

Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction

Update on Assistance and Cooperation

Italian Statement

Gen. Piero Lucchetti

Geneva, Thursday, 15 May 2003

Thank you Mister Co-Chair,

Regarding Stockpile Destruction:

- the initial Italian situation of more than 6 million and a half war-mines, together with the related materials, has been reduced below the allowed limit;
- the total number of mines retained for training at present in Italy, is 6584 (of which: 811 are war mines and 5773 are inertial mines): definitely a number lower than the maximum ceiling limit (10.000) allowed by the Italian national law implementing the Convention and, further, lower than another limit, 8000, that Italy self imposed.
- Now, other than taking care of our mines for training, Italy is mainly committed to offer some possibilities in the field of co-operation.

Italy already offered on several occasions its availability to help and assist to destroy mines of other countries, but until now we didn't receive any valuable request to be processed and analysed, taking into account technologies, equipment, installations, financial resources and national laws.

We take this occasion to renew our availability.

Thank you, Mister Co-Chair.