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Statement by Nigeria

Stockpile Destruction

6 December 2012

It has been an honour to have served as Rapporteur of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction in 2012 and to have been nominated to serve as Co-Chair in 2013.

As you will recall from Nigeria's general statement, Nigeria takes this and all other core aims of the Convention very seriously.

Nigeria agrees with the outgoing Co-Chairs' observation that while the number of country cases for which stockpile destruction remains is small, the challenges we face in completion of implementation of Article 4 are great.

Nigeria also notes that it is often African States Parties which find themselves in situations where previously unknown stocks are discovered and must be destroyed.

Nigeria, as a fellow African State Party, perhaps can contribute to progress in this area by encouraging our friends to promptly act in accordance with Cartagena Action Plan commitments on previously unknown stocks.

Nigeria looks forward to working closely with Norway in 2012, the other State Party designated to Co-Chair this Standing Committee, as well as with all other partners who wish to support the complete fulfilment of the obligation to destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines.

And we thank all delegations for the confidence they have expressed in our nomination to serve as Co-Chair.