

**Statement of Norway
Coordinator of the Resource Mobilisation Contact Group**

**Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action
Technologies**

14 May 2003

Mr. Co-Chair:

Norway is extremely pleased that you have decided to highlight cooperation and assistance between mine affected countries. And we are pleased that the UNDP and other agencies are promoting such cooperation.

In the non-paper presented by Norway at the Fourth Meeting of the States Parties, we stated that we need to explore how increased cooperation among mine affected States Parties could be further facilitated.

A great deal of capacity has been developed in some mine affected countries which logically could be of benefit to other mine affected States. In fact, in many cases this capacity already has been shared by mine affected States Parties. Thanks to those mine affected States Parties that have responded to the our questionnaire on this matter, we now know a great deal more about this capacity.

For example, in response to the Contact Group Coordinator's questionnaire, both Honduras and Nicaragua indicated that they have contributed to the mine action effort in Peru. For its part, Peru has stated that it has the capacity to participate in demining as part of peacekeeping operations. Yemen has stated that it is having discussions regarding how it could apply its extensive experience, knowledge and capacity to tackle the landmine problem in Lebanon. Chad has indicated that other African countries have expressed an interest in learning for the Chadian experience.

Such assistance is important. All efforts are needed if we are to reach mine clearance obligations set in the Convention. Cooperation between mine affected States also is a clear manifestation of the Convention's true spirit of cooperation.

We would draw to delegates' attention the responses to this questionnaire, which is contained as an annex to the overview document presented by Norway on Monday. We will also attach the relevant responses to this questionnaire to a hard copy of this statement, which will be available at the back of the room.

Responses to the Contact Group Coordinator's question: "If relevant describe how your country has contributed, or is able to contribute, to mine action effort in other countries?"

Chad

Through exchange of experience and ideas with other Programme Directors and their Technical advisors creating a platform for forums and annual meetings. Countries such as Sudan, Mauritania have already expressed an interest to learn from the Chadian experience and are looking forward to visit our Programme.

Chile

Chile ha contribuido al esfuerzo que realizan otros países en materias de desminado humanitario, enviando Oficiales y Suboficiales con experiencia en la materia a participar en labores de instrucción, capacitación, planificación y supervisión: Nicaragua – durante año 1993; Ecuador – desde el mes de Diciembre de 2000 hasta Marzo de 2003.

Croatia

- By activities within SEEMACC (south Eastern Mine Action Coordination Council) through education and cooperation with other Centers in the Region : Azerbaijan (ANAMA), Monte Negro (RCVD), Albania (AMAE), Bosnia and Herzegovina (BHMACH), Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRYMAC), International Trust Fund – SLO – (ITF).
- By exchange of information regarding the education and testing with SWEDEC, GICHD, James Madison University, IRC and centers in Thailand, Cambodia and Azerbaijan.
- By presentation of work and methodologies and cooperation with esteemed governmental and non-governmental organizations.
- By sending teams for the establishment of the MINE ACTION SYSTEM world wide based on the efficient and transparent Croatian model.
- By involvement in the scientific projects like ARC, SMART, PILLAN, MEDDS-NOMASICS, FIDO, BIOSENS, BULRUSH, ORTO-FOTO, MULTI-CRITERIA ANALYSIS and COUNTRY MINE ACTION PLANS.

Guatemala

Since 1997, Guatemala has contributed with seconded military personnel (two officials) to the "Misión para la remoción de minas en Centroamérica – MARMICA" of the Inter-American Defense Board of the Organization of American States. These officials have supervised demining operations in Latin American countries like Peru.

Honduras

Honduras has contributed to the mine action effort in Costa Rica and Guatemala, since November 2002, started to contribute to the mine action effort in Peru.

Jordan

Jordan had built a very qualified Deminers, expertise and managers, with high capability to work according to UN Standards Jordan National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation (NCDR) look forward to contribute in mine action efforts in other countries if required funds for these efforts are covered by other country or any other

Malawi

Malawi has attended several conferences where contribution has been in form of knowledge sharing on Mine Action. Malawi is committed to continue participating in these regional and international programmes.

Mauritania

Echange d'expériences, de formation compte tenu de la structure dans la sous région existante.

Nicaragua

En años anteriores, Nicaragua ha aportado expertos zapados para que supervienen el desminado en Perú y Ecuador. Actualmente se esta negociando un convenio de de colaboración mutua con el gobierno de Chile.

Niger

Le Niger entend développer sa coopération avec les pays ayant les mêmes préoccupations sur les questions des mines. Le projet de loi sur en voie d'adoption tient compte de cet aspect.

Peru

La Conformación de compañías de desactivación de minas permitirán al ejercito del Perú contribuir a las operaciones de mantenimiento de paz que conducen las naciones unidas.

Rwanda

The Rwanda National Demining Programme has gained experience in demining activities, which can be shared with other mine affected countries.

Thailand

Thailand does not have any capability to make financial contribution to other countries. However Thailand still cooperates with international countries particularly along the Thai borders to operate mine action effectively.

Yemen

Yemen is the first country in the region to have extensive experience, knowledge and capacity to tackle landmine and UXO problems in a professional way. The Yemen National Mine Action Programme would welcome any opportunities to contribute in mine action efforts in the region or anywhere in the world. It is to be mentioned that discussions are underway to assist mine clearance in Lebanon in the near future.

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe has not contributed to mine action in any mine affected country except during UN Peacekeeping Missions and through contracts with local demining companies in international contracts.