Sarbia



## ANTI - PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION THIRD REVIEW CONFERENCE

Maputo, Mozambique 23-27 June 2014

Mr President, distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the delegation of the Republic of Serbia, allow me to congratulate you on excellent guidance of our work during the course of this week.

Mr President.

The Republic of Serbia is a State Party of the Convention since 2004 and is fully committed to the implementation of its obligations under the Convention, which is proved by the fact that the Republic of Serbia neither produces AP mines nor possesses the stockpiles of AP mines. Namely, the stockpiles of AP mines were destroyed in 2007, well before the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2014, Serbia's original deadline established under Article 5.

The Republic of Serbia fulfils its obligations related to clearance of mine contaminated area, too, as well as the obligations related to victim assistance. As we speak, today sees the beginning of the project of creation of database for persons with disabilities, which will serve as a meaningful tool in the work of previously announced Working Group. By this we will be follow the path of ensuring the full and effective completion of our respective time - bound obligations.

As regards mine clearance, at the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the States Parties of the Convention, which was held in December 2013, Geneva, the Republic of Serbia was granted a 5 year extension of the deadline for fulfilment of its obligations under Article 5 of the Convention. Accordingly, Serbia should fulfil its obligations before 1 March 2019. The Republic of Serbia is grateful for expressed understanding of the problems related to humanitarian demining in Serbia.

Mr President,

I would like to take this opportunity to assure you that despite all the problems and financial restrictions resulting from economic difficulties the Republic of Serbia has been facing, we remain strongly committed to the fulfilment of our Article 5 obligations, namely to the accomplishment of a goal – mine free Serbia by 2019.

I thank you for your attention!



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