

Thank You Madam. Co-Chair

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you on the professional way, which you are conducting our work and wish you success in your efforts.

I am also pleased to extend my sincere thanks to the Co-Chairs, to the head of Implementation Support Unit, to the GICHD for their sincere efforts to achieve the goals that we look to achieve as stipulated by the Convention.

I take this opportunity to extend my thanks and gratitude to the States parties, international organizations and non-governmental organizations which have provided assistance, in all its forms, and contributed with Iraqi institutions in the programs of mine clearance in Iraq.

Madam Co-Chair

Unfortunately as it is well known to all, that Iraq was part of many wars over the past years have led to negative consequences affecting the people and the environment in Iraq, which made it to be one of the most contaminated countries with landmines and explosive remnants of war, resulted in a large numbers of victims.

I would like to confirm through you to the International Community that Iraq is committed to the provisions of the Ottawa Convention to ban anti-personnel mines and their destruction, and The Iraqi Government is committed and strives to rid Iraq of the effects of anti-personnel mines and explosive remnants of war, according to the available capabilities through the development of programs and plans for mine destruction, mine clearance and victim assistance.

Madam Co-Chair

I would like to inform you that the division of Military Engineering in the Iraq Kurdistan Region had found about 690 mines and reported in Form B in the transparency report, the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Iraq stresses that destroyed such numbers of mines, but still only 45 mines left for training purposes. We are looking forward to continued cooperation and assistance from

international organizations, States Parities, and non-governmental organizations.

I Thank You

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