



Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)

Operation and Status of the Convention

Clearance & Risk Reduction

Thursday 13th Sept 2012

GICHD Statement on Survey and Clearance of Cluster Munitions Remnants

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The GICHD provides advice on methods and technologies to promote greater operational efficiency in support of the implementation of Article 4 of the Convention. Support is also extended to signatories and non-state parties affected by Cluster Munitions Remnants in order to help mitigate the impact of such contamination. This includes:

- Publication of best practices in survey and clearance of Cluster Munitions Remnants
- Expansion of evaluations of operational approaches and national database audits - providing guidance and recommendations to improve operational efficiencies and clarity of reporting. These activities have recently been undertaken in Lao PDR, Chad and are currently underway in Cambodia with a proposal in 2013 to include DRC
- Regarding Information Management, the GICHD advises on – and provides modifications to IMSMA - the Information Management System for Mine Action - to better support updated Cluster Munitions terminology and reporting requirements.
- We undertake projects that test new methodologies and approaches – for example we are currently supporting an initiative with NPA and VVAF to explore improved survey techniques in South East Asia. Furthermore, in Cambodia, we are advising on the establishment of test sites for Mine Detection Dogs which include Cluster Munitions Remnants as targets during the test and licensing of MDD capacities
- Finally, the GICHD remains a unique resource centre for technologies and a repository for the test and evaluation of mine action equipment – much of which is relevant in support of the specific needs of survey and clearance of Cluster Munitions.

In pursuit of this - the GICHD is conducting detector trials in South East Asia early next year to ensure that operators and national authorities are familiar with advances in technologies and can select better and more appropriate detector equipment for survey and clearance of Cluster Munitions Remnants.

The majority of the work of the GICHD is in response to requests – where we remain open to provide assistance and support to any State Party, signatory or non State Party as required.