

MR. CHRISTIAN RUGE

10 MSP

Stockpile Destruction  
Statement by Norway

Check Against delivery

Thank you, Mr President

Failure to meet the article 3 deadline for complete destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines constitute a violation of the convention. It is therefore serious when 4 states parties still have failed to comply with the destruction obligation within their deadlines. We call on those states parties to implement actions 7, 8 and 9 of the Cartagena Action, and come into compliance as soon as possible.

We welcome the report back from the states parties in question where they describe the actions they have taken to address the issue. ~~More her om de stier noe~~

~~fornuftig~~

While it is the responsibility of each States Party to comply with the obligations of the convention, all States Parties have a responsibility to provide assistance and facilitate cooperation to states parties who seek such assistance.

Experience over the past years have shown that can represent major challenges for both the states parties that seek assistance and for those who seek to provide such assistance. In order to overcome such difficulties, we should exercise determined flexibility and creativity, with a view facilitate complete destruction as soon as possible.

Norway will this week sign an agreement with Ukraine to support the necessary technical upgrade of the PFM1 destruction facilities at the Pavlograd chemical plant. This upgrade will enable Ukraine to start industrial destruction of PFM1 mines in accordance with safety and environmental standards. We hope that this support may assist Ukraine in their efforts to upgrade their capacity to destroy their vast stock of PFM1 mines.

Mr President,

Norway believes that it is unnecessary to retain live mines for training and research, a position firmly confirmed by our partners in the humanitarian mine action community. We are also concerned that many states parties who have chosen to retain live mines under article 3, continue to keep relative large numbers without reporting on what they are used for, and with little or no reduction of the numbers. We call on all states parties who have chosen to retain live mines under article 3 to live up to the commitments in Actions 56 and 57, and as soon as possible reduce the number of retained live mines down, and eventually complete the full destruction of all anti-personnel mines.

Thank you.