

**15<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF STATES PARTIES**  
**ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION**  
**(OTTAWA CONVENTION)**

**STATEMENT BY CANADA - SANTIAGO, CHILE - DECEMBER 2016**

**STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION**

- Stockpile destruction (Article 4) helps to avoid the harm of landmines by ensuring that they are never laid in the ground in the first place.
- There are currently three States Parties to the Convention that need to return to compliance with their obligation. We call on them to take immediate action to fulfill this requirement, and those in a position to do so to support such work.
- Failure in this regard could significantly weaken the global norm against stockpile destruction.
- At the Meeting of States Parties last year, the draft outcome document that was circulated noted the non-compliance on the part of States that have not met their stockpile destruction requirements in the required timeframe. A proposal was put forward by those States to amend the text to read that they had missed their deadline, with no reference to non-compliance.
- Such an approach can also erode the norms of our Convention. States parties should collectively consider its negative impact on the Convention and its objectives.
- In closing, Canada would like to congratulate Poland for having completed destruction of its anti-personnel mine stockpiles.