

ПОСТІЙНЕ ПРЕДСТАВНИЦТВО УКРАЇНИ ПРИ ВІДДІЛЕННІ ООН ТА ІНШИХ МІЖНАРОДНИХ ОРГАНІЗАЦІЯХ У ЖЕНЕВІ

MISSION PERMANENTE DE L'UKRAINE AUPRES DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES A GENEVE

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The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Convention on the Prohibition of Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (APLC) and has the honour to inform the following.

Due to the fact that the delegation of Ukraine would not be able to participate in the APLC Third Review Conference (23-27 June 2014, Maputo, Mozambique) the Permanent Mission of Ukraine kindly requests the Secretariat to circulate the enclosed Information on the APLC implementation by Ukraine as an official document of the Conference and to duly include the data contained therein in its Final Report.

Permanent Mission of Ukraine avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the APLC Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

Encl.

APLC Secretariat
Office for Disarmament Affairs,
Geneva Branch of the United Nations



APLC Implementation Support Unit Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining

Geneva

Information

on the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (Ottawa Treaty) by Ukraine

Ukraine supports the objectives of the Ottawa Treaty which we regard as an important tool in the field of disarmament and arms control, as well as an effective mechanism for maintaining regional stability and promotes its universalization.

Pursuant to Article 4 of the Ottawa Treaty Ukraine destroyed 1 219,008 thousand anti-personnel landmines (APLs), including:

- 401,2 thousand units of PMN type;
- 238 thousand units of POMZ type;
- 8,06 thousand units of PMD-6 type;
- 568,248 thousand units of PFM type (including 0,576 thousand units in 2014);
 - 3,5 thousand units of OZM-4 type.

As of today, 5 584,373 thousand APLs are liable for destruction, including:

- 5 434,672 thousand units of PFM type;
- 149,096 thousand units of POM-2 type;
- 0,605 thousand units of OZM-4 type.

Ukraine has completed all the necessary procedures for the implementation of the APLs stockpiles destruction project, supported by the European Commission (EC), and prepared the capacities of the State Enterprise "Scientific and Production Association "Pavlograd chemical plant" to dispose 1 million APLs per year in case of regular funding.

Despite the lack of financial resources Ukraine is working to destroy unconventional munitions on its own.

Thus, in the first months of 2014, 576 APLs (unloaded from the KSF-1 clusters) were disposed.

A wide range of measures for clearance of areas contaminated by explosive objects and remnants of war are being implemented, especially of former military training grounds that Ukraine inherited from the USSR. There is a large amount of munitions that did not explode during exercises or tests carried out in these areas.

The main impediment to increasing the rate of destruction of APLs in Ukraine is a delay in the provision of financial assistance by the European Commission (EC) through the mechanisms of the NATO Trust Fund/"Partnership for Peace", despite of relevant EC commitments envisaged by the Protocol of May 19, 2010 between the Ministry of Economic Development of Ukraine and the EC on the allocation of targeted funds in the amount of 6 million Euros for Ukraine.

This agreement with the EC was one of the fundamental prerequisites for the ratification of the Ottawa Treaty by Ukraine.

The destruction of APLs during 2013-2014 years was mainly carried out due to voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund by several countries, including Germany and the United States. In this regard the Ukrainian side calls on potential

donors to contribute to the process of renewal of funding for the destruction of APLs.

The military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, started in February 2014, revealed disparity in the balance of military capabilities between Ukraine and the aggressor state, given that Russia is not a party to the Ottawa Treaty.

During the aggression and the occupation of the sovereign territory of Ukraine the Russian Federation used anti-tank and anti-personnel mines to set up the minefields on the administrative border between occupied Crimea and the continental part of our country.

The Armed Forces of the Russian Federation seized 605 units of APLs which were stored at the military depot in the Saki Region of Crimea in accordance with Article 3 of the Treaty for training of Ukrainian combat engineer units. This carries the risk of transfer of these APLs into the hands of terrorist groups that are sent to Ukraine from the Russian Federation and openly supported by Moscow.

Instead, Ukraine, by performing its obligations under Article 1, paragraph 1 of the Ottawa Treaty concerning the APLs non-use, is essentially limited in choices of military measures (mines) for the protection of its frontiers and border areas from the terrorist attacks that are carried out on a daily basis from the Russian territory.

The strict adherence to these commitments by Ukraine results in numerous casualties among Ukrainian soldiers, who can not use mines to defend themselves from the Russian terrorists.

In April-May 2014 one soldier of the Armed Forces of Ukraine was killed and three were wounded by APLs and improvised explosive devices in the southeastern region of Ukraine. Additional combat engineers' units were detached to these areas to identify mine-explosive obstacles and to conduct demining operations.

In this regard, Ukraine calls on all States Parties to the Ottawa Treaty, the Secretary General of the UN and Member States of the Security Council to take immediate action and exert pressure on the aggressor so that the Russian Federation will refuse to support terrorist activities against Ukraine.

The Ukrainian side reaffirms its commitment to the world free of landmines, as the main goal of the Ottawa Treaty.