



**Statement of the Netherlands**  
**under agenda item 7 (b) on**  
**Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines**  
**Fourth Review Conference of the**  
**Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention**

Thank you Mr. President,

The Netherlands much appreciates that the destruction of stock-piled anti-personnel mines under Article 4 is addressed this morning.

We believe that stockpile destruction is a crucial step towards achieving our common objective to free the world from anti-personnel mines, as the destruction of these stockpiles is an important step in guaranteeing that they will not be used. In that process, it is important to address the challenges that we face in a transparent manner.

Since the Third Review Conference, the Netherlands is glad to see that the amount of States Parties with Article 4 obligations has decreased from seven to three. As expressed during several Meeting of States Parties, the Netherlands congratulates Belarus, Finland, Oman, and Poland once again on fulfilling their Article 4 obligations.

At the same time, we have to acknowledge that three states parties have reported that they are still in the process of implementing Article 4 of the Convention and for two of these States Parties, namely Greece and Ukraine, they are in non-compliance with the implementation of Article 4. We do appreciate the intention

just stated by Greece of destroying the remaining part of their stockpile as soon as possible

We would like to reiterate the appeal, as was expressed by the Sixteenth Meeting of States Parties, to those States Parties which are effectively in non-compliance with their Article 4 obligations, to continue their efforts for the completion of their stockpile destruction obligations.

Because only if all remaining stockpiles of anti-personnel mines have been destroyed, we can guarantee that they at least will not be used again.

Thank you, Mister President.