the stockpiles of the Serbian Army, and 461 peaces in the stockpiles of the Serbian Ministry of Interior. From the abovementioned number (of 3.199) of APM's in possession of the Serbian Army, 1.389 peaces are without fuses which were removed or destroyed in previous period. The retained APM's are foreseen for personnel training for possible engagement in UN peace operations, protection equipment testing and mine detectors.

The quantity of 1.940 APM's was handed over to the Technical Repair Facility (TRY-Kragujevac) for disassembling and disposal at the end of April 2008. The specified quantity of mines was disassembled and disposed of at Technical Repair Facility (TRZ-Kragujevac) during November 2008.

In our national report for the year 2008 it is noted that after the entry into force of the Ottawa Convention for the Republic of Serbia, this state party to the Convention destroyed in total **1.404.819** APM's.

The Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia confirm herewith country's commitment to fully apply its obligations in accordance with the provisions of the Ottawa Convention.

I thank you, Madame Chair.