Statement by
Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia

at

Fourth Review Conference of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction

Destroying Stockpiled Anti-Personnel Mines

Oslo, 25-29 November 2019
Mr. President,

Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates,

Indonesia is a country which has not produced, stockpiled nor used anti-personnel mines since becoming Party to the Convention in 2007. As part of our commitment, since 2008 Indonesia has destroyed 12,618 anti-personnel mines, which is more than 80% of Indonesia’s anti-personnel mines. [Due to our recent national election and inauguration of the new administration, the Government of the Republic Indonesia just sent its Annual Article 7 Report to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit].

As of 2018, Indonesia still retained 2,148 anti-personnel mines for training purposes as permitted by the Convention. Training and education are one of our focuses in facing the detrimental impact of the landmines. The advanced trainings and educations in conventional weapons, such as landmines, are extensively taught, and instructed to multiple levels of military personnel.

These trainings and education are essential to increase their skills in eradicating the severity of landmine’s impact, not only for both their own well-being as a soldier, but also to prevent casualties from civilians. These skills are proven imperative not only for our own interests, but also for our peace keeping operation under United Nation. Many of our deployed personnel have proven their expertise in neutralizing significant numbers of landmines during their operations.

Mr. President,

In line with our obligation to the Convention, this year our Government has destroyed another 98 mines and furthermore, we are in the procesa of introducing a national plan for 2020-2024 to yet lower the number of retained units up to no more than 154 anti-personnel mines for training and educational purposes of our Peacekeepers and Bomb Squads.

We do understand, that for some countries, destroying a particular type of mine is extremely hazardous, poses serious technical difficulties, and not mention, requiring a considerable amount of financial resources. In this regard, we would like to reiterate the importance of financial, technical, and humanitarian assistance for those states in meeting their deadlines. Therefore, Indonesia calls more concrete actions from countries, including countries not party to the Convention, to provide necessary assistance to the states parties in need. Indonesia is of the view that “link and match” between those assistance and the needs of the recipient countries, as well as support from the ISU is crucial for the implementation of the Convention. In our part, Indonesia stands ready to share our expertise to assist countries in need.
Before I conclude, Mr. President, my delegation commends states parties which have been committed to destroy their mines stockpiles within the given time frame. Their efforts have surely contributed concretely to the elimination of more than 51 million mines and make the world a better place for all mankind.

I thank you, Mr. President.