

SWEDEN
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21st November 2007

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Your Royal Highness, Mr President,

Our delegation would like to share some views and provide information with respect to anti-personnel mines retained according to Article 3,

Mr President,

Sweden, like many other states parties, choose to retain anti-personnel mines, in accordance with Article 3 for the following purposes:

- Training of EOD-personnel;
- Training of Mine detection dog teams and
- Tests and evaluations of equipment for demining.

As for these test, many of them have been carried out together with numerous international actors and in the framework of ITEP and CEN. This has contributed to the development of internationally accepted and used test procedures for mechanical equipment.

On this point we would like to inform you that the number of retained anti-personnel mines has decreased with some 600 to 800 yearly.

Sweden has always reported, in full transparency, details on retained anti-personnel mines in accordance to Article 3. Moreover, we have presented our plan for the use of the retained mines to the Swedish affiliation of the ICBL.

Mr President,

We can assure you that Sweden will continue to report in full transparency as we have done in the past, and we encourage all states parties to do the same.

An evaluation of the plan for retained anti-personnel mines that was made last year resulted in an **additional** destruction of 3.665 APM under 2006. In addition to this, we are happy to announce that we, for the same reason, destroyed another 2.900 anti-personnel mines as late as a month ago.

I thank you for your attention