



Fourth Review Conference of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

Oslo, 25-29 October 2019

Australian Comments on Stockpile Destruction

Mr President,

We welcome this discussion on stockpile destruction, and the news in the Landmine Monitor 2019 that forty-one states have ceased production of antipersonnel mines. As those assembled here may be aware, Australia is among those states that have completed their stockpile destruction activity. As of 2016, we no longer retain stocks of live antipersonnel landmines, even for training and research purposes.

Mr President,

As permitted by the Mine Ban Convention and domestic legislation, Australia previously retained antipersonnel mines for training and research purposes, and these mines were reported on in our annual transparency reports. A small quantity of these mines was used each year for our training requirements, but by 2015 all but five of Australia's antipersonnel landmine stocks were destroyed. Following an audit, Australia's remaining five antipersonnel mines were destroyed in late November 2016.

Mr President,

We are pleased to state that Australia no longer uses landmines for training and research purposes. Australia now uses alternative technologies in order to continue to train for mine location, identification and neutralisation.