

Thank you mr. co-chair,

1. During the next few minutes I will present you the last updates regarding the destruction of the APLs stockpile in Romania.
2. The legal framework for the implementation is now completed. It consists of the ratification law no. 204/2000 who launched the implementation process.
To begin the implementation and to insure its controlled progress were developed a couple of administrative measures and technical procedures within the involved structures.
The Government Decision (GD) no. 1326/2002 completed the legal implementation framework by transposing the provisions of the Ottawa Convention to the national level.
3. The Interdepartmental Working Group which was established also by the GD insures the coordination of the implementation. The Group already met this year to prepare the necessary action to mark the completion of the stockpile destruction.
4. Romania had five types of mines:
 - a. three types of pressure blast mines;
 - b. one type of tripwire fragmentation mine;
 - c. one type of bounding fragmentation mine;
5. The stockpile consisted of 1.076.839 mines. The most were the MAI 75 mines.
6. At the beginning Romania decided to retain 4000 AP mines for training. Due the fact that the number of the Romanian armed forces decreased significantly it was decided to decrease the number of retained mines to 2500.
7. As the pressure blast mines and the tripwire fragmentation mine had a simple structure the destruction was done by dismantling of the bodies. The pieces that resulted were crushed and the TNT was finally destroyed by open burning .
8. The bounding fragmentation mine was the only category destroyed by open detonation due to its black powder content.
9. The stockpile destruction is now practically completed. Only some tens of mines of each type are now in stockpile. These will be destroyed at the end of March this year to mark by a ceremony the end of the APLs stockpile destruction.
10. We want to use this occasion to thank to Canada and Norway for their donation consisting of 8 laptops and 24 tents which facilitated the last part of the stockpile destruction process.

Thank you.