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**Slide 1**

Dear ladies and gentlemen,  
It is my great pleasure to welcome you on behalf of the Croatian Mine Action Centre. I will briefly present the mine problem and mine action in the Republic of Croatia in relation to the new National Mine Action Strategy.

**Slide 3**

According to an estimate of the UN in 1996, roughly estimated MSA in the Republic of Croatia amounted to 13 000 sq.km stretching from the north to the south of Croatia along the borders of separation of forces.

In the beginning of 2008, for the purpose of demining plan preparation, mine suspected area is precisely defined to 977 square kilometres in form of polygons. Upon the realization of this year's demining plan, implementation of general and technical survey and revision of general survey, on 24 November 2008, the MSA amounts to 970 square kilometres.

**Slide 4**

Around 11.000 polygons of different sizes are registered in the central database. MSA extends through 12 Croatian counties on the area of 112 towns and municipalities. Fifth part of the Croatian population lives in mine environment. The total number of mines (antipersonnel and antitank mines) amounts to 110.000. There are just as much UXO scattered in the MSA as well as cluster submunition.

**Slide 5**

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#### **Slide 5**

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#### **Slide 6**

The entire MSA is marked with 15.000 mine warning signs, defined by coordinates and entered into the database, marked on the maps as presented on the DOF S 1: 5 000. In the framework of its marking activities, the Croatian Mine Action Centre cares for the renewal of mine warning signs through the co-operation with the local community.

#### **Slide 7**

The slide shows mine victims in total, number of casualties per year. The total number of mine victims in Croatia from 1991-2008 is 1886, from which 492 are fatalities. Significant decrease of a number of mine victims in 2008 of 5 mine victims, what is the smallest number so far, is the result of permanent conduct of mine risk education, contact with local community in the

process of general survey revision, marking of area and submission of MSA-related information to all relevant subjects through the maps and CDs with precisely defined MSA.

### **Slide 8**

It is clear from the slide that the State Budget including World Bank Loan is the biggest funding source for demining operations in the Republic of Croatia. Donations and investments (public companies) are also a significant funding source and their contributions finally resulted in 274 km of demined area.

### **Slide 9**

Parallel with stabile funding sources in the Republic of Croatia during the last 10 years, the increase of overall capacities has been registered out of which the specificity of the Republic of Croatia is the development and application of mechanical demining. Today's capacities foreign companies partially take part in are enough for planned demining at the annual level of ca. 35 square kilometres.

### **Slide 10**

Demining priorities for annual and three-year demining plans are classified into three groups: safety, socio-economic and ecological out of which each has three subgroups and they represent the basis for the designing of annual plans.

### **Slide 11**

From the Table, that is a consisting part of the National Mine Action Strategy, it is clear from the annual plan indicators such as required financial means in million EUR, required number of deminers etc., it is clear that all activities are focused on the period from 2011 to 2014.

**Plan**      *(Miljenkov tekst)*

This plan is part of our extension request. In the following slides I will present how and what we are planning to do in next 10 years.

Total 410 km<sup>2</sup> is planned to be removed from mine suspected area by using demining methods. Demining will be done by the authorised demining companies.

By using technical survey methods, it is planned to reduce mine suspected area for 377 km<sup>2</sup>. Technical survey will be done by the authorised demining companies.

General survey will be done by CROMAC survey teams and with this method it is planned to reduce mine suspected area for 210 km<sup>2</sup>.

### **Slides 12, 13, 14**

#### **Grafovi**

The graphs also present the indicators of the overall required financial and other parameters for the fulfilment of the national programme.

#### **Slide 12 (Miljenkov tekst)**

Using demining methods in requested period, the following goals are planned to be achieved:

by 2010: completely demined area around houses planned for reconstruction and return of displaced persons,

by 2011: completely remove mine threat form all infrastructural objects,

by 2013: completely remove mine threat form agricultural land,

by 2018: remove mine threat from the forest areas planned for the exploitation and forestation according to the plan of public company "Croatian Forests",

by 2018: completely remove mine threat form the area for pasture and farming,

by 2017: demine area important for fire protection activities and parts of National Parks and Parks of Nature,  
by 2016: demine swamps, river banks and other unclassified area,  
in planned period remove all known minefields and one that will be discovered during the general and technical survey activities.

By using technical survey methods it is planned to reduce the area for the exploitation of wood, for the fire protection and parts of protected areas like National Parks and Parks of Nature. These are the areas for which there are no minefield records or any other record of mining but with the general survey activities it is affirmed that there is no ground for the cancellation and declaration that the area is safe. To be able to apply technical survey methods, it is necessary to adjust the Croatian legislation according to IMAS and to prepare related SOPs. Technical survey is planned to start in 2010.

With general survey it is planned additionally to investigate forest areas, karst and underbrush in order to reduce the mine suspected area to the size of a real problem. The biggest activities will be performed in period from 2011 to 2014. Because of increased activities of technical survey it is expected that the additional information will be collected that will result in further reduction of MSA.

### **Slide 13 (Miljenkov tekst)**

Funds necessary for the achievement of these tasks total 660 million €. If we add to this figure the funds needed for CROMAC that will conduct general survey and funds for geodetic measurements total funds necessary for the realisation of this program is 740 mil. €.

### **Slide 14 (Miljenkov tekst)**

In order to fulfil the Article 5 obligations it would be necessary to increase the number of deminers or through additional education of new deminers or through import of deminers from other countries (primarily Bosnia and Herzegovina). There is no need to increase the number of demining machines and mine detection dogs because their current capacities are sufficient to fulfil the Ottawa Treaty obligations.

## **Slide 15**

### **Preconditions**

For the fulfilment of planned activities, it is required to increase the financial means needed for demining, increase of demining capacities, partial change of legislation and organizational adjustments because of monitoring i.e. supervision or quality control over demining activities.