



THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

*Seventh Meeting of the State Parties of the
Convention on the Prohibition of the Use,
Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of
Anti-personnel Mines on Their Destruction*

**Declaration of Completion of all
Article 5 obligations**

20 September 2006

Thank You

The Republic of Moldova declares that it has destroyed all anti-personnel mines in areas under its jurisdictions or control in which anti-personnel mines were known or suspected to be emplaced, in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention.

The Republic of Moldova completed the destruction of its entire anti-personnel stockpile four years ago, far ahead of the March 2005 deadline. As permitted by Article 3 of the Convention, my country has retained 249 remotely controlled mines of Soviet manufacture, for training purposes in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques.

In the period **19 May – 8 June 2006**, by the national army was destroyed these last 249 retained landmines (59 units OZM72, 12 units MON50 and 178 units MON100), by electric method, with respect of all environmental standards. It should be mentioned that no mines were transferred or acquired for training purposes.

It should be mentioned that all presented figures do not apply to the transnistrian region, presently under control of a separatist regime, so that Moldova cannot assure the implementation of the Ottawa Convention provision on that territory, as well do not have exact dates regarding the number and types of its stockpiles.

In this context, my country strongly supports the initiative to organize an international inspection of the Russian stockpiles of anti-personnel mines and landmines held by its military forces, deployed illegally on the transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova (from the perspective of security measures, ammunitions accounting, accordance of the data indicated in the official papers to the real one, etc.), asking for an immediate withdrawal or destruction of the existing stockpiles, in conditions of full transparency.

Taking into the consideration that in the transnistrian region there are a lot of factories that are part of the military-industrial complex, having huge potential of production of different types of ammunitions, my country favors the organization of a permanent international monitoring mission of these factories, that will bring more clarity in the issue of the destination of its exported products.

These actions are the testimony of Moldova's consistent policy in support of the Mine Ban Convention and its main goal – a mine free world, and I would like to assure the state parties that my country will remain committed to implement all its obligations under the Ottawa Convention.