

WEDNESDAY 04TH JUNE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MINE CLEARANCE.

Intervention by Vanuatu

Co Chairs,

Our Initial Report of 31st August 2006 suggested that Vanuatu had areas under its jurisdiction containing emplaced anti-personnel mines.

Today we are pleased and confident to report that there are no such areas under our jurisdiction. We take this opportunity also to inform the Standing Committee that we have problems with abandoned ordinance dated back to the Second World War.

The misleading information on the existence of land Mines in our jurisdiction has been corrected in our transparency report of 15th January 2008 which supersedes our initial report.

Mr. Co Chairs,

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to GICHD for accepting our request to assist us to undertake a preliminary survey of land mines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) in the South Pacific region. This preliminary survey and its outcome would shed more light into our future transparent reports about the existence of land mines in Vanuatu.

Thank you Co Chairs.