

19/11/07 pm

ZIMBABWE'S UPDATE TO THE 8TH MEETING OF STATE PARTIES ON 18-22 NOVEMBER 2007 JORDAN BY COL J GARIRA- DIRECTOR ZIMAC

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The Chairperson, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon. Allow me to take this opportunity to heartily congratulate the Kingdom of Jordan for hosting the 8th Meeting of the State Parties. It is indeed a great honour to host a meeting of this magnitude and we share the joy of this momentous occasion with you.

I stand before you to give an update of Zimbabwe's mine action activities since the April 2007 Meeting of Standing Committees which was held in Geneva. Ladies and gentlemen, our major activity has been and is still the continuous clearance of the double 70 km Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner minefield which lies in the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park which Zimbabwe jointly shares with South Africa and Mozambique. This year alone, 7.8km² of the minefield was cleared on this minefield. A total of 3673 mines were recovered and destroyed leaving 160 km² still to be cleared on the same minefield. However, the total area still to be cleared is 817.9km² countrywide over and above the explosive remnants of war which continue to be recovered countrywide.

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Zimbabwe has continuously appealed for assistance but the assistance is not forthcoming due to a variety of reasons. We have already prepared a draft for the request for the extension document which we will forward to the depository for the approval of the meeting of state parties

before February next year. The magnitude of the landmine problem is likely to be overcome in not less than 30 years in Zimbabwe. That is based on the current rate of state funding and the rate of clearance. Our priorities if the requested assistance for funding could be honoured is to purchase demining equipment to complement the ageing equipment that we have and also to contract commercial demining companies to complement the humanitarian military demining effort currently ongoing. Our projected plans are shown on the slides. In as far as victim assistance is concerned, let me inform the meeting that nothing significant has occurred in my country. To start with the impact assessment survey has not yet been carried out so that the computing of the necessary mine victims information could be availed both to the government and the donor community. It is largely because of this reason that not much could be achieved in this regard. It is likely to be pretty the same in the short term if funding to contract a consultant or to capacitate the Zimbabwe Mine Action Centre to conduct the survey is not done. Meanwhile, people continue to be killed and maimed in my country. This year alone, 3 people were killed and other 3 were injured.

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It is gratifying that the Zimbabwe Mine Action Centre has just completed the training of 21 mine risk educators. The graduands have already been deployed to all provinces so that they conduct mine awareness campaigns comprehensively starting early next year. It is similarly gratifying to report that a comprehensive mine risk education campaign was conducted in the Rushinga District

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where over 15 000 people living near the 335 km Musengezi to Rwenya minefield were addressed.

It is further pleasing to note that 15 deminers were also trained in October this year and they have already been deployed on the Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner minefield.

Another major activity which took place during the period under review was the hosting of the SADC Secretariat sponsored landmine victims verification team in April this year. The team largely discovered that there are various convalescent centres which could also be shared with other countries in the SADC. However, the team also discovered that much was not done in the country in respect of psychological and physical rehabilitation of the victims, Let alone the implementation of self help training and sponsorship for income generating projects largely owing to lack of funding.

In July this year, Zimbabwe also hosted personnel from the Mine Action Implementation Support Unit from Geneva who did a splendid job for providing advice on our request for extension document whose draft is ready but still to be approved by my government before forwarding it to the depository. Zimbabwe is indeed happy about this assistance.

In conclusion ladies and gentlemen, Zimbabwe lacks resources to speedily clear all mined areas and it is going to take us too long to clear the mined areas. We also need further resources to commence a comprehensive mine victim assistance programme. I thank you

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EIGHTH MEETING OF STATE PARTIES
18-22 NOVEMBER 2007
DEAD SEA, JORDAN

ZIMBABWE'S RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ON AGENDA ITEM 11

STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION -ARTICLE 4

1. Zimbabwe reported the stockpile destruction of 4 092 anti-personnel mines in November year 2000. Only 700 mines were retained for the purpose of training both military humanitarian deminers and also supporting the training of commercial deminers in the country. The mines retained included 500 HE/AP/PMD6 and 200 HE/R2M2 mines. Through training, 100 HE/AP/PMD6 mines will be destroyed, leaving Zimbabwe with 400 HE/AP/PMD6 and HE/AP/R2M2 200 mines in stock.
2. Zimbabwe has full capacity and expertise to destroy all the stockpiled mines.

CLEARING MINED AREAS-ARTICLE 5

3. Zimbabwe is way behind schedule in mine clearance efforts mostly because of lack of funding. Over 817.9 km² of land is still mined. We are in the process of preparing our request for extension. In the interim, the country has two options to pursue (Plans) to clear the remaining mined areas.
4. Option 1 is for the country to continue with the on-going military humanitarian demining, albeit at a very slow pace. This option assumes that no assistance will be given to the country. This should take the country not less than 30 years to clear the remaining mined areas. This is based on the current rate of national funding and equipment levels.

5. Option 2 is to conduct a combined humanitarian military demining and commercial demining. This will depend on whether assistance is provided to the state or not for the purpose of contracting commercial demining companies. These two options are at Annex A and B to these responses.
6. Since our update on the last meeting of Standing Committees in April this year, 6km (7.8km²) was cleared up to October 2007 on the Sango to Crooks Corner minefield. In the process 3 673 anti-personnel mines were destroyed to give a cumulative total of 4 573 mines. These destroyed mines comprise 4133 R2M2s, 224 M972s, 179 carrot mines, 30 ploughshares, 1 claymore mine, 4 VS50s and 2 RAPs. To date, a total of 16km² has been cleared on this minefield.
7. The circumstances which will impede on our plans to be in compliance with article 5 are basically lack of funding to purchase the required demining equipment and for contracting commercial demining companies. Zimbabwe is currently under economic sanctions which were imposed on her by the Western countries and the US government. The resultant economic difficulties currently endured by the country do not allow the country to either raise enough funds from the fiscus or to attract donor funding. The prospective new dates for Zimbabwe to be in full compliance are 2016 if assistance is provided and 2037 if no assistance is provided.
8. Our priority if financial assistance is provided is to purchase demining equipment for humanitarian military demining. The list of this equipment is at Annex C to these responses. The second priority will be to contract commercial deminers.

ASSISTING VICTIMS

9. Zimbabwe in the past gave the estimated number of victims countrywide as 1 550 either killed or survived. These were estimated to have been incurred between 1980 when the country became independent and now. Albeit the fact that no landmine victim registration/survey has ever been conducted in the country, it is estimated that 1 300 survivors remain in the country but uncounted for.

10. Zimbabwe's priority in this regard is to conduct a national mine victim survey and thereafter run a comprehensive mine victim assistance programme. Once the victims are registered, the starting point will be to provide for their physical and psychological rehabilitation. The provision of artificial limbs remain critical in this regard. The next stage will be to capacitate them to form their own advocacy groups, provide them with funds to run their own income generating projects. These objectives can only be met once assistance in terms of funding is provided, something which Zimbabwe does not have capacity on at the moment.

11. Zimbabwe does not have any different legislation ⁿad compensation policies designed specifically for landmine victims, both [^]for health care and social service systems. It is hoped that once the landmine victims are networked, they will be able to galvanise themselves and lobby the government and donors for their own peculiar interests. Again this is depended on the adequate provision of assistance to fund* the networking programme.

**ANNEX A TO RESPONSES TO THE
EIGHTH MEETING OF STATE
PARTIES QUESTIONS**

ZIMBABWE MINE ACTION PROGRAMME OF ACTION 2008-2037

MILITARY DEMINING OPTION (NOT FUNDED)

Ser	Activity	Area to be Covered	Estimated Cost USD	Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)	(o)	(p)	(r)	(s)	(t)
1	Survey of new discovered mine areas	Mkumbura and Malipati	USD 150 000	2008													See foot Notes
2.	Demining Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner 70km double stretch x 1.3km	182km ²	USD 21 840 000	2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014													
3.	Demining of Msengezi to Rwenya 33.5km x 1.3km	435.5km ²	USD 52 260 000	2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025													
4.	Demining at Sheba Forest to Beacon hill - 50km x 1.3km	65km ²	USD 7 800 000	2026 2027 2028 2029													
5.	Demining at Rusitu to Muzite Mission 75km x 1.3km	97.5km ²	USD 11 700 000	2030 2031 2032 2033 2034													

6	Demining of the Burma Valley 3km	3.9km ³ and	USD 4 680000	2035																	
	Demining of the unsurveyed/ unknown minefields	Approx 50km ²	USD 6 000 000	2036 2037																	
	Totals	817.9km²	USD 104 000 000																		16km ² Cleared so far on Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner minefield

Foot Notes

1. The formula for calculating the funding requires is (1km² cost USD 120 000) formula is based on the current rate government funding and the clearance rate.
2. The required funds are only operational costs less for salaries and allowance, rations and demining capital equipment.
3. One Deminer Squadron will be employed at a time in this plan, which is what the fiscus can afford to fund.
4. The plan assumes that no external funding or assistance will be given to the country. Total clearance will be achieved in 30 years time.

MILITARY DEMINING (FUNDED)

Sr	Activity	Area to be Covered	Estimated Cost USD	TIME FRAME IN YEARS												Remarks
				2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	(n)				
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)			
1	Survey of newly discovered mine areas	Mkunbura and Malipati	USD 150 000	Apr	Oct											
2	Demining Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner 70km double stretch x 1.3km	182km ²	USD 27.5m	Apr		GRP 1						Nov			Clearance of this minefield started in Military demining	
3	Demining of Msengezi to Rwenya 335km x 1.3km	435.5km ²	USD 65.3m			GRP 2									130km of this minefield was once cleared but the cleared area has killed over 2 in the past 5 years and therefore need clearance in total	
4	Demining at Sheba Forest to Beacon hill -50km x 1.3km	65km ²	USD 9.7m				GRP 3									
5	Demining at Rusitu to Muzile Mission 75km x 1.3km	97.5km ²	USD 15 000 000					GRP 3								

6	Demining of the Burma Valley 3km	3.9km ²	USD 5 850		GRP 3	▶												
7	Demining of the unsurveyed/ unknown minefields	Approx 50km ²	USD 150 000		GRP 1	▶												
Grand Total			USD 117m															

FOOT NOTES

- GRP Denotes Group of Military Humanitarian Deminers
- The plan assumes that the government will receive assistance to conduct military demining.
- Military demining will be enhanced by adequately equipping three groups

**ANNEX B TO RESPONSES TO THE
EIGHTH MEETING OF STATE
PARTIES QUESTIONS 18-22 NOV 07**

ZIMBABWE MINE ACTION PROGRAMME OF ACTION 2008 - 2016

COMBINED MILITARY AND COMMERCIAL DEMINING

Serial	Activity	Area to be Covered	Estimated Cost USD	TIME FRAME IN YEARS												Remarks	
				2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016					
1	Survey of newly discovered mine areas	Mkumbura and Malipati	USD 150 000	Apr	Oct												Clearance of this minefield started in 2006. Military demining.
2.	Demining Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner 70km double stretch x 1.3km	182km ²	USD 30 000 000	Apr													130km of this minefield was once cleared but the cleared area has killed over 20 people in the past 5 years and therefore needs re-clearance in total
3.	Demining of Msengezi to Rwenya 33.5km x 1.3km	435.5km ²	USD 70 000 000														
4.	Demining at Sheba Forest to Beacon hill -50km x 1.3km	65km ²	USD 13 000 000														

5.	Demining at Rustu to Muzite, Mission 75km x 1.3km	97.5km ²	USD 15 000 000																
6	Demining of the Burma Valley 3km	3.9km ²	USD 150 000																
7.	Demining of the unsurveyed/ unknown minefields	Approx 50km ²	USD 10 000 000																
Grand Total			USD 138 000 000																

FOOT NOTES

- M Denotes Military Humanitarian Demining
- C Denotes Commercial Demining
- The estimated cost increased because of salaries and wages for deminers.
- The plan assumes that the government will receive assistance to conduct combined military and commercial demining.
- Military demining will be enhanced by adequately equipping two squadrons.
- Funds permitting total, clearance will be achieved in about ten years.

HUMANITARIAN MILITARY DEMINING EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

ANNEX C TO RESPONSES TO THE
EIGHTH MEETING OF STATE
PARTIES QUESTIONS 18-22 NOV 07

Ser	Expected Output	Key Activities	Budget Description				Source of Funds	Remarks			
			Key Requirements	Qty	Cost per Item (USD)	Total (USD)					
1.	To clear all mined areas in the Republic of Zimbabwe	1.1 Survey of newly discovered minefields	SURVEY EQUIPMENT ❖ GTS 211D Set complete ❖ GPS set ❖ Surveyor's Pamphlets ❖ Husky hand held data collector ❖ Topcon field Book	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)		
				2	5 000	10 000	See Foot Notes				
				10	2 000	20 000					
				10	200	2 000					
				6	2 000	12 000					
				10	200	2 000					
				Grand Total				46 000			
				1.2 All Minefield	❖ DETECTION EQUIPMENT ❖ Mine detectors Vallon VHM3 ❖ Safety boots ❖ Genital protectors ❖ Flack aprons ❖ Helmets complete visor ❖ Anti-fragmentation Suit ❖ Prodder man tool kit ❖ Satchel Bag ❖ Trip Wire Filler ❖ Blasting Machine ❖ Crimpers ❖ Mine Marker	Grand Total		100	5 000	500 000	
								100	2 000	200 000	
								100	500	50 000	
								100	600	60 000	
								100	70	7 000	
								50	2 500	125 000	
100	200	20 000									
100	50	5 000									
20	40	800									
20	500	10 000									
Grand Total				984 800							
1.3 Provision of adequate logistical	❖ EARTHMOVING PLANT ❖ Dozers D7G	2	2 000 000	4 000 000							

	support to Demining Operations					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Grader D7G ❖ Front-end Loader ❖ Tipper ❖ Tractor ❖ Compactor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 2 2 4 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 500 000 1 000 000 500 000 100 000 70 000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 000 000 2 000 000 2 000 000 2 000 000 140 000 		
	LOGISTICAL VEHICLES & EQUIPMENTY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Troop Carrier Vehicle ❖ Ambulance ❖ Water Wagon ❖ Fuel Bowser ❖ Command Rover ❖ Stores Vehicle ❖ Horse and Low bed ❖ Horse and box trailer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 10 4 4 10 8 2 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 000 300 000 350 000 350 000 250 000 700 000 1 500 000 1 500 000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 000 000 3 000 000 1 400 000 1 400 000 2 500 000 5 600 000 3 000 000 3 000 000 		
	MEDICAL EQUIPMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Wheel Chair ❖ Stretcher Field ❖ Shock Bag ❖ Air way kit ❖ Stethoscopes ❖ Suction Machines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 20 10 10 5 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200 100 80 500 150 300 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 000 2 000 800 5 000 750 1 500 		
	Grand Total			11 050		
	Grand Total			29 900 000		
	STATIC PLANT 15KVA Generator	12	3 000	36 000		

			7.5 KVA generator Chain Saw Field Kitchen Water Pump Grand Total	6 10 3 10 5	1 000 20 5 000 300 1 000	6 000 2 000 15 000 3 000 5 000	67 000
			<u>MISCELLANEOUS TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT</u> Trowel Shear Pruning Demining Brush Power Ext Cable Deminers Knife Fridge Food Container Jerry can (Water) Jerry can (fuel) Total	200 200 200 2000m 200 10 10 20 20 20	50 40 20 20/m 70 200 80 20 20	1 000 8 000 4 000 40 000 14 000 2 000 1 600 400 400	71 400
		Grand Total:					32 419 450

NOTE:

- The equipment is adequate to kit two deminer's squadron and should be replaced after every five years.
- The two squadrons will be working simultaneously.