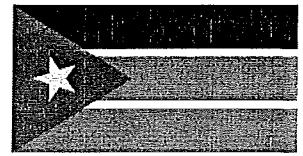




The Republic of South Sudan (RSS) National Mine Action Authority



Date: 18/06/2014

The Chairman's Statement for the third Review Conference 23-----27 June 2014

Thank you, Excellency, the president of the Third Review Conference for giving me the opportunity to share with you the Mine Action achievements we have made for the last five years in South Sudan.

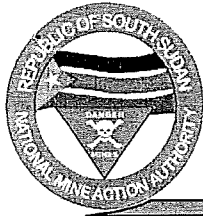
Your Excellency; all the ten states of South Sudan have been contaminated by Landmines and other Explosive remnants of War (ERW). Since 2005 considerable amount of work have been done all over the country. About 23 thousands KMs of main and feeder roads have indeed been opened. The reason was to allow the movement of people and goods from a place to another. However the size of contamination in the three States of Upper Nile, Jonglei and Unity cannot be determined fully due to current military operations between the rebels and the Government's forces. This has made negative impact not only on mine clearance, but also on movement of people and supplies to the areas of need. Some communities/areas remain inaccessible due to poor roads and long rainy season which extends to more than nine months a year. With the rapid expansion of the population, more new hazards have been discovered. As such it becomes difficult to define the full extent of landmine/ERW contamination in the country, and its impact on community members still remain a challenge. However, with the continued progress of survey and clearance operations, up to May this year, there are total of **741** remaining hazards recorded detailed as follow:

- **8** dangerous areas,
- **18** Ammunitions dump,
- **40** Battle field areas,
- **48** Confrontation areas,
- **304** Minefields,
- **20** Previous Ambush areas,
- **204** UXO's spots,
- **99** Landmine Impact Survey Suspected Hazard Areas.

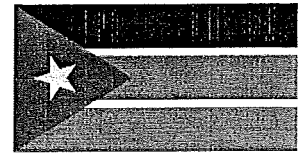
A total of **8,542** hazards have so far been "Closed" by the programme through (clearance, survey, land release or by Cancellation) representing a total area of **1,130,819,866** square meters of land released to the communities in the whole of South Sudan by the use of the above mentioned land release processes.

A total of **3,313,728** Explosive devices have been destroyed by the programme:

- **28,490** Anti personnel Landmines destroyed.
- **4,884** Anti Tank Landmines Destroyed.
- **847,213** Explosive Ordnance destroyed.
- **2,437,141** Small Arm Ammunitions destroyed.



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- **6000** stockpiles of anti personnel mines were destroyed by the Republic of South Sudan in March 2008 to meet its obligations under the Ottawa Mine Ban Convention.

Hopefully, with consistent support from the international community and the Government of the South Sudan to the programme, we can be able to bring to an end landmines problem in about (10) year time from Now.

Ladies and gentlemen

On the side of MRE:

A total of 2,170,375 people have received Mine Risk Education from the programme broken down as follow:

- **754,880** are boys,
- **486,389** of them are girls,
- **556,753** are men,
- **362,708** of them are women,
- **9,644** are not specified.

Victim assistance programme was also given no less attention,

From January to May 2014, only 30 landmine/ERW victims have been registered, of which 7 were killed and 23 were injured. The total number of landmine/ERW victims recorded from the beginning of the programme to date is **4,788**.

The number of the landmine victims has been decreasing year after year due to the effort made by Humanitarian Mine Action organizations, Commercial companies, donors and National Government of South Sudan who relentlessly worked to free South Sudan from Landmines/ERW.

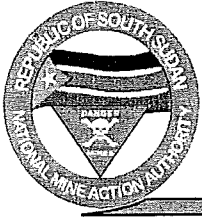
Currently, the Government has plans that are made to alleviate conditions of victims and their families. These are:

1/ Rehabilitation centres

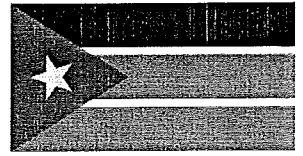
2/ Vocational training centres

3/ Provision of some cash to the persons with disabilities for the income generating activities and

4/ the ICRC physical and rehabilitation centre (PRC) which produces Prosthesis for the victims. In fact this one existed before the government could establish centres for the victims. Thank you ICRC for the commendable job.



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South Sudan in general does not produce, sell or transfer landmines to any other Countries. It has no intention to retain some anti personnel landmines for the purpose of training and research development. As for now all the stockpiles we had were destroyed in March 2008. In addition all the identified and discovered stockpiles of anti personnel mines are handed over to competent authorities for their destruction.

All the Anti personnel mines/Anti tank mines found during demining operations are initially destroyed.

Finally we are grateful and thankful at the same time to our donors, working NGOs, UN agencies for tremendous job they do in combating lands for the betterment of our people.

THANK YOU.

Jurkuch Barach Jurkuch
Chairperson,
National Mine Action Authority
Republic of South Sudan