

## The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties (19MSP) 15-19 November, The Hague

## **Statement by Sri Lanka**

Mr. Keerthi Ranjith Abesiriwardana, Secretary, State Ministry of Rural Housing and Construction

Director, National Mine Action Centre of Sri Lanka

## Agenda Item 10. e) Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines

Thank you Mr. President,

- Sri Lanka is pleased to declare the completion of its obligation under Article 4 of the Convention with regard to the destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines almost a year earlier than the deadline set by the Convention.
- The last remaining stockpiled anti-personnel mines consisting of 11,840 mines were destroyed by the Humanitarian Demining Unit of the Sri Lanka Army on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2021 in Kilinochchi.
- The Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) remains committed to mine action exemplified by its early fulfilment of international obligations under the Convention. Our efforts also signal a clear commitment to the international disarmament agenda in general.
- We will continue working in close collaboration with our national and international stakeholders on 'getting the job done' and to achieve the completion of Sri Lanka's clearance obligations in the near future.

Thank you.