



**MINE DETECTION AND DOG CENTER  
SINCE 1989**

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Thank you, Mr. President.

I am pleased and honored to express my gratitude and appreciation to the State Parties, United Nations, the Donors, CCM Implementation Support Unit and international community for their continual humanitarian support to the mine action program in Afghanistan (MAPA) and the people of Afghanistan who have been suffering from the presence of explosive ordnance including cluster munition remnants left behind from more than 4 decades of war and armed conflicts.

Your contribution saved lives of millions of civilian people including children. Certainly, your continual support contributed to resumption of livelihood activities, socio-economic reintegration, rehabilitation, safe access and safe movement of people in Afghanistan.

Despite significant achievements of the MAPA in reducing the impact of EO, Afghanistan is still one of the heavily EO contaminated countries in the world. Over four decades of war and armed conflicts have left behind EO contamination that impacted agricultural land, grazing area, residential areas, roads/routes, settlements camps for returnees, development and rehabilitation projects, education and health facilities.

Explosive ordnance still claims lives of civilians; as an average 50 civilians, with almost 80% being children are losing their lives and limbs on monthly basis.

In addition to other types of EO, cluster munitions (CMS) contamination also significant impacted civilian people, CM contamination located in 16 CMR sites, affected 11 communities, 6 districts and 5 provinces, covering almost 9 million square meter area. Over 21000 people are impacted by CMR contamination, however, this number can increase with the return of refugees from the neighboring countries.

**We the mine action community reconfirm the commitment of Afghanistan to the CCM, signed and ratified by the previous government.** As each corner of Afghanistan is safe and accessible for the implementation of mine action activities including CMR sites, **local sectorial authorities make positive efforts to facilitate and manage provision of mine action support and respond to the urgent needs to of the affected communities, people, humanitarian assistance personnel and stakeholders.** The MAPA has been supported throughout the country, the movement and activities of mine action teams and personnel in all provinces, districts and communities have been valued, supported and facilitated by provincial and local authorities. Since entry into force of the CMC convention, the MAPA managed to achieve the following:

- 16,827,037 square meter CMR contaminated area have been released for productive use by the communities.
- 10333 different types of CMS and sub-munitions have been discovered and destroyed.
- More than 70,000 women, men and children including IDPs and returnees have received EORE.
- 263 CMRs victims and persons with disabilities have been assisted.

- All 16 CMR contaminated areas have been surveyed in 2024, and 331 ,513 sqm has been cancelled.
- Review of national mine action standards have been started, including the standard for battle area clearance and CM clearance.
- Planning and prioritization based on humanitarian impact indicators have been developed and integrated into IMSMA.
- MAPA resource mobilization team has been established to mobilize resources for mine action, including CMR clearance.
- MAPA Technical Working Groups have been established, and important trials have been conducted and planned, especially on the detection system used BAC and CMR clearance.

## **WE the mine action community**

would like to reiterate the MAPA vision of Afghanistan free from explosive ordnance where men, women, boys and girls live in a safe environment conducive to sustainable development and where EO victims are fully integrated into society and have their rights and needs recognized and fulfilled.

Over four decades of continued armed conflicts and war in the country, resulted in many complexities including severe impact on the economic infrastructure, so as to manage and address the remaining CMR problem, Afghanistan needs the continuation of your generous support and contribution. **We**, once again kindly requests the state parties to approve Afghanistan's Article 4 extension request, this will enable the program to manage and address the CMR problem, as planned and covered in its extension request and meet Afghanistan's obligations towards the convention. your kind support and consideration would definitely save lives and limbs of the innocent people including children, and would improve livelihoods, socioeconomic activities and delivery of humanitarian assistance to the neediest people, and will reduce poverty and food insecurity.

Your kind attention, generous support and consideration would always be highly appreciated and admired by the mine action program in Afghanistan, and the EO/CMR affected communities and other stakeholders.

**Best Regards,**

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**Supported by:**



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