6/12 AM.

Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties 3-7 December 2012

Stockpile Destruction - Agenda Item 10.c

Republic of South Sudan

At the 11MSP, South Sudan's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs informed the States Parties that prior to South Sudan's succession from Sudan, Sudan had reported the completion of the destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed by it, or under its jurisdiction or control, with 10,566 stockpiled anti-personnel mines having been destroyed.

South Sudan's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs also indicated that since succession South Sudan had discovered previously unknown stocks of antipersonnel mines located in former camps of the Sudanese Armed Forces.

I am pleased to report to this meeting that the actual number of mines recovered is quite small.

In fact, in total, four stockpiled anti-personnel mines were recovered.

Of these, all four remain to be destroyed.

These will be destroyed by the Danish Demining Group in the 2012-2013 dry season.

Other than this small quantity of previously unknown mines, South Sudan does not have any known stocks.

However, it is possible that additional previously unknown stocks of antipersonnel mines could be discovered in former military camps.

Should previously unknown stockpiles be discovered, South Sudan will report such discoveries in accordance with its obligations under Article 7, and in addition take advantage of other informal means to share such information as soon as possible and destroy these anti-personnel mines as a matter of urgent priority.

South Sudan has included in its National Mine Action Strategic Plan 2012-2016 the objective that all identified and discovered stockpiles of anti-personnel mines are handed over to competent authorities and destroyed and that it will carry out a number of activities related to this objective.

Thank you.