



SLOVENIA

STATEMENT

BY

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STATE UNDERSECRETARY

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA**

AT THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND
TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION
(THE OTTAWA CONVENTION)

Bangkok, 15 - 19 September 2003

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Mr President,

Let me first congratulate you for being elected to chair the meeting of the State Parties. I am certain that under your wise leadership this meeting will yield positive results and will contribute to further development of now well established Ottawa Process. I can assure you that the delegation of Slovenia will firmly support your efforts for this meeting to achieve these objectives.

Slovenia fully associates with the statement made earlier by Italy on behalf of the EU. I would like to make some points in my national capacity.

My country is deeply committed to the principles of the Ottawa Process. This commitment is deriving also from our recent experience of clearing the minefields left behind the Yugoslav Army on our own territory which we have completed in the early nineties.

Slovenia signed the Ottawa Convention on the very first day that was opened for signature and ratified it in October 1998, less than a year later. We destroyed the last stockpile of landmines in March 2003 by our own means and technology. In our opinion the destruction of stocks of anti-personnel mines is a significant aspect of the implementation of the Ottawa Convention.

We completed also the procedure to adhere to the Amended Protocol II of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons in December 2002.

Slovenia's foreign policy priority is participation in the multilateral activities especially in the humanitarian field. The Government has allocated considerable funds to the multilateral demining activities and rehabilitation of the mine victims. In the last three years we contributed more than 50 cents per capita each year for different projects mostly in the South-Eastern Europe region, but recently also for projects in Afghanistan, Mozambique and Iraq. With this in mind and in the spirit of the Ottawa Convention, the Slovenian Government established the International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance more than five years ago. The main task of the Fund at the time was to offer assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina in its mine action. It quickly attracted attention of the international community and started with successful work with the generous help of many important donors.

The ITF has proved to be cost-effective and an efficient organization for clearing mines in South-Eastern Europe, establishing genuine partnership with the competent authorities in the countries of the region, as well as with other international structures involved in mine action projects, in particular United Nations structures.

In the five years of its existence, the ITF has cleared more than half of the newly mine-free territory in Bosnia and Herzegovina and spread its activities region-wide: to Croatia, Albania, Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro. It was very useful and instrumental in support of peace agreement and post-conflict rehabilitation. We sincerely believe that it could play also an important role in the commendable efforts of the international community to free the region of South-Eastern Europe of the antipersonnel landmines as soon as possible.

The ITF has become a well-known and recognized agency in the demining world and many countries from other regions threatened by mines have expressed an interest in. Recently, the donors have given support to the ITF's engagement in the Caucasus, in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. Cooperation has also been established with some anti-mine programmes for Afghanistan and is planned for Iraq as soon as the conditions will permit.

I am glad to be able to report that the meeting here in Bangkok gave us an opportunity to begin talks with the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs on sharing experience in regional approach to the problem of elimination of antipersonnel mines.

There is definitely a lot of room for improvement in the efforts to mitigate the consequences of the use of antipersonnel mines. We are concerned regarding the decrease of donations to the mine victims assistance programs. We believe that not only rehabilitation, but complete social reintegration of mine victims is essential. For this we allocate about 30% of assistance to the rehabilitation victims. The Institute for Rehabilitation of the Republic of Slovenia formed in the past years a team of experts and logistic procedures for the program of mine victims rehabilitation. It includes: medical treatment, vocational training, psychological treatment and fitting of prostheses and other technical aids. An important part of the activities is also education and training of professionals from South-Eastern Europe, almost 300 technicians, doctors, orthopedists and prosthetics were trained in three years period.

As an active member of the Human Security Network, Slovenia strongly supports the Network's declaration promoting the Universalisation of the Ottawa Convention. Mine action has been a priority on the Network's agenda since its establishment in 1998.

Mr President,

In conclusion, I would like to welcome the countries that have recently joined the Ottawa Convention. Together with the EU, Slovenia appeals to the countries which have not yet acceded to do so as soon as possible, and join in the effort to permanently eliminate one of the most widespread indiscriminate killers from the face of the earth and make the world safer for everyone by ensuring that anti-personnel mines become relegated forever to history.

Attachment: Contributions of Slovenia to the mine action programmes

Annual Donor Report for Slovenia: 1998

Country / Area Programming

Program Recipient	Program Expenditure (US\$)	Funding Source	Contribution Type	Activity Type	Program Description	Funding Channel/ Implementing Agency
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$1,300,000	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina Total	\$1,300,000					

Total : \$1,300,000

Annual Donor Report for Slovenia: 1999

Country / Area Programming

Program Recipient	Program Expenditure (US\$)	Funding Source	Contribution Type	Activity Type	Program Description	Funding Channel/ Implementing Agency
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$107,771	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$71,575	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$35,891	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$82,805	Defence Ministry / Department	In-Kind	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina Total	\$298,042					
Croatia	\$12,597	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Croatia	\$8,366	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Croatia	\$4,195	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Croatia Total	\$25,158					
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$19,595	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$13,014	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$6,526	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)

						Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of Total	\$39,135					

Total : \$362,335

Annual Donor Report for Slovenia: 2000

Country / Area Programming

Program Recipient	Program Expenditure (US\$)	Funding Source	Contribution Type	Activity Type	Program Description	Funding Channel/ Implementing Agency
Albania	\$5,563	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Albania	\$1,568	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Albania	\$2,751	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Albania Total	\$9,882					
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$57,392	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$16,317	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$28,378	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina Total	\$102,087					
Croatia	\$16,555	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Advocacy & Prevention: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Croatia	\$4,707	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Croatia	\$8,186	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Croatia Total	\$29,448					
Mozambique	\$20,174	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Mine Awareness: Education	Mine Risk Education	National Institute for Mine Clearance (IND) in Mozambique
Mozambique Total	\$20,174					
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$28,696	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$8,172	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia,	\$14,189	Defence Ministry	Monetary	Coordination:	Mine	International Trust

Federal Republic of		/ Department		General / Unspecified	Action/General	Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of Total	\$51,057					

Total : \$212,648

Annual Donor Report for Slovenia: 2001

Country / Area Programming

Program Recipient	Program Expenditure (US\$)	Funding Source	Contribution Type	Activity Type	Program Description	Funding Channel/ Implementing Agency
Albania	\$15,826	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Albania	\$13,815	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Albania Total	\$29,641					
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$104,033	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Victim Assistance: Physical Rehabilitation	Victim Assistance: Physical Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation at the Institute for Rehabilitation of the Republic of Slovenia and at the Rehabilitation Center in Fojnica, BiH
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$23,016	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Mine Clearance: General / Unspecified	Mine Action Support	UNDP
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$52,483	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$45,814	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina Total	\$225,346					
Croatia	\$35,849	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Croatia	\$31,294	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Croatia Total	\$67,143					
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of	\$8,045	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of	\$2,708	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Total	\$10,753					
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$45,378	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)

Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$39,611	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$501	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of Total	\$85,490					

Total : \$418,373

Annual Donor Report for Slovenia: 2002

Country / Area Programming

Program Recipient	Program Expenditure (US\$)	Funding Source	Contribution Type	Activity Type	Program Description	Funding Channel/ Implementing Agency
Albania	\$1,697	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Albania	\$10,608	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Victim Assistance: Physical Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation at the Institute for Rehabilitation of the Republic of Slovenia	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Albania	\$9,435	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Victim Assistance: Physical Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation at the Institute for Rehabilitation of the Republic of Slovenia	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Albania	\$950	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Albania	\$10,062	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Albania Total	\$32,752					
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$18,910	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$84,862	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Victim Assistance: Physical Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation at the Institute for Rehabilitation of the Republic of Slovenia	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$2,092	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Mine Awareness: Education	Support of the Red Cross BiH Mine Awareness competition of the Elementary Schools in BiH	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$22,016	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Victim Assistance: Physical Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation at the Institute for Rehabilitation of the Republic of Slovenia	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$10,584	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$32,704	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Bosnia and Herzegovina Total	\$171,168					

Croatia	\$19,638	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Croatia	\$10,991	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Croatia	\$33,962	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Croatia Total	\$64,591					
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of	\$43,641	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Mine Clearance: Training	EOD Training held at the Training Center for Civil protection and disaster relief Slovenia	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of	\$2,424	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of	\$10,608	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Victim Assistance: Physical Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation at the Institute for Rehabilitation of the Republic of Slovenia	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of	\$1,357	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of	\$4,733	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Total	\$62,763					
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$4,849	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Mine Clearance: Training	EOD Training held at the Training Center for Civil protection and disaster relief Slovenia	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$5,820	Defence Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$3,258	Other Government Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$14,938	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Mine Clearance: Equipment	Regional Center for Underwater Demining	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	\$2,395	Foreign Affairs Ministry / Department	Monetary	Coordination: General / Unspecified	Mine Action/General	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF)
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of Total	\$31,260					

Total : \$362,534