

South Sudan Presentation to 4th APMBC Review Conference

Slide One

Mr President, excellencies, ladies and gentlemen thank you for giving me the opportunity to update the room on the progress that has been made by South Sudan in regards to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

In July 2011 South Sudan became a member to the convention on gaining its independence, and has made steady progress to deliver on its treaty obligations ever since. Next year it reaches the ten year point and sadly we will be requesting an extension to our Article Five commitment.

South Sudan will be requesting a five year extension and will do so on the basis of having made significant progress and of now having a good understanding of the remaining problem.

Please allow me to elaborate:

Slide Two

This slide shows the progress that has been made since South Sudan joined the Convention. You will note that more than four times as much land has been cleared from the database through cancellation as through actual clearance – this pattern is key to our assessment of the future requirement. I would also point out that more than 772 confirmed or suspected minefields have been removed from our database, and that in this period there have been at 538 people killed or injured by explosive devices.

Slide Three

This map shows how the concentration of effort has been in the Greater Equatoria region where more than 80% of the clearance has taken place

Slide Four

The map here shows the remaining contamination. The strong concentration of remaining minefields in the Greater Equatoria region of our country is clear. It is interesting to see that 80% of the remaining tasks, still remain in Equatoria, however these account for just 25% of the remaining contamination. Given that this is the area where the majority of clearance has taken place it is considered to be the best understood region, and so where the estimates are considered most reliable.

I should point out that currently opponents to our peace agreement are continuing to mount attacks in this region, which is hindering our efforts to clear the mines.

Slide Five

Here is the state by state analysis, I would point out that two of our ten states have no remaining AP minefields and that four more states share just nine remaining minefields between them.

Slide Six

As at the end of October this year, there were 62 suspected hazardous areas and 65 confirmed hazardous areas remaining, with a combined area of 12.2 square kilometres remaining. However, it is important to note that more than 50% of this entire area is comprised of just two hazards, both of which are currently inaccessible, but which we plan to resurvey as soon as the climatic and security situation permits.

We believe this will result in a more realistic assessment of the overall challenge and that through on going clearance efforts the

remaining hazards at the start of 2021 will comprise around five square kilometres.

Slide Seven

I shall turn now to our plans for the future. I should stress that South Sudan intends to address its anti-personnel mine contamination in parallel to its other explosive contamination. In 2020 we shall be prioritizing the resurvey of those hazards that have clearly been exaggerated.

Over the next two years South Sudan intends to expand and reconfigure its clearance capacity in order to deploy larger demining teams that will clear tasks more efficiently than at present.

Slide Eight

This slide shows how our planned capacity should yield an output that exceeds our current projected contamination. We are consciously doing so in order to ensure we are prepared to address those few tasks that might emerge in the coming years.

Slide Nine

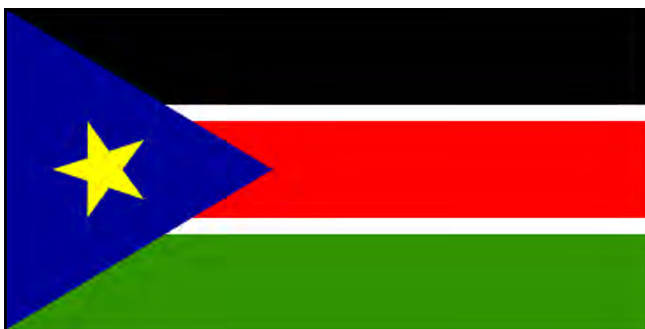
I will close by outlining the challenges that we face:

We continue to be hindered by the poor infrastructure and the impact of the annual rains. There remain outliers to the peace process, completion will not be possible until they lay down their arms. I should also note that we are still to establish a long term capacity to address whatever contamination arises in the future and would request your support to help us to do so.

In order to complete its obligations South Sudan is dependent on continued international support for which we remain most grateful. The operators in our country will be requesting additional funds to scale up their capacity to field the larger teams that are needed for more efficient clearance.

Lastly we shall need your approval for our extension request which shall shortly be lodged and which we believe to be based on fact, realistic and achievable.

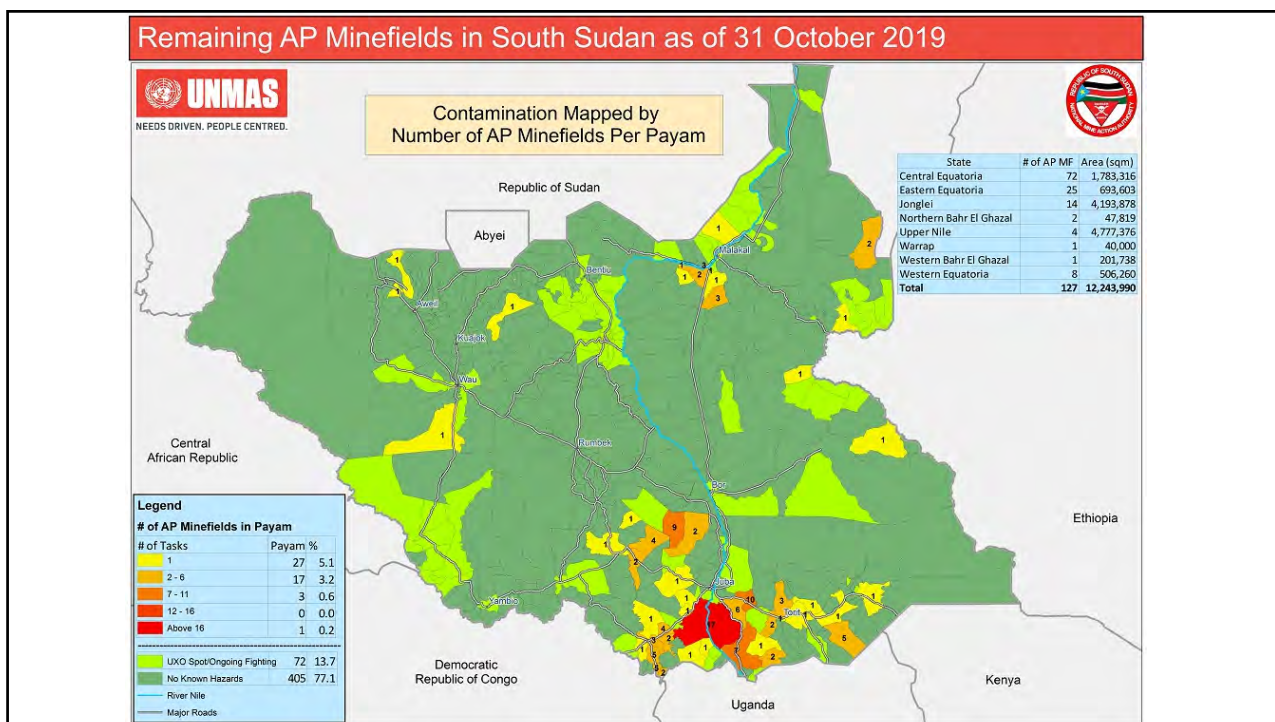
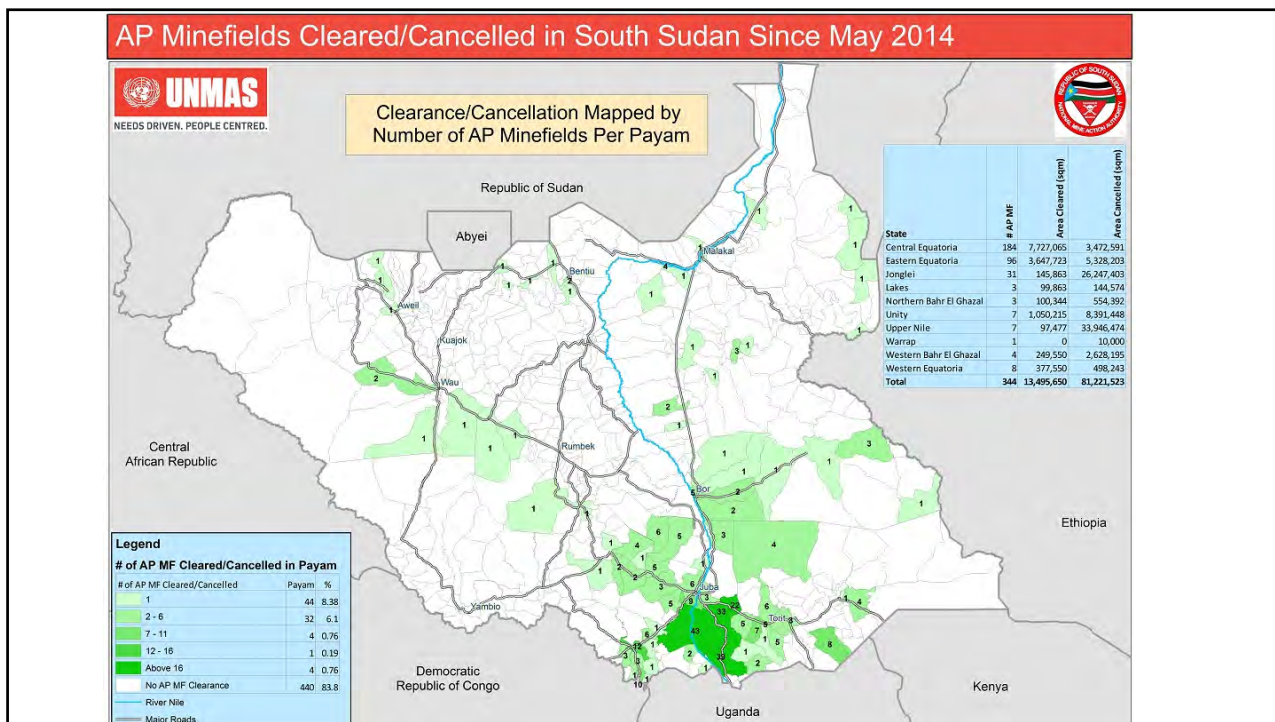
Thank you once again for the opportunity to address the room.



Republic of South Sudan
 Presentation to Fourth Review Conference of the
 Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
 on progress
 9 July 2011 – 31 October 2019
 Jurkuch Barach- Chairperson NMAA

Progress made since joining the Convention (09.07.2011)

Province	Cleared area (m ²)	Cancelled area (m ²)	Total area released (m ²)	Number of AP Mines destroyed	Number of other explosive remnants of war	Number of areas release
Central Equatoria	14,414,708	7,819,487	22,234,195	6,459	25,877	436
Eastern Equatoria	7,027,545	19,498,441	26,525,986	2,296	5,827	164
Jonglei	271,325	26,267,403	26,538,728	990	2,638	32
Lakes	142,867	974,920	1,117,787	1	2	18
Northern Bahr El Ghazal	125,285	554,392	679,677	6	58	8
Unity	1,051,368	7,262,144	8,313,512	133	2,405	4
Upper Nile	689,111	34,689,471	35,378,582	680	1,940	35
Warrap	0	10,000	10,000	1	2	2
Western Bahr El Ghazal	256,118	2,767,101	3,023,219	23	156	19
Western Equatoria	1,199,239	511,193	1,710,432	158	956	54
Total	25,177,566	100,354,552	125,532,118	10,747	39,861	772



Remaining Challenge as of 31st of October 2019

Province	Number of Areas known to contain AP mines	Number of areas suspected to contain AP mines	Total number of areas known or suspected to contain AP Mines	Amount of area known to contain AP mines (m ²)	Amount of area suspected to contain AP mines (m ²)	Total amount of area known or suspected to contain AP Mines ((m ²)
Central Equatoria	37	35	72	1,312,066	471,250	1,783,316
Eastern Equatoria	16	9	25	599,171	94,432	693,603
Jonglei	6	8	14	597,036	3,596,842	4,193,878
Northern Bahr El Ghazal	1	1	2	26,100	21,719	47,819
Upper Nile	3	1	4	93,761	4,683,615	4,777,376
Warrap		1	1		40,000	40,000
Western Bahr El Ghazal	1		1	201,738		201,738
Western Equatoria	1	7	8	95,450	410,810	506,260
Unity	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lakes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	65	62	127	2,925,322	9,318,668	12,243,990

Remaining Challenge

- **62 Suspected Hazardous Areas** measuring 9,318,668 square meters **average 15 ha/task**
- **65 Confirmed Hazardous Areas** measuring 2,925,322 square meters **average 4.5ha/task**
- Of note 2 currently inaccessible tasks account for more than 50% of all remaining contamination. Resurvey is expected to reduce these significantly.
- A more realistic assessment of all contamination is gleamed by assuming all minefields are the historical average of 4.5ha per task (5.7km² overall)

Expected Milestones

- South Sudan intends to deliver on its APMBC obligations in parallel with other clearance work, and aims to be AP mine free by July 2026 – to do this it will:
- Prioritize the survey of the exaggerated hazards and confirm the true status of all SHAs – expected reduction
- Reconfigure the clearance capacity to deliver a more efficient manual demining capacity
- From 2020 onwards it intends to field 18 fifteen lane demining teams with a capacity to clear 90 hectares per year as well as three mechanical teams to clear additional 45 hectares per year

Expected Milestones

- Clearance projection is based on 18, then 15, Manual demining teams, 3 Mechanical teams

	Number of tasks to be cleared		Cleared Area (ha)		Total # of Areas at end of year	Total Area (m2) at end of year
	Manually	Mechanically	Manually	Mechanically		
2020	10	10	54	45	100	450
2021	20	10	90	45	70	305
2022	20	10	90	45	40	170
2023	20		90		20	80
2024	16		70		4	10
2025	16		70		-14	-60
	106	30	464	135		

Challenges for Implementation

- Poor infrastructure – seasonal rains and flooding reduce the demining year to eight months
- Insufficient resources – competing demands
- Need to restructure clearance capacity for efficient clearance
- Security – particularly in Equatoria the area of greatest contamination
- National capacity to address residual contamination still not developed
- Additional hazards still being identified

Requirements for cooperation and assistance:

- Need to establish a national clearance capacity
- Confirmation of clearance resources – funding uncertainty hinders progress
- Additional financing to deliver an achievable plan
- Approval for a five year extension



Expected Milestones

Current total contamination 127 Clearance tasks 12.24km²

Comprised of:

65 CHA at 2.92km² at an average of 4.5hectares per task (the historical average is 4 ha)

**62 SHA at 9.32km² of which the 2 largest tasks comprise 6.2km² - so average
300+hectares each**

Realistic analysis suggests:

127 minefields at 4.5ha each suggests the real problem extends to around 5.7km²

By July 2021 survey and clearance is expected to reduce the total to 5.km²