Geneva, 23 March 2009

Excellency,

As Coordinator on Clearance, Removal or Destruction of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) under CCW Protocol V, pursuant to Article 3 of the Protocol, I wish to prepare our work ahead of the Meeting of Experts of CCW Protocol V, which will take place in Geneva from 22 to 24 April 2009.

Clearance, Removal or Destruction of ERW will be one of the major themes under discussion by the Meeting of Experts. Attention will be focused on the following topics:

- Clearance, Removal or Destruction of ERW: exchange of national information and experience (Article 3 of the Protocol);
- Responsibilities of the user of explosive ordnance: recording of information on the use of explosive ordnance; submission of information to the party in control of the territory (Article 4 of the Protocol);
- Responsibilities of the High Contracting Party and party to an armed conflict in control of ERW-affected territory: prioritization and needs assessment for clearance (Article 3 of the Protocol);
- Environmental impact of ERW.

I am pleased to provide you with a broader overview on my thoughts concerning the topics mentioned above, enclosed herewith for your consideration.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Renata Ališauskienė
Coordinator on Clearance, Removal or Destruction of ERW
Pursuant to Article 3 of CCW Protocol V

The Permanent Representatives
of the States Parties, Signatories and Observers
to CCW Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War
Geneva