



**Mine Action Review statement on Compliance  
(delivered by NPA on behalf of Mine Action Review)**

**Agenda Item 5: Matters related to the mandate of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance  
APMBC Intersessional Meetings, 18–20 June 2024**

Thank you, Mr. President.

I am delivering this statement on behalf of the Mine Action Review.

There is, justifiably, a huge amount of goodwill and support for Ukraine as it faces Russian aggression, including the massive use of anti-personnel mines by Russia, which should be unequivocally condemned. But this does not in any way excuse Ukraine's serious violation of the APMBC through its use of anti-personnel mines. Of further concern is the lack of response by the Ukrainian authorities and by the other States Parties to this use.

We therefore welcome Ukraine's update today, that it is undertaking a pre-trial investigation into the evidence of use presented by Human Rights Watch last year. However, we need to hear more concrete progress and outcomes of these investigations without further delay. We also hope to hear further information from Ukraine today on how many stockpiled anti-personnel mines remain under Ukraine's control. Ukraine must communicate to its military that it is illegal for any personnel of the Ukrainian armed forces to use anti-personnel mines under any circumstances. Furthermore, we urge other States Parties to respond consistently and robustly to the reports of use of anti-personnel mines by Ukraine.

It is imperative that any report of use of anti-personnel mines by a State Party is treated with the utmost seriousness and diligence by the Committee on Cooperative Compliance and by all States Parties, irrespective of the circumstances of use. There must never be exceptions, regardless of who the aggressor is. The prohibition on use by States Parties is, and must always remain, absolute and unequivocal. Times of conflict are when the treaty is tested the most and when it must be protected and upheld.

Thank you.