

A Statement of Uganda on International Assistance and Cooperation, 25th August 2012

Madam Co Chair

Distinguished delegates

Ladies and Gentlemen

Uganda is one of the mine /ERW affected countries that has over the years benefited through International Assistance and Cooperation. Permit me to especially appreciate the candid and timely support of the Governments of Norway and Australia that has enabled Uganda reduce its mine contamination problem to the extent of near completion. Madam chair as we did mention in our statement on Article Five, Uganda remains focused on meeting the August 2012 deadline.

Uganda's delegation would also like to sincerely thank the in-kind contribution of Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) which timely provided mine wolf machines that have since February this year been clearing mine contaminated areas in an area closer to the South Sudan boarder. In the same vein, we thank the Danish Demining Group (DDG) for their contribution particularly in form of capacity building.

Madam Co chair, I would like to highlight that Uganda shall still remain with the problem of explosive remnants of war (ERWs) after completing her Article Five obligations in August 2012. We therefore, hope that the strong and excellent relationship as well as the confidence we have with our donors shall remain uninterrupted as we work towards the elimination of ERWs throughout the country.

Lastly I want to note that Uganda now has a reasonable capacity in mine action and would be willing to make a contribution to other states within the region through the South –South cooperation. You will note that Uganda is making a significant contribution in bringing about peace and stabilization in Somalia, the capacity we have built particularly in mine clearance and explosive ordnance disposal can equally be tapped.

Thank you

Woboya Vicent/Uganda