

Standing committee on mine clearance, mine awareness and mine action technologies  
May 29, 2002

**Statement by the representative of the MFA of Ukraine Mr. Volodymyr Dziub**

The issue of mine clearance and de-mining remains a priority in the international anti-mine action campaign. In their efforts to clear mine contaminated areas and enable the return of communities to normal life both donor and mine affected states require information about and direct participation of professionals to deal with these tasks.

The State Enterprise “Ukroboronservice” (“Ukrainian Defence Services”), as a de-mining organisation accredited by the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine, is duly competent and capable to effectively plan and conduct humanitarian de-mining works in accordance with standing international safety and reliability requirements.

The operational planning procedures and practical fulfillment of works by the “Ukroboronservice” are in a strict accordance with the Standards Operation Procedures (SOP) that are based on international standards related to humanitarian de-mining operations and the UN Mine Action Service’s guidelines.

The experience gained by the Ukrainian specialists during de-mining operations in Southern Lebanon, former Yugoslavia, Angola, and Sierra Leone as well as while undertaking destruction of Second World War ammunitions on the territory of Ukraine are taken into account along with the best practical experiences of similar foreign organizations, that are specialized in humanitarian de-mining operations.

As of 23 May 2002 after two years of Ukrainian de-miners operations in the Southern Lebanon 1111 APLs and 46 anti-vehicle mines, almost 700 explosive devices, 224 artillery shells were eliminated. Approximately 400 thousand sq. m. were checked. Humanitarian aid was supplied to 2458 local inhabitants.

The State Enterprise “Ukroboronservice” and the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine provide services, on a commercial basis, on humanitarian de-mining, in particular:

- 1) direct practical humanitarian de-mining by means of the Ukrainian specialists using all known methods (hand de-mining, de-mining with use of mechanical tools, de-mining using specially trained dogs, complex method, etc.),
- 2) delivery of engineering equipment, special and de-mining equipment;
- 3) neutralization of unexploded mines and ammunitions;

- 4) training of foreign specialists in humanitarian de-mining at the specialized training center in Ukraine,
- 5) upgrading qualification of foreign specialists in humanitarian de-mining on the territory of the host country.

While organizing and implementing humanitarian de-mining operations the special attention is given to a possible training programs for local field personnel in such specialties as “engineering reconnaissance of terrain” and “de-mining and destruction of explosives”.

There is also a possibility to organize 5-6 weeks personnel training program at the specialized Training Center in Ukraine (Kam’yanets-Podol’skii) with extensive use of training and combat engineering ammunitions. The deployment of a training center on the territory of a host Country can also be an option to consider. The State Enterprise “Ukroboronservice” has a possibility to receive in one time a group of 45 foreign experts for their training in accordance with the international standards.

Particular attention in training is given to the necessity to provide foreign experts with practical knowledge of work in specific local conditions, taking into account Ukrainian experience gained in different countries of the world as well as with the de-mining techniques developed by the Ukrainian experts.

For the time being 226 Ukrainian peacekeepers, which are supposed to be deployed in the Southern Lebanon started on 27 Mae one month course to enhance their professional expertise.

The State Enterprise “Ukroboronservice” has also a possibility to deliver to a “Recipient”, on a commercial basis and upon its request, special machinery and equipment for de-mining purposes – armoured and wheels vehicles, flak jackets, protection suits for military engineers, mine- and metal-detectors, etc.

\* \* \*

The address of the State Enterprise “Ukroboronservice” is:

Ukraine, 03067, Kyiv,  
Ivana Lepse Boulevard, 4,  
P.B. 954.

Telephone: +380 44 490-77-45.  
Fax: +380 44 490-77-56.  
E-mail: uos@uos.kiev.ua.