



REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
MINE ACTION CENTRE

11th Meeting of the States Parties
AP Mine Ban Convention
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
28 November - 2 December 2011

The Republic of Serbia is fully committed to fulfillment of its obligations from the Ottawa Convention.

Antipersonnel mines are no longer produced in the Republic of Serbia.

Stockpiles of antipersonnel mines are destroyed.

In addition, we are fulfilling obligations related to clearance of the area contaminated with mines. So far we have successfully removed all mines in the border area with the Republic of Croatia.

However, the Republic of Serbia still can not report that it has completed implementation of Article 5 of the Convention, since towards the end of 2009 we obtained knowledge of minefields emplaced in the south of the country.

We have organized a survey of this area with the help of the Norwegian People's Aid and ITF. The results of the survey have shown that in the municipalities of Bujanovac and Preševo mine suspected area totals around 3,800,000 sqm. The Centre has prepared demining projects and is conducting activities for provision of donations or other sources of funding, so that demining in this part of Serbia can commence.

Please note that in accordance with Ottawa Convention Serbia has undertaken obligation to remove all AP mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction by the 1st March 2014 and hopefully, with the support of donors, we will be able to achieve it.

Apart from minefields that are still emplaced in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, we face with numerous problems related to clearance of the area contaminated with cluster munitions, air bombs – rockets and other unexploded ordnance remaining from the 1999 bombing.

The Serbian Mine Action Centre achieves international cooperation with numerous subjects in the field of mine action.

Cooperation with the International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF), as well as regional cooperation through various forms of the work of the Southeastern Europe Mine Action Coordination Council, known as SEEMACC, give excellent results.

Good bilateral cooperation has been achieved with Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre, particularly with the Croatian Mine Action Centre, through exchange of experience about demining, quality control of demining, making and implementation of projects, training of personnel, etc.

In order to enhance its so far cooperation, the Centre has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ITF on 24 February 2011. Protocol on cooperation with Croatian Mine Action Centre has been agreed and is expected to be signed.

Problems related to demining in Serbia are numerous and without financial help of international community and donors Serbia alone can not solve these problems in reasonable time.