



Cluster Munition Destruction Project Self-Help Approach – Republic of Macedonia

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BACKGROUND

- ✘ Macedonia joined the Oslo process since the Vienna meeting and took part in all the meetings leading up to the Oslo Conference
- ✘ Macedonian MFA signed the treaty in Oslo in early December 2008
- ✘ On 29 August 2009 the Republic of Macedonia adopted the Law on Ratification of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, published in the Official Gazette on 31 August 2009
- ✘ Its ratification instrument was formally deposited on 8 October 2009.
- ✘ Proud to be among the countries facilitating the swift entry into force of the CCM

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- ✘ Macedonia initially declared that it does not possess, produce, stockpile or uses cluster munitions
 - ✘ Following a subsequent examination of all army warehouses, while first transparency report under Article 7 was being prepared, certain quantities of 120 mm Mortar Cluster Bomb M93 and of sub-munitions type AO 2.5 RT were discovered (along with certain quantities of PFM - Destroyed with technical assistance of the GICHD).

GOVERNMENT DECISIONS

- ✘ On 18 March 2011 the Government of the Republic of Macedonia adopted a Decision, according to which the Ministry of Defense was tasked to destroy CM type Mortar, 120 mm M93 (quantity 1000 (x23): total quantity of explosive sub-munitions 23.000).
- ✘ On 10 May 2011 the Government of the Republic of Macedonia adopted a Decision, according to which the Ministry of Defense was tasked destroy CM Sub-munitions type AO 2.5 RT (quantity 1.448 shipping containers: total quantity of explosive sub-munitions 17.376 pieces).

Transparency

- ✘ Identified quantities reported at the 2 MP Beirut
- ✘ Declared commitment to destroy cluster munitions in line with Article 3 and the need financial and expert assistance to carry out the destruction process

Contact - Assistance

- ✘ MFA and MoD - intensive contacts with the NPA, following a suggestion by the Norwegian delegation in Beirut, and possible donors, primarily Germany.
- ✘ After verbal agreement on funding a series of coordinated phases carried out between MoD/NPA with MFA oversight to ensure efficient planning.

Project Objectives

- × Eliminate unacceptable risk to civilians
- × Macedonia to meet obligations under Article 3 of the CCM (well before the deadline of 2018),
- × Assist the national self-help cluster munitions destruction programs
- × Promote ownership of the process by building local capacity.

The Project Results

- × Full implementation of self-help ammunition disposal project.
- × Ownership of procedural documentation.
- × Compliance with all procedural and environmental activities.
- × Local Capacity developed by participatory process.

Conclusions

- ✘ Destruction model selected (SHADOW) has been the most appropriate choice for Macedonia.
- ✘ Cooperation with the NPA – efficient, everything done on schedule. Civil society cooperation has given transparent and appropriate sharing of expertise.
- ✘ Local ownership and development of local capacities of extreme importance
- ✘ Macedonia ready to share experience with other countries and take part in other SHADOW projects