

## SWEDEN

25 May, 2012

Madame Co-Chair,

Please allow me to give a brief account of the use of anti-personnel mines for training purposes in Sweden.

The Swedish Armed Forces use anti-personnel mines in its mine clearance training. This takes place at the Swedish Demining and EOD Centre (SWEDEC) in Eksjö in southern Sweden.

Each deminer must detect and clear at least **one** live anti-personnel mine during the training in Sweden in order to become a certified deminer.

The use of live mines during training provides the deminer with valuable experience of actually clearing live mines. This is done in controlled circumstances, with easy access to medical aid. We strive to accomplish this during training in Sweden, before anyone is deployed for demining duties abroad. Having gained such experience helps the individual deminer to become operational early in his or her deployment in a mission area.

Madam Co-Chair,

Since the number of soldiers trained each year varies, the number of mines used also varies from year to year. In some years there is no training at all. At other times, the training programmes can be rather extensive. Information on the number of mines used is given in our annual transparency reports. Last year, 56 mines were used in our training activities. The figures on page 6 in the background document to this meeting do not quite correspond with this number. We will be contacting the ISU shortly in order to correct the numbers.

Thank you, Madam Co-Chair.