

Mr. President,

At the outset I would like to extend my congratulations to you on the assumption of your duties. Please be assured of our delegation support and cooperation.

Mr. President,
Members of the Committee,
Distinguished delegates,

Ukraine is a reliable member of the international community and fully committed to fulfilling all international obligations in the field of mine action.

Ukraine has consistently demonstrated its readiness to cooperate with the President, the Compliance Committee, the Implementation Support Group, and international non-governmental organizations on the relevant issues concerning compliance with the Convention. We highly value the constructive and open dialogue with the Committee of the Cooperative Compliance as well as fruitful discussions with non-governmental organizations during last year and in the beginning of this year.

Even during martial law, when Ukraine exercises its right to self-defense against the illegal and brutal russian aggression, Ukraine continues to fully comply with its international obligations, including Ottawa convention.

According to information from the database of the Secretariat of the National Mine Action Authority regarding incidents of mines and explosive remnants of war among the civilian population since the onset of the full-scale invasion by the russian federation, 193 cases have been documented. Among these incidents, 188 civilians (including 17 children) were injured, and 41 civilians (including 2 children) were killed. Criminal proceedings have been initiated for each case based on the violation of laws and customs of war by the russian federation.

The Office of the Prosecutor General at the request of the Secretariat of the National Mine Action Authority included information into the Unified Register of Pre-trial Investigations for 1035 criminal offenses from February 24, 2022 to May 31, 2024. These offenses involve the use by the Russian armed forces of means of warfare prohibited by international law, including anti-personnel mines.

We would like to emphasize that Ukraine from the beginning is taking all concerns of the non-governmental organizations regarding the alleged use of anti-personnel mines by the Ukrainian Armed Forces in Izyum, Kharkiv region seriously. We would like to share additional information on Ukraine`s efforts that have been taken in this regard.

The investigative department of the Security Service of Ukraine in the Kharkiv region, under the procedural guidance of the Kharkiv Specialized Prosecutor's Office in the sphere of defense, is carrying out a pre-trial investigation in criminal case [REDACTED]. This investigation concerns the use of anti-personnel mines by unidentified military personnel of individual military formations in the territory of the city of Izyum, Kharkiv region, and surrounding areas. The pre-trial investigation in these criminal proceedings is ongoing.

In conclusion, let me reiterate that Ukraine remains committed to norms and principles of the Ottawa convention and we will continue to be dedicated to our common goal of a mine free world.

I thank you.