



REPORT OF REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA AT THE 7MSP CCM

2017

The Republic of Angola is a country with total area of 1,246,700 km², divided in 18 provinces with an estimated population of 24 Millions according the National Census carried out in 2014.

Months before the independence on 11 November 1975, a civil war broke out in Angola. The racist regime in South Africa with heavy air force and artillery decided to carried out a series of attacks to the southern and southeastern provinces of Angola to prevent the independence, with the excuses of following the freedom fighter of SWAPO and ANC inside Angola and also to stop the government forces attacking the rebels movement UNITA supported by USA. The country became a cold war battlefield, with the Angolan government forces supported also by Soviet Union and Cuba.

For more a decade (1975-1988) the war planes from South Africa Air Force were used on a daily base to strike government forces, SWAPO and ANC positions and other areas of the country indiscriminately.

In that period, the Angolan Air Force also attacked UNITA positions to retaliate their extemporaneous ground attacks. This was the time when Clusters Munitions were used in Angola.

The information we have from operators either publics, NGO or commercials are very limited. The most recent inquire made to MAG, Halo and Trust. MAG says *"On behalf of MAG, reporting for the provinces of Moxico, Lunda Norte and Lunda Sul:*

To our knowledge we do not have any Cluster Munitions contamination. Therefore nothing to report at this moment.

Obviously we have started only recently in the Lunda's, so we have only a limited scope of the situation there."

HALO TRUST says "In August 2016, HALO Trust found two Alpha sub munitions^[1] in Cunene province, which were reported by local residents to a HALO survey team during re-survey operations. A number of damaged bomb casings were also found but it was unclear if the bombs had been fired at a target in the area or if they were jettisoned after an unsuccessful mission and the bomblets scattered on the ground.

[1] The Alpha bomblet was developed in Rhodesia in 1970 and later in South Africa in the 1980s. It was produced to be incorporated into the CB470 cluster bomb, which contained 40 Alpha sub munitions each and were designed to be dropped from baskets or "hoppers" in the bomb bays of bomber aircraft.

This was an isolated case and HALO has not encountered anything similar in more than 20 years of survey across 10 of Angola's 18 provinces. HALO emphasises that it had seen very little evidence of cluster munitions strikes in Angola, and that the majority of bomblets destroyed by HALO were aging items from military stockpiles, which the military identified and requested HALO to destroy in previous years. Between 2005 and 2012, HALO's Weapons and Ammunition Disposal teams working in support of the Angolan Armed Forces destroyed a total of 7,284 sub munitions. HALO has not been asked by the military to do any further destruction of cluster munitions stockpiles since 2012."

Mr. President, It is a fact that Cluster Munitions were used in Angola but it is not clear to which extent Angola is still affected by unexploded sub-munitions.

Although the NGO operators have concluded that the impact of sub-munitions in Angola is minimal, the only way to confirm is through a Cluster Munitions Remnants Non Technical Survey conducted on the ground.

The 8 provinces where CMR are likely to be found in Angola, because of evidences, war facts and information received are the southern and southeastern provinces of: Cunene, Kuando Kubango, Moxico, Bengo, Kuanza Sul, Huambo, Bié and Huila.

The National Mine Action Authority “CNIDAH”, The National Authority for Control of Arm and Disarmament of the Ministry of Defense “ANCAD” and Ministry of Foreign Affairs are working together to make the case of Ratification of CCM more stronger to be submitted to the Council of Ministries again for approval, we hope to get it during the next year 2018.

On the other hand as proof of good will and progress, The Republic of Angola has prepared its First Voluntary Report on Article 7 which we have shared with some partners of the CCM but have not being submitted officially yet, however I will summarize here some relevant aspects of this report which cover from January 2009 to January 2016.

National implementation measures

Article 7, paragraph 1

“Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

(a) The national implementation measures referred to in article 9;”

Remark: In accordance with article 9 “Each State Party shall take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures to implement this Convention, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control.”

R-The existing pieces of legislations in the main legal and judicial documents of Angola (Constitution, penal code, civil code, family code and others) are sufficient to charge, prosecute and punish any national or foreign citizen who in the Angolan Territory develop, produce, acquire, stockpile, retain or transfer to anyone directly or indirectly, assist,

encourage or induce anyone to engage in any activity prohibited under the Convention of Cluster Munitions.

Stockpiles and destruction of cluster munitions

Part I: Stockpiled cluster munitions

Article 7, paragraph 1

“Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

- (b) The total of all cluster munitions, including explosive sub munitions, referred to in paragraph 1 of article 3 of this Convention, to include a breakdown of their type, quantity and, if possible, lot numbers of each type;**

[...]

- (g) Stockpiles of cluster munitions, including explosive sub munitions, discovered after reported completion of the programme referred to in subparagraph (e) of this paragraph, and article 3 of this Convention;”**

R-From the information we have had from the highest rank of the Angolan Army including the Head of Division of Weaponry of the Defence Ministry and also between 2003-2007 in compliance with Article 4 “Stockpile Destruction of Landmine” we had access to all military coupon and did not see any Cluster Munitions there. Thats mean that Angola has not Stockpile of Cluster Munitions.

Contaminated areas and clearance

Article 7, paragraph 1

“Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

- (h) To the extent possible, the size and location of all cluster munitions contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control, to include as much detail as possible regarding the type and quantity of each type of cluster munitions remnant in each such area and when they were used;**
- (i) The status and progress of programmes for the clearance and destruction of all types and quantities of cluster munitions remnants cleared and destroyed in accordance with article 4 of this Convention, to include the size and location of the cluster munitions contaminated area cleared and a breakdown to the quantity of each type of**

cluster munitions remnant cleared and destroyed;”

R-As explained above, Non Technical Survey “NTS” need to be carried out in the 8 of the 18 provinces of the country to collect information of the extent possible, the size and location of contaminated areas with Cluster Munitions”.

2. Land release and Status and progress of programmes for the clearance of cluster munitions remnants

Provide information on the release of land previously suspected to contain cluster munitions remnants by methods other than clearance.

R-Is pending of the result of the Non Technical Survey.

Challenges and international assistance and cooperation needed for the implementation of article 4

R-The Non Technical Survey need to be conducted to cover the 8 of the 18 suspected provinces.

Equipment to be purchased:

4wheel drive vehicles.

Field equipments.

Survey equipments

Medical equipments

Time: 6-8months

Budget: 2,500,000 USD

Form G Measures to provide warning to the population and risk education

Article 7, paragraph 1

“Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

- (j) The measures taken to provide risk reduction education and, in particular, an immediate and effective warning to civilians living in cluster munitions contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control;”

1.Measures taken to provide risk reduction education

R-Various actions have been developed to raise awareness among citizens and communities at risk through a solution-based methodology.

This methodology is based on the fact that communities, once they have identified the problems, find the appropriate solutions to deal with them, using techniques and resources available in the communities themselves

2. Measures taken for effective warning of the population

R-Among all the techniques used are, seminars and lectures, including the training of trainers, with emphasis on primary school teachers and traditional and community leaders.

The media, especially radio, local and national television (state tv) through the showing of commercials, alerting to the dangers that clusters munitions could pose to citizens and communities played an important role in this exercise.

Mr President, we hope to continue to proceed in this way to provide annually our voluntary report including Victim Assistance which is not included at this time while waiting the ratification.

Thank you.