



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Afghanistan Statement on Cooperation and Assistance

CCM Intersessional Meeting

Geneva

7 – 9 April 2014

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have established a good working relationship with the mine action programmes of Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, South Sudan and recently with Colombia. The following bilateral cooperation between Afghanistan and these programmes have taken place:

Afghanistan – Tajikistan cooperation in relation to mine action:

- ⇒ Since 2010, Tajikistan has helped Afghanistan to demine its border districts with Tajikistan via Tajikistan's territory. A few of Afghanistan's districts that border Tajikistan are difficult to access from the Afghanistan side due to their mountainous geography but are easily accessible via Tajikistan.
- ⇒ Recently, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) regarding bilateral cooperation in the field of Mine Action has been signed between the Presidents of Afghanistan and Tajikistan – this will further strengthen bilateral mine action related cooperation between these two countries
- ⇒ Afghanistan was involved in reviewing and revising Tajikistan's Mine Action Standards. Since the 12th Meeting of the States Parties, Afghanistan has sent its experts four times to Tajikistan to review their standards, and share knowledge and good practices

Afghanistan - Colombia cooperation in relation to Mine Action:

Recently, Colombia's Presidential Programme for Comprehensive Action against Antipersonnel Mines hosted two Afghan Experts. They shared their experience in the following aspects:

- ⇒ Provided a 5-day Quality Management course including the concept of QM in humanitarian mine action, accreditation of demining NGOs, monitoring, Quality Management System requirements and clearance methodologies.
- ⇒ Shared Afghanistan experience on Demining by Civilian Organizations
- ⇒ Shared Afghanistan experience in development of extension request and clearance operations plans

Afghanistan – Cambodia in relation to Mine Action:

- ⇒ We had some bilateral exchange programmes with Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action and Cambodian Mine Action Centre in the past. recently a team of Afghan experts went to Cambodia for an exchange visit in the field of Victim Assistance