



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

**Afghanistan's updates on National Implementation Measures
Article 9 of the Conventions**

13th Meeting of Members of State Parties

To

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

Geneva

2 – 5 December 2013

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Afghanistan has drafted a law as an instrument for the implementation of Article 9 of the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Convention and Convention on Cluster Munitions. This will supplement an existing law banning the use, acquisition, trading and stockpiling of weapons, ammunition and explosive items without the required legal license. This new law relates specifically to the provisions of the Ottawa Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. This law is now with the Ministry of Justice and, given its importance, His Excellency, the Second Vice President Mohammad Karim Khalili, has issued a special order to the Ministry of Justice to finalize its review as soon as possible. A technical committee has been formed, comprised of the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, National Directorate of Security, Department of Mine Clearance of the National Disaster Management Authority, the Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan (MACCA) and the Implementing Partners. This technical committee will compare the existing law with the one that has been recently drafted to implement Article 9 and will then recommend to the Ministry of Justice whether to:

- ⇒ Fully incorporate the provisions of the draft law into the existing law
- ⇒ Make the draft an annex to the existing law
- ⇒ Or process the draft as a separate law

We shall continue to follow this issue and will hopefully see results soon.