

Virtual Dialogue Ecuador-Peru Mine Action Completion Initiative February 15, 2022

Introduction

Since 1993, the Organization of American States has assisted ten of its Member States in their efforts to rid themselves of the scourge of antipersonnel landmines through the program known as Comprehensive Action against Antipersonnel Mines - AICMA. Under the direction of the Department of Public Security, the AICMA Program has pursued the mandate first set forth in 1997 and renewed annually by the OAS General Assembly to convert the Americas into the world's first antipersonnel landmine-free zone as soon as possible. With AICMA's support, the governments of Costa Rica, Honduras, Suriname, Guatemala, and Nicaragua were able to complete their mine action programs by 2010. Since that year, Venezuela and Chile have concluded their own national efforts to eliminate the threat of landmines from their territories in 2013 and 2020, respectively. Currently, the Republics of Colombia, Ecuador and Peru continue working toward achieving this same objective.

In January 1998, Ecuador and Peru signed a historic peace agreement aimed at resolving their longstanding border dispute that left their common border contaminated by landmines and unexploded munitions. One of the important facets of the peace process has been their ongoing mutual commitment to conduct clearance of landmines from affected areas, an effort that was previously supported by the OAS from 2001 until 2014. Since then, both countries have continued demining activities with national resources in a collaborative fashion and are now seeking assistance from the international community in order to finalize humanitarian demining in the most remote and difficult portions of the border. Upon receiving formal requests from both governments to renew support for their mine action programs, the OAS has committed to playing a key role in their fundraising efforts that will support a coordinated action plan to assist Ecuador and Peru in completing their remaining mine clearance work.

Objective

To promote support for the OAS effort to assist Ecuador and Peru in completing their mine action programs by 2025 and move the Americas a major step closer to achieving the goal of becoming an antipersonnel landmine-free zone, the Secretary General and the Permanent Representatives of Ecuador and Peru to the OAS will co-chair a dialogue with potential donors and other interested partners to provide information about the Ecuador-Peru Mine Action Completion Initiative on February 8, 2021 in virtual format with interventions from Lima, Quito, and Washington, D.C. The agenda for the virtual dialogue will take place according to the attached program. Simultaneous translation will be provided in English and Spanish.

Program

Virtual Dialogue

Ecuador-Peru Mine Action Completion Initiative

09:30 AM – 11:00 AM (GMT-5)

09:15	Attendees are kindly requested to connect to the virtual dialogue using the link provided after acceptance of the invitation
09:30 – 09:50	Introduction and opening remarks (moderator: Guillermo Moncayo, Interim Director, OAS Department of Public Security)
	 Secretary General, H.E. Luis Almagro Permanent Representative of the Republic of Ecuador, H.E. Ambassador Carlos Alberto Játiva Permanent Representative of the Republic of Peru, H.E. Ambassador Harold Forsyth Special Envoy to the Antipersonnel Landmine Ban Convention, H.R.H. Prince Mired Raad Zeid Al-Hussein of Jordan
09:50 -09:55	Introduction to the OAS Program of Comprehensive Action against Antipersonnel Mines
	 Mr. Guillermo Moncayo, Interim Director, Department of Public Security
09:55 – 10:15	Ecuador: Accomplishments and Challenges in Humanitarian Demining
	 Ambassador Augusto Saá, Undersecretary of Sovereignty and Vicinity Relations General Fernando Adatti, Commander of the Corps of Engineers of the Ecuadorian Army.
10:15 – 10:35	Peru: Accomplishments and Challenges in Humanitarian Demining
	Brigadier General Luis Vasquez Guerrero
10:35 – 10:45	OAS Proposal: Ecuador-Peru Mine Action Completion Initiative
	Mr. Carl Case, AICMA Program Senior Advisor
10:45 – 10:55	Questions and comments from Dialogue participants (moderator: Mr. Guillermo Moncayo, Interim Director, OAS Department of Public Security)
10:55 – 11:00	Closing Remarks

For more information: publicsecurity@oas.org