

Ukraine



**Statement of the delegation of Ukraine**  
**at the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Land Mine Ban Convention**  
**On Implementation Developments of Ottawa Convention in Ukraine**  
*(28 November-02 December 2011, Phnom Penh)*

*Dear Mr (President) Chairman, Co-Chairs,  
Distinguished delegates,*

The Ukrainian delegation avails itself of this opportunity to express its gratitude to His Majesty, King Norodom Sihamoni and authorities of the Kingdom of Cambodia for hosting this event. We also kindly thank the staff of the Implementation Support Unit of the Convention for their valuable support and assistance provided for the participants.

We are confident that this meeting will attract greater attention of the world's nations to the APLM Ban movement by highlighting the Cambodian's efforts to get rid of the aftermath of more than 35 years of warfare.

Being the consistent adherent of the Ottawa Convention core principles Ukraine strongly advocates its further universalisation. Thus today we are happy to welcome South Soudan as the new nation that decided to accede to the Ottawa Convention.

*Dear colleagues,*

Let me provide you with the update on the steps made by Ukraine in order to comply with the provisions of the APLM Ban Treaty. Only since our last meeting in Geneva in summer 2011 we can whitens significant progress, made by my country towards fulfilment of its international obligations under the Articles 1 and 4 of the Convention. Ukraine has managed to bring its legislation according to the Article 9 and remains among the most wilful Ottawa nations to submit its annual reports according to the Article 7 on time.

In practice developments on the Ottawa Convention implementation in Ukraine are the following.

I would like to start with the Article 1.

Showing the goodwill in 2011 Ukrainian military authorities decided to get rid of all PMN mines. In spite of the exceptions, outlined in the Article 3 of the MBT we have completely destroyed the rest of 211 PMNs previously used for training purposes.

Since then Ukraine uses only the study models of APLMs to train the personnel of the Military Engineer's Institute at the Training Center for the military engineers of

Ukraine (Kamyanets-Podilski Center). The dogs which might be involved in the mine detection process are trained with the special odour imitators.

*Dear participants of the meeting,*

I would like to draw your special attention to the steps of Ukraine towards fulfilment of the state's obligations according to the **Article 4** of the Ottawa Convention.

As for today Ukraine still possess 5.7 million of the PFM-type mines, 149,096 POM-2 remotely delivered bounding fragmentation mines, and 4,105 OZM-4 hand emplaced bounding fragmentation mines.

The complexity of this issue requires the solution with a number of facets that includes the following:

- guaranteed international financial and technical assistance;
- security of the existent stockpiles;
- national legislative background;
- diversification of the APLMs destruction methods.

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At present we can witness significant progress in Ukraine's efforts to bring all the above mentioned into practice.

**Firstly.** As a result of negotiations hold by Ukraine with the potential donor-states during 2010 the demilitarization of 3 million of PFM-1 mines will be funded by the NATO/PfP Trust Fund using the framework of the existent project with Ukraine.

The NATO Maintenance and Supply Agency (NAMSA) will act as the Executive Agent. The demilitarization will be accomplished in Ukraine at the "*State Enterprise Research-Industrial Complex "Pavlograd Chemical Plant"*".

Following these decisions on the 21 of September 2011 Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine signed the respectful Implementing Agreement with the NATO Maintenance and Supply Organization (NAMSO).

The Implementation Agreement will enter into force after the completion of the internal procedures which are due to be finalised promptly. The demilitarization process will start immediately hereupon.

We understand that Implementing Agreement covers the destruction of the half of the PFM-type mines in Ukraine.

Therefore I would like to remind the distinguished participants of the meeting that in 2010 the European Commission kindly decided to provide Ukraine with financial assistance of more than 6 mln. euro using the mechanisms of the European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). We believe that National Indicative Programmes for the years to come could be used as a legal and administrative framework for the EU assistance in eliminating the APLMs stockpiles in Ukraine.



**Secondly.** It's our pleasure to inform you that due to the Norwegian financial assistance the equipment required at Pavlograd Chemical Plant (dry ceramic filters and cooling system) is already purchased and installed.

On August 26, 2011 the modernized incinerator facility was officially put into operation. During the test trial the 936 PFM-1 mines were destroyed in order to demonstrate the safe and environmentally friendly technology of this installation.

It was reported that this facility will be able to destroy safely up to 1,1 million of PFM-1 mines per year.

**Thirdly.** Willing to support the tempo of the national APLMs destruction process the Armed Forces of Ukraine perform the elimination at the expenses of the State budget. For example in 2011 Ukrainian MOD eliminated more than 6 thousands of the PFM-1 mines by ejecting them into the closed water reservoir.

In order to secure the mine stockpiles of different types (engineer's, aviation's and jet projectiles) the APLMs are brought together and stored at 7 highly protected depots of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. The stocks are checked regularly in accordance to the inventory orders of the MoD of Ukraine. The APLMs inventory checks by pieces, numbers, sets and production dates for the year 2011 will be finished later on this month.

*Dear colleagues,*

Reflecting concerns of some NGO's about the destiny of the non PFM types of the APLMs that are stored in Ukraine I would like to inform you about the following.

In accordance with the Article 9 of the Ottawa Convention all APLMs are withdrawn from the operational status of the Ukrainian Armed Forces by the order of the MOD in 2009. The anti-personal mines of POM-2 and OZM-4 type, which were produced after 1991, are safely stored at the Ukrainian military depots. Their quantity and quality conditions are not crucial in comparison to the PFM-1 mines. Therefore the demilitarization of the PFM-1 APLMs remains top-priority for the Ukrainian Government.

*Mr. Chairman,*

To conclude my statement I would like to mention that Ukraine remains ready to work in a constructive manner with the international community to seek the best ways to reach the goals of the Ottawa Convention.

**Thank you.**