

## **IMAS Review Board Progress Update**

**07<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

### Recently endorsed IMAS

The following IMAS were endorsed by the IACG-MA on 08<sup>th</sup> December 2020. These documents are available on the IMAS Website.

- IMAS 07.31 Accreditation and Operational Testing of ADS and Handlers (Ed.1)
- IMAS 09.41 Operational Procedures for ADS (Ed.4)
- IMAS 10.40 Medical Support to Demining Operations (Ed. 2)
- IMAS 10.60 Investigation and reporting of accidents and incidents (Ed. 2)
- IMAS 12.10 Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (Ed. 2. Am. 3)

### Governance Evaluation (IMAS 01.10)

An external evaluation of the governance of IMAS was completed on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Findings and recommendations were considered by the Steering Group during 2020. A Drafting Committee, which reports to the Steering Group, has been established to work on the necessary amendments to IMAS 01.10 which are being implemented in phases.

- Phase 1 was completed in 2020. This related to recommendations concerning the Steering Group itself (composition, terms of reference and rules of procedure), necessary updates to IMAS 01.10 were completed in November and endorsed by the IACG-MA in December.
- Phase 2 concerns recommendations for the Review Board and will be completed in Q1 and Q2 2021. The Drafting Committee will solicit input from the Review Board at the next meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March before submitting proposed amendments at the meeting planned for the margins of the NDM-UN in May.

### Ongoing IMAS workplan tasks

#### **IMAS “Management of Human Remains”**

The version submitted to the Board in June 2020 was not supported, following a divergence of opinion from members regarding the way forward a final decision regarding the next steps for this initiative will be following a presentation and discussion over the issue at the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **IMAS 13.10 “Victim Assistance”**

The Steering Group did not support the version of the standard which was put forward by the Review Board in February 2020. The decision to return this document to the Chair/Secretary of the Review Board was made after the Steering Group received direct feedback on the document from international stakeholders. The Chair/Secretary is working with these stakeholders in an effort to understand and address their concerns. It is anticipated that a revised version will be submitted to the Review Board for further consideration in 2021.

#### **Technical Notes for Mine Action**

Two TNMA have been further developed based on feedback from the Review Board in February 2020. It is anticipated that the following TNMA will both be submitted for consideration and approval at the Review Board meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March.

- TNMA “All Reasonable Effort”
- TNMA “Land Release KPIs”

### **Expert Technical Working Groups (TWG)**

The following working groups that were established to work on tasks stemming from the existing workplan have been provided a mandate to reconvene.

- TWG EOD/IEDD competencies - is working on revisions to T&EP 09.30 and T&EP 09.31 following the request made by the Review Board in February 2020.
- TWG Animal Detection Systems – is working on two new T&EP covering ADS competencies and establishment of ADS testing areas

The TWG focal points will provide progress updates to the Review Board on 4<sup>th</sup> March.

### **IMAS Proposals**

All proposals for IMAS and TNMA have been parked while the governance evaluation is considered. The following proposals have been revived:

- Addressing the Environmental Impact of Mine Action Clearance Activities. Reducing the impact of soil and water contamination during HMA disposal activities.
- Standardising Beneficiary Definitions in Humanitarian Mine Action.

### **IMAS Translations**

- The standards approved by the IACG-MA in 2019 were translated into Arabic, French and Russian in 2020 and are now available on the IMAS website.
- IMAS endorsed in December 2020 are currently being translated into Arabic and Russian.
- The VNMAC is leading an initiative to translate IMAS into Vietnamese and hopes to complete this process in Q1 2021.

### **AOB/Outstanding Issues**

#### **Minor Amendments**

- TNMA 12.10/01/2018 Risk Education for Improvised Explosive Devices (provisional draft) will be updated based on the terminology agreed by the Board in 2018 and 2019 and approved by the SG in 2020.
- Minor amendments such as formatting and updated referencing will be conducted in parallel with any updates to the governance system.

### **Meeting Minutes**

- IMAS Review Board ([10<sup>th</sup> February 2020](#))
- IMAS Steering Group ([12<sup>th</sup> February 2020](#))
- IMAS Steering Group ([01<sup>st</sup> September 2020](#))
- IMAS Steering Group ([25<sup>th</sup> November 2020](#))

The next meeting of the IMAS Review Board will be held on 4th March 2021.