GUINE-BISSAU MINE ACTION CENTRE

Meeting on Standing Committees on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education…

Presented by Cesar de Carvalho

Geneva, May 10th, 2006

GUINEA BISSAU is located in West Africa
Guinea-Bissau divided in two parts:
Continental part and Island part
Area : 36.125 km2;
Population:~1,200,000
Language:- Creole, Portuguese
Town: -Bissau;
CLEARANCE

NGO-HUMAID  44 DEMINERS
NGO-LUTCAM  65 DEMINERS

- Landmines  2,572 A/P
- Landmines  67 A/T
- Cleared Area  924,124.29 m²

General Summary – 2005

Clearance Productivity 2000-2005
Operational Summary – 2005
Demining

Demining Productivity
January-December 2005

General Summary Nov 2000- March 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>M²</th>
<th>AP Mines</th>
<th>AT Mines</th>
<th>UXO</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>15,494.00</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>319</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>145,839.33</td>
<td>1,579</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>91</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>125,920.55</td>
<td>593</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12,888</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>283,470.39</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>215,871.85</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>25,787</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>119,464.47</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>29,722</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>17,982.7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>924,124.29</td>
<td>2,572</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>70,115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) Mines and UXO handed over to CAAMI by the local population and military
MAXX -- Mechanical Assistance for Demining

Under an evaluation phase, the machine was brought to Guinea-Bissau by the US Department of Defense, within the framework of a tripartite agreement between: the **US Government**, the **Government of Guinea-Bissau** and **UNDP**.

**Maxx Capacity**

- Remotely controlled
- Can work safely inside minefield (anti-personnel mine threat)
- Vegetation Cutter
- Excavation
- Soil sifting
- Ground preparation

**Expected Results**

- Increase safety for deminers
- Enhance speed and efficiency of clearance
- Add new capacity to demining operations
ERW Problem

- **Three main sources of the problem:**
  - contamination during Liberation War and political-military conflict
  - Exploded ammunition storage areas
  - Abandoned, or improperly stored stockpiled ordnance

Although, we about to declare the capital, Bissau, free of landmines, the ERW contamination in Bissau and surrounding still constitutes a threat to the population.
Guinea-Bissau
Landmine Impact Survey (LIS)

Objectives:

- Standardized and quantitative data about landmine & UXO impact into our communities around the country;
- Planning and privatization of scarce resources;
- Base line to measure the progress and achieve the Ottawa treaty convention obligations.

Period established for operations:
March to December, 2006

Primary Constraints

- Mobilisation of funding for the project
- Urgent information requirements for planning purposes
- New contamination as a result of military action in the North of the country

Preliminary Opinion Collection

- Executed by CAAMI
- Process of information collection and analysis has begun
- New information from conflict area is being integrated
Mine Risk Education
National programme for education and awareness prevention of accidents by mines and other explosive ordnance

- Educate to prevent
- Adopt behavior

Integrated MRE (with clearance and victim assistance)

- Trained the following personnel during the MRE Programme
  * 10 NGO’s
    - 93 Activists – Bissau 140 Animators
    - 22 Activists – Regions 120 Animators
  * National Education
    - 40 Teachers – Bissau 1400 Students
    - 41 Teachers – Regions 1200 Students

Training Teachers

Incentives and training for MRE activists with financial support from UNICEF
Implementing the Ottawa Convention

• Guinea-Bissau’s participation in Standing Committee Meetings in Geneva

• Representation at the 6th Meeting of States Parties in Zagreb

The process was transparent with the attendance of the Guinea-Bissau Government, civil society and the international Community.

Published at the international level by the media.
Landmine Stockpile Destruction
Article 4th of the Convention

• October 17 2005, Guinea-Bissau met the obligations of the Convention to destroy the last stock of 4,943 anti-personnel mines

• The process was undertaken by the national army engineers in partnership with the Mine Action Centre (CAAMI), demining national NGOs (HUMAID and LUTCAM), with UNDP assistance,

• Funded by Canadian Government through UNDP and by UNICEF.

Undertaking landmine/UXO risk Education into Isolated Areas

Thank four your attention
We thank all our stakeholders and donor community
CAAMI’s vision is for a Guinea-Bissau Free of Landmines -- a Paradise