

**On Implementation Developments of Ottawa Convention in Ukraine
(Article 4)**

*Dear Mr. President,
Distinguished delegates,*

It's a pleasant opportunity for the Ukrainian delegation to speak before the participants of this meeting.

We would like to inform you on recent implementation developments of the Ottawa convention in Ukraine. Our country is steady to continue its course to disarmament regardless some obstacles of destruction for over 6 million anti-personal land mines.

Being a Party to the Convention since 2006 we realize that the Article IV should be implemented by Ukraine itself; therefore we regard the international technical and financial assistance only as a part of this continuous process and gather all possible recourses within Ukraine. Unfortunately, the national full-scale financing of the destruction activity seems to be complicated.

Even so, in order to comply with the Article IV Ukraine has managed to destroy in total over 850 thousands (854,78) of anti-personal landmines and our military engineers have organized the safe storage of all PFM-1 mines within the engineer mine cassettes KSF-1 & KSF-1S at a single arsenal site.

As of today the technology for the disassembling and elimination of the engineer mine cassettes KSF-1 was developed at Pavlograd Chemical Plant. In course of testing activities more than 154 thousands (154 440) PFM mines were discharged from the KSF cassettes and eliminated.

In November 2010 the Armed Forces destroyed 2.016 non-transportable PFM-1 mines using the method of the ejection into the closed water reservoir.

Taking into account many objective aspects Ukraine was limited to finance directly the APLs elimination process in 2010. So to say, the destruction tempo was a bit slowed down. However Ukraine's internal and international activities on this issue were not hampered, but brought some prominent results.

I. *Financial assistance of the Norwegian Government*

Bearing in mind the current situation of the world's economy, Ukraine remains thankful to all Partner States and organisations, which took Ukraine's appeal on financial aid into consideration and supported us in a practical way.

Nowadays we are happy to admit visible progress since 2007.

Ukraine highly appreciates the efforts of Ambassador Susan Eckey, President of the Second Review Conference Mine Ban Convention to facilitate the decision of the Norwegian Government in providing up to 1 million USD in 2010-2011 for the destruction process of the Ukraine's APL stockpiles.

The APLs destruction technology is performed and developed at the State enterprises of the Ministry of Industry of Ukraine as well as the National Space Agency of Ukraine.

In a course of consultations the Parties made a decision that Ukrainian Space Agency would be the recipient organization of the aforementioned financial assistance. This money will be directed on purchasing of the special equipment to improve the capacity of the existing destruction facilities at Pavlograd Chemical Plant.

In order to obtain the Norway's financial assistance we work together to find the appropriate mechanisms for the funds transfer in accordance with the national legislation.

In November the Agency submitted to our Norwegian colleagues the draft of the "Purpose Plan of the humanitarian aid for purchasing equipment and installment of the incinerator (high-temperature kiln) in order to maintain elimination of the APLs PFM-type at Pavlograd Chemical Plant".

In accordance with the provided plans the Agency and Pavlograd Plant will be ready to start project within the first trimesters of 2011. As a result the aforementioned technical improvements will enable the destruction of over a million of the PFM-1 mines a year (1 000 000 PFM-1). However it is necessary to discharge the mines from the distant mining cassettes KSF-1 before they will be eliminated.

It is obvious that Norway's decision to provide the financial assistance is a goodwill and respective gesture of this State; therefore we single it out and would not mix it with other Ukraine's projects on international financial findings.

II. European Commission: European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) and other projects

We observe each and every international disarmament and non-proliferation project as an important input into the mutual endeavors in this sphere.

In this regard Ukraine welcomes the progress in cooperation with the European Commission in the framework of the European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), Ukrainian National Programme (UNP) for 2011-2013 and other related projects.

The National Indicative Programme (UNP) for 2011-2013 comprises the sub-priority on the implementation of the Ottawa Convention and we would like to emphasize that it should serve as an additional instrument for the successful fulfillment of the Article 4. Despite the actual financing could be opened only in 2012-2013 we believe that funding in the framework of the ENPI and UNP should be directed mostly to finance the mine destruction process at the special facilities as well as compensate the provided services, which could be affiliated with the elimination processes.

The modalities of the projects on this matter were discussed between Ukraine and the European Union in May, 2010. The Ministry of Economy of Ukraine conducts the consultations to obtain 6 mln. Euros as a financial assistance in order to finance the actual mine elimination process. In case of the improvement

of the national destruction capabilities as well as sufficient funding Ukraine will be able to shorten the elimination deadlines up to 4-5 years.

In September 2010 our EU partners supported the transfer of the special equipment to the Pavlograd Chemical Plant. This equipment was kept at Shostka (Zirka) Scientific and Research Chemical Institute under the supervision of the German company Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) and is designed to disassemble the artillery ammunitions (of 9M27K3 type) as well as BKF aviation cassettes, which contains the PFM-1S mines.

III. NATO/PfP Trust Fund project: Phase Two

This year Ukraine also made a proposal to initiate the APLs destruction process in the framework of the NATO/PfP Trust Fund project. This initiative was supported by the executives of the NAMSA Office in Kyiv and the United States as the biggest project donor.

The draft of NAMSA Phase Two proposal is under consideration of the Ukrainian governmental bodies since September 2010: Ministry of Defence, NSAU and Ministry of industrial policy of Ukraine. This year several fact-finding missions including the U.S. experts were launched to evaluate the capabilities of the national destruction facilities.

The Second Phase proposal foresees incineration as a destruction technology for the PFM-1 mines. In this regard it is important to carry out several improvements at the elimination sites to make them more environmentally friendly.

According to the NAMSA proposals the additional equipment for the PFM-1 utilization process could be purchased within Ukraine or abroad under the competitive bidding procedure. Though this project besides the destruction of the ammunition, small arms & light weapons may cover only a part the of the existing national mine stockpiles, we believe that this part should be substantial.

Dear colleagues,

At the end we would like to stress that Ukraine remains committed to its obligations on Ottawa Convention and is ready to cooperate with the State Parties and potential donors in order to make Ukrainian territory free from the APLs stockpiles of PFM-type as soon as possible.

Thank you.