



## **CCM: Statement for the Standing Committee on Clearance & Risk Reduction**

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The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining offers specific services and activities in support of survey and clearance of land – contaminated or suspected of being contaminated - by Cluster Munitions Remnants.

- The GICHD provides advice on methodologies and undertakes studies and research to promote greater operational efficiency in support of the implementation of Article 4 of the Convention
  - A chapter in a recent GICHD publication ‘A Guide to Land Release: Technical Methods’ is dedicated to the survey and clearance of Cluster Munitions.
  - This has been used as a basis to help coordinate the drafting of a paper for this Standing Committee.
  - The GICHD is responding to a recent request from the National Regulatory Authority to conduct an evaluation of operations in Lao PDR and to provide guidance and recommendations to improve efficiencies. We are also collaborating specifically with NPA - including the analysis of bombing data and clearance records to substantiate the organisation’s pioneering approach to technical survey.
  - In Vietnam, we focus on technology advice and are poised to support the expansion of a UXO survey in the country - to a national level.
- The GICHD is undertaking applied research and trials on ‘signature’ metal detectors where there is potential to utilise relatively cheap ‘off the shelf’ detectors (used by treasure hunters) to detect Cluster Munitions Remnants.
  - When the type of cluster munitions is known - it is possible to profile the signature of a given sub-munitions type and therefore locate them more readily.
- The Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) - software that it utilised in some 50 mine and ERW affected countries - is being reviewed to accommodate updated Cluster Munitions terminology and reporting requirements.
- The GICHD is managing and adjusting the International Standards for cartographic symbology to include cluster munitions.

- We are enhancing IMSMA to provide statistics and decision support on cluster-specific contamination and
  - We are also providing guidelines to facilitate standardised reporting for obligations under the CCM.
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- Furthermore, the GICHD is planning an initiative with the Mine Action Information Center at James Madison University to study accident surveillance systems in affected-countries to assess how these can be most useful in providing continuous feedback on the evolution in the pattern of risks, allowing better targeting of survey and clearance assets to reduce accidents.
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- Finally, I would like to remind participants that the GICHD remains a unique resource centre for technologies and a repository for the test and evaluation of mine action equipment – much of this relevant in support of the specific needs of survey and clearance of Cluster Munitions. All material is available through the GICHD website.