SECOND REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

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ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OTTAWA CONVENTION IN UKRAINE

Submitted by Ukraine

1. Possessing one of the biggest mine stocks in the world, Ukraine attaches great importance to the issue of their safe destruction in accordance with the provisions of the Ottawa Convention, known also as the Mine Ban Treaty (MBT).

2. As of today Ukraine possesses 6,046,861 of anti-personnel mines (APLs) that fall directly under the MBT. Ukraine signed the MBT on February 24, 1999, ratified on 18 May 2005 and became a fully-fledged member to the Convention on 1 June 2006. Although for Ukraine the MBT obligations has become legally bound only in 2006, since signing the Treaty in 1999, the country has made every effort to adhere to its provisions pending on the resources available and without any time restrictions.

3. Elimination in 2003 of 400,000 antipersonnel mines of the PMN-type in Ukraine within the respectful NATO/PFP Trust Fund Project (Canada was the lead nation) has become real practical contribution to the global endeavors in that sphere.

4. Since then the issue of destruction of more than 6 million PFM-type mines which are still stored in Ukraine remains a huge problem.

5. This is the reason that the EU's intention to render assistance to Ukraine for the PFM stockpiles elimination in 2005 became a significant prerequisite to the Ukrainian decision on the MBT's ratification.

6. Despite the fact that in 2007, the EC withdrew its assistance aimed at financing the implementation of Ukraine's obligations according to the Ottawa Convention, Ukraine has managed to restart constructive cooperation since 2009.



APLC/CONF/2009/WP.12 Page 2

7. According to the proposals worded in the letter of the EC President to the Ukrainian Prime-Minister in 2008 the APL destruction was recently identified as a priority that could be financed under the European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) Ukrainian National Programme (UNP) for 2011-2013. But the destruction deadline is 2010.

8. Ukraine has seek technical assistance and has launched cooperation with the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS). As a result Ukraine is preparing to host the UNMAS expert mission to the Ukrainian destruction facilities.

9. Along with the measures aimed at the attraction of foreign assistance from the European Commission and UNMAS Ukraine conducts the APL destruction process at the national State Enterprise Research-Industrial Complex "Pavlograd Chemical Plant" submitting to the National Space Agency of Ukraine (NSAU).

10. Since the end of 2008 Ukrainian experts have started the execution of PFM-type APL destruction technology at the Pavlograd rotary kiln. When the kiln is upgraded its capacity will run up to 1,130,000 PFM a year. But even with the necessary financing for such activity Ukraine will be able to fulfill its MBT obligations in 5 years only.

11. Being strongly devoted to the aims of the Ottawa Convention Ukraine would appreciate any proposal on financial or technical assistance that could break the implementation of Article 4 deadlock in Ukraine.