

CCM - Stockpile destruction

Thank you Mr Co-chair,

For the Netherlands, the Convention on Cluster Munitions entered into force on the 1st of August 2011. The legal obligations stemming from the CCM are implemented via the Dutch Act on Weapons and Munitions and the General Law on Customs.

Before the CCM entered into force, we already started with the destruction of our land bound cluster munitions stockpile. In 2009 and 2010 42.711 pieces of 155 mm HE M483 cluster munitions were destroyed in Italy by the Italian company Espladenti Sabino SRL.

After the entry into force, the Netherlands started with the destruction of the remaining air bound cluster munitions. The total stock before destruction consisted of 2143 items of the following types: 297 pieces of CBU-87 B/B; 25 pieces of MK20 Rockeye and 1821 pieces of the M261 Warhead.

The munition was destroyed in Norway by the Norwegian company Nammo NAD AS, which was chosen via the NATO Support Agency.

The method used for destruction was the closed detonation technology, which means that the cluster munitions was destroyed on a dept of about 900 meters below the ground.

With regard to possible consequences for the environment, the destruction process was consistent with European Council Directive 2000/76/EC of 4 December 2000 on the incineration of waste and the USAEHA Technical guideline N146 on pentachlorophenol treated materials.

The destruction was completed within 2 months in February 2012.

The total costs of the destruction process were 157.000 euros. These costs also include the transport of the munition from the Netherlands to Norway.

Thank you Mr Co-chair