Statement of the Delegation of Ukraine at the 12th Meeting of the Land Mine Ban Convention

6/12

AM

(Agenda item 10, 6^{th} December 2012)

Mr President, Distinguished delegates,

As promised during the general statement made earlier in our Meeting, let me provide you with the update on the steps taken by Ukraine in order to comply with the provisions of the APLM Ban Treaty, in particular its Article 4 regarding the destruction of the stockpiled mines.

As of today, Ukraine – both by its own efforts and at its own expense, as well as with the help of the international community – has destroyed 886,080 anti-personnel landmines, including:

401,200 of PMN type (which is the total number that had been in stock); 238,000 of POMZ type (which is the total number that had been in stock); 8,060 of PMD-6 type (which is the total number that had been in stock); 235,320 of PFM-1 type (including 13,920 destroyed in 2012); and 3,500 of OZM-4 type (all of those destroyed in 2012).

The total number of anti-personnel landmines that are still to be destroyed is 5,922,485 units, including:

5,772,784 of PFM type; 149,096 of POM-2 type; and 0,605 of OZM-4 type.

Since the 11th meeting of the states-parties to the Ottawa Convention in Phnom Penh the following measures have been taken:

First. The Armed Forces of Ukraine continue the elimination of APLMs at the expense of the national budget. Hence, in 2012, 7,200 of PFM-1 mines were destroyed by ejecting them into the closed water reservoir, which is 20% more than in 2011.

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.

Second. Thanks to financial assistance from the Norwegian Government, the necessary equipment has been purchased and installed at Pavlograd Chemical Plant where the destruction is to take place. That includes dry ceramic filters and the cooling system to prevent harmful emissions into the environment.

The modernized incinerator facility has been officially put into operation. During the first test trial, 936 PFM-1 mines were destroyed. The second trial elimination of 72 clusters with 5184 PFM-1 mines is scheduled for December 2012. These tests are to demonstrate the safe and environmentally friendly technology of this installation.

Third. As a result of negotiations held by Ukraine with the potential donor parties, the decision has been taken that the destruction of 3 million of PFM-1 mines will be funded through the NATO/PfP Trust Fund using the framework of the existing project with Ukraine.

This ongoing project – with the United States of America as the lead nation – will include in its second phase the three components of armaments subject to destruction: small arms and light weapons, munitions, and antipersonnel landmines. The NATO Support Agency (NSPA) will act as the Executive Agent.

To enable this procedure for the destruction of the above weaponry, the following legislative actions were put into place:

The Government of Ukraine signed the Implementation Agreement with NSPA (before 2012 called NAMSA), which was subsequently ratified by the Parliament of Ukraine.

The funds for the destruction of all the remaining landmines have been pledged by the European Union (through its European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument) and will be channelled for that purpose into the NATO/PfP Trust Fund.

At present, there is the ongoing assessment process of NSPA for this particular project by an independent auditing firm hired by the EU. This is a standard procedure required for the release of the EU funds. We were informed that this procedure is to be finalized in early 2013.

Nevertheless, the NSPA has accumulated sufficient resources of its own – thanks to the generous offer from the German Government – to enable the commencement of the project as early as January 2013. In other words, the large-scale elimination of stockpiled anti-personnel landmines in Ukraine can begin in a few weeks time.

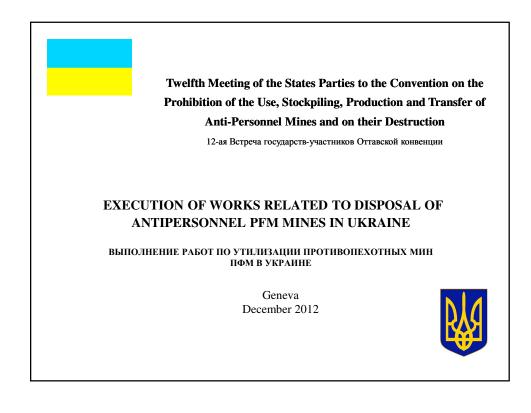
The capacity of the Pavlohrad Chemical Plant allows for the destruction of around 1 million APLMs per year, which means 1 mine every 30 seconds.

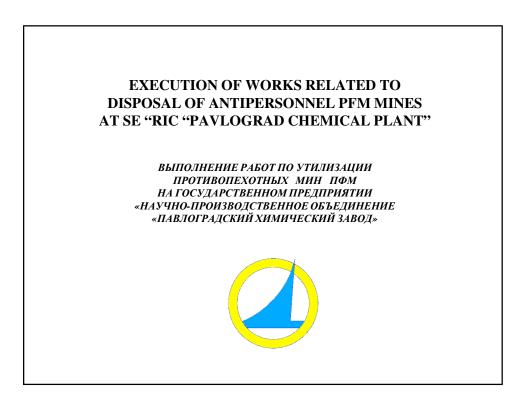
Fourth. The second batch of 3 million landmines will be subject to destruction as soon as the first batch of 3 million landmines has been destroyed. We give the priority to PFM-1 type mines because they are in the largest quantity and of older production. However, all types of landmines have been withdrawn from the operational status of the Ukrainian Armed Forces. The POM-2 and OZM-4 type mines, which were produced after 1991, as it was stated before, are safely stored at the Ukrainian military depots and will be also destroyed.

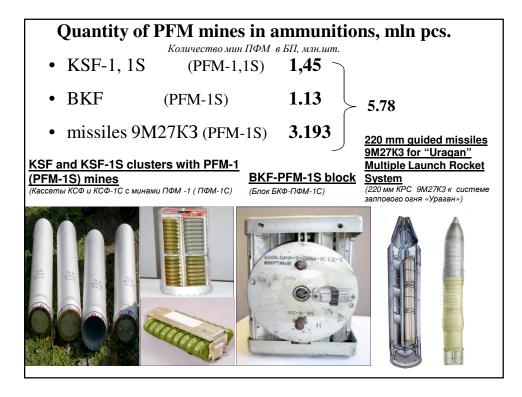
Mr. President,

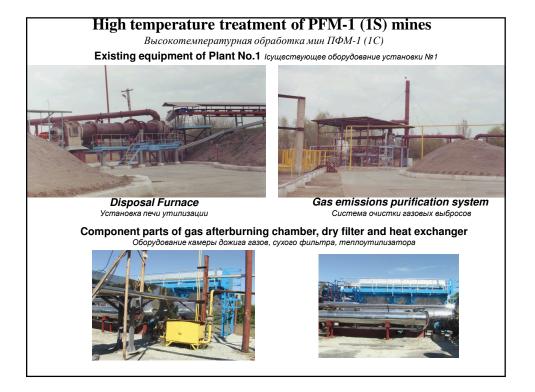
To conclude, I wish to reiterate the firm commitment of my country to abide by its obligations taken upon accession to the Ottawa Convention. Now that the international assistance can be effectively combined with the national resources, we are on the right track to proceed with the swift elimination on a large scale of all the anti-personnel landmines in Ukraine.

Thank you.

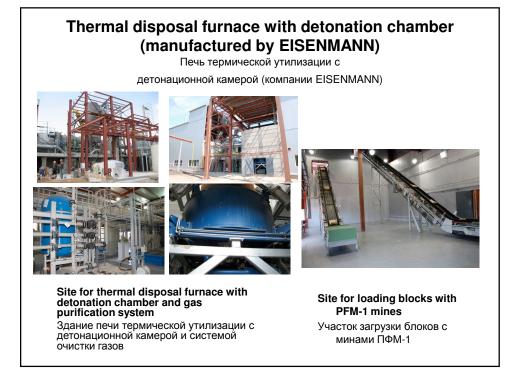


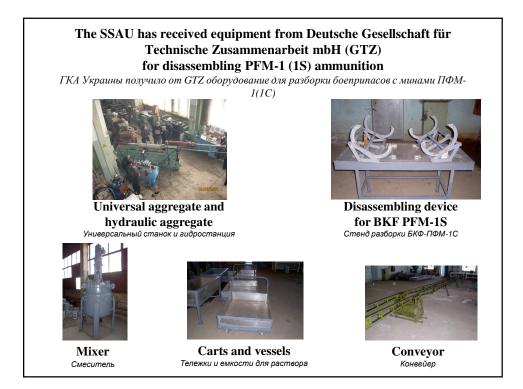


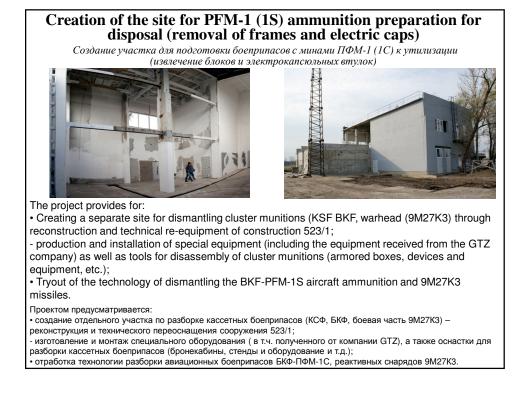


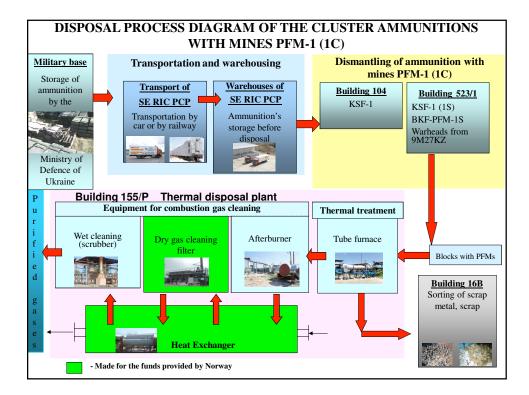












In order to fulfill Ukraine's obligations to destruct PFM-1 (1S) mines, SE RIC "Pavlograd Chemical Plant" requires :

Для выполнения обязательств Украины по ликвидации мин ПФМ-1 (1С), необходимо на ГП "НПО "ПХЗ":

1) Provision of financial support by the EU for the destruction of anti-personal landmines

Финансирование со стороны Европейского Союза процесса уничтожения противопехотных мин

2) Creation of a facility for dismantling and preparation for disposal of PFM-1 and PFM-1S mines from KSF-1, KSF-1S, BKF and 9M27K3

Создание участка по разборке и подготовке к утилизации блоков с минами ПФМ-1, ПФМ-1С, отработка технологии разборки авиационных боеприпасов БКФ и реактивных снарядов 9М27КЗ

