

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (Ottawa Treaty)
15th Meeting of States Parties

Australia

Destroying Stockpiles

Madam President

Australia extends its congratulations to Poland for completing its stockpile destruction.

Australia is pleased to be able to inform the meeting that we no longer retain any anti-personnel mines, not even for training and research purposes. Australia's five remaining anti-personnel mines were destroyed as part of scheduled disposal training in 2015. Australia now uses alternative technologies in order to continue to train for mine location, identification and neutralisation.

The Department of Defence is also undertaking a stocktake to verify that no live anti-personnel mines remain. If any live anti-personnel mines are found, they too will be destroyed.

As permitted by the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, Australia had previously retained a small number of anti-personnel mines for training and research purposes. A small quantity of these mines was used each year to meet Australia's training requirements. Their retention was reported in our annual transparency reports.

Thank you Madam President