## <u>Press Releases: To Walk the Earth in</u> <u>Safety: New Report Showcases U.S.</u> <u>Global Leadership in Landmine</u> <u>Clearance and Conventional Weapons</u> <u>Destruction</u>

Media Note Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC December 13, 2017

The Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs has released the 16th Edition of *To Walk the Earth in Safety*, a report underscoring the accomplishments of the U.S. Conventional Weapons Destruction Program. For more than 20 years, the United States has led the international donor community in promoting peace and security worldwide by partnering with nations to reduce the availability of excess, loosely-secured, or otherwise at-risk small arms and light weapons and munitions, as well as to address humanitarian hazards from landmines and unexploded ordnance in post-conflict countries.

The United States is the world's single largest financial supporter of conventional weapons destruction, investing over \$2.9 billion in more than 100 countries since 1993. In 2016, the Department of State funded and managed conventional weapons destruction programs in 47 countries. Our efforts – those of the United States government and all of our global partners – are crucial to building a more safe, secure and prosperous world. Thanks to strong bipartisan funding support from Congress, the Department of State looks forward to continuing this important work with other donor countries, those impacted by conflict, and the brave men and women working in the field to secure at-risk weapons and munitions and clear landmines explosive remnants of war.

For more information or to request a printed copy of *To Walk the Earth in Safety*, please contact the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs Office of Congressional and Public Affairs, at <u>pm-cpa@state.gov</u>, and follow us on Twitter @*StateDeptPM*.

The Office of Website Management, Bureau of Public Affairs, manages this site as a portal for information from the U.S. State Department. External links to other Internet sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views or privacy policies contained therein.