

Libya: Rebels Pledge Not to Use Landmines

Human Rights Watch 29 April 2011 (...) The de facto opposition authority in Libya, the National Transitional Council, has formally pledged not to use antipersonnel and antivehicle landmines, Human Rights Watch said today. The council also promised to destroy all mines in its forces' possession. The pledge was made to Human Rights Watch on April 27, 2011, and in an official [communiqué](#) signed on April 28 by Abdulhafeeth Gogha, vice chairman of the National Transitional Council.

"The decision by Libya's opposition forces to reject landmines is terrific because mines have killed and maimed so many civilians around the world," said Steve Goose, Arms director at Human Rights Watch. "We urge the National Transitional Council to implement its decision right away, and we call on the Libyan government of Muammar Gaddafi to make the same commitment on behalf of civilians in war."

The communiqué on landmines states that "no forces under the command and control of the NTC will use antipersonnel or antivehicle landmines." The council pledged to destroy all landmines possessed by forces under its command and control, and to "cooperate in the provision of mine clearance, risk education, and victim assistance." (...)

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