INTERNATIONAL MINE ACTION STANDARDS (IMAS)

MINUTES OF IMAS REVIEW BOARD MEETING

9 APRIL 2013
GICHD-LAKE ROOM

A meeting of the IMAS Review Board (RB) was held at the GICHD on 9 April 2013.

Members attended

1. Paul Heslop – UNMAS (Chair)
2. Faiz Paktian – Secretary (GICHD)
3. John Steven – on behalf of Dennis Hadrick (USA)
4. Ian Mansfield (MASG)
5. Dave McDonnell (Olive Group)
6. Prum Sophakmonkol (Cambodia)
7. Davor Lara (Croatia)
8. Mohammad Shafiq Yosufi – on behalf of Mohammad Sediq Rashid (Afghanistan)
9. Mark Thompson (MAG)
10. Havard Bach (NPA)
11. Tim Horner (UNDP)
12. Sharif Baaser (UNICEF)
13. Lou Luff (UNOPS)
14. Bernard Thomas (CNDH)
15. Phil Bean (Independent)
16. Ben Lark (ICRC)
17. Magnus Bengtsson (MSB)

Guests speakers/participants

1. Adrian King – Allen Vanguard
2. Tim Lardner – UNPD Laos
3. Lance Mallin – UNMAS S.Sudan
4. Ha Hanguyen – ICVVAF Vietnam
5. David Hewitson – FENIX UK
6. Anwaruddin Tokhy. – GICHD (Programme Officer, note-taker)
7. Paunila Samuel – GICHD
8. John Rawson – GICHD
9. Erik Tollefsen - GICHD

Members excused

1. Dan Bowen - RONCO
2. Siraj Barzani – IKMAA - Iraq
3. Pablo Parra - Colombia
4. Roger Fasth - DDG
5. Guy Willoughby – The HALO Trust
6. Guy De Decker – Belgium (Military)

1. Welcome and introduction

Mr Paul Heslop (Chair) opened the meeting by welcoming the participants. He asked the new members Mr Ian Mansfield and Mr Bernard Thompson to introduce themselves. He then thanked the participants for their commitments and contribution to the IMAS.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The Secretary asked if there were any points arising from the minutes of the last meeting. There were no comments and the minutes were accepted.

3. Composition of the Review Board

The Secretary stated that, according to the IMAS 01.10, there should be 30 members – 28 permanent members and two observers to the Review Board. Currently 24 seats are occupied and six are vacant. He said that the vacant positions are: two in the national authorities' category and one each in donor, demining school, non-affiliated and IATG expert group categories.

The Secretary further stated that in 2012, Mr Jurkuch Barach, National Director of South Sudan and Mr Abdel Monim Suliman, Acting Director of Sudan had retired. UNICEF's representative Ms Judy Grayson was replaced by Mr Sharif Baaser and CNDH's representative Mr Jean Francois Beriard was replaced by Mr Bernard Thomas. Additionally, Mr Ian Mansfield, Secretary of the Mine Action Support Group (MASG) had been invited to join the board as a donor representative.

He added that the RB received some requests for membership in 2012. These were from Mr Guy Rhodes Head, Operational Consultancy GICHD, Mr. Kerry Brinkert, Director of ISU APMBC, Sr Col Tuan, Deputy Commander of Engineering (MoD) Vietnam, Mr Angel Belen, Deputy Director HDTC USA and Daniel ZOLLER LTC (Ret.) NATO EOD COE DSS Specialist.

The RB discussed the issues in details and concluded as follows:

- Japan, Vietnam and the Humanitarian Demining Training Centre (HDTC – USA) should be offered full membership in the respective categories. Letters will be sent by the Chair inviting them to join.
- Membership in the observer category should be expanded and the ISU-APMBC, GICHD and UNMAS should each be offered an observer seat. Letters will be sent by the Chair inviting these people to join the RB as observers.
- Additional categories for regional organisations should be established. The International Trust Fund (ITF - Slovenia), Inter American Defence Board (IADB – OAS) and African Union should be invited.
- Moreover a commercial company should be invited as an observer – NAOC (North American OEW Contractors) was suggested as a potential candidate due to its involvement in many countries in South America and with military ranges clearance. The Chair will check on the suitability of this organization and the Secretary will advise the RB members in advance of any invitation being issued.
- IMAS 01.10 should be amended to reflect the above accordingly. The Secretary will prepare a draft amendment to IMAS 01.10

4. Secretary's report

The Secretary presented an update on IMAS activities for the past year. See "IMAS News 2013" annexed to these Minutes.

5. Update on Land Release

The Secretary provided a brief update on the amendments to the Land Release IMAS that were recently approved by the RB. He said that former IMAS 08.20 (Land Release) is elevated to the IMAS Seven series

"Management" and re-labelled as the new IMAS 07.11. Former IMAS 08.10 (General Assessment) was removed from the Eight series and its contents were incorporated into the revised Land Release IMAS. As such, former IMAS 08.21 (Non-technical Survey) and 08.22 (Technical Survey) have been relabelled as IMAS 08.10 and 08.20 respectively. The title of the Eight series is relabelled as the "Survey series".

The Secretary further said that the term "DHA" or 'Defined Hazardous Area' has been removed from 'suspected land' categories throughout the land release IMAS. Land released through technical survey is labelled as "Land Reduced". In addition, maps and diagrams presented in the previous versions were removed and the text has been improved throughout to ensure ISO compliance and minimum requirements principle.

The Secretary added that these changes require a review of the entire IMAS series to ensure all references and terminologies are updated in all IMAS chapters. This review will be conducted in 2013 by the Secretary. He also said that a Plenary session is also planned for the 16th Meeting of the National Programme Directors and UN Advisors, to highlight the importance and implication of the recent amendments to the Land Release IMAS to the broader mine action community.

6. IMAS vs. IATG (IMAS 10.50 and IMAS 09.12)

The Secretary said that a review of the IMAS was completed in 2012 to ensure issues of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG) are included in the IMAS series. As such the RB has approved all the amended IMAS, except IMAS 10.50 'Storage and Transportation of Explosives', due to the fact that an issue was raised in regard to the application of the IMAS by demining organisations. As such, the GICHD Ammunition Safety Management Advisor, Mr John Rawson, has reviewed the IMAS and suggested additional changes for consideration. Mr Rawson was invited to brief the RB and he highlighted three issues in relation to IMAS 10.50. He said that:

- IATG cover the stockpiling of ammunition, not small items found in demining operations;
- the term "demining organisations" should be changed to "operators" or a similar word, as demining does not reflect EOD operations in non-mine affected countries; and
- recommended other changes to the IMAS.

The RB requested that the new draft IMAS 10.50 be circulated for review and acceptance. The Secretary stated that he will review the amendments first to ensure that the language and terminology are consistent with the IMAS/ISO.

The Secretary stated that IMAS remain as the mine action sector standards. However, when it comes to ammunition stockpile safety, management and destruction, the IATG must be followed and this has been emphasised in the IMAS series. He also said that the new IMAS 09.12 'EOD Clearance of Ammunition Storage Areas' will now be posted on the website for ease of reference, although it is just a copy of the IATG. This was agreed by the RB.

7. IMAS – Underwater demining

Mr Erik Tollefsen, GICHD Stockpile, EOD and Technology Advisor, was invited to brief the RB on plans to draft the underwater demining standards. The development of the underwater demining standards was previously approved by the RB. Mr Tollefsen said that a professional diver with EOD background will be contracted to come up with technical input for this standard. The draft will be discussed with the concerned experts/organisations before presenting it to the RB.

8. EOD Level 4 competencies

Mr Adrian King from Allan Vanguard was invited to present his proposal to develop the EOD Level 4 competency standards, previously supported by the RB. He said that the plan is not to create a huge document but a standard that provides guidance and which allows for EOD verification of mine action programmes and organisations.

He further said that his aim is to re-scope IMAS 09.30 to elaborate the Level 4 competency, and draft a Technical Note describing aspects of the qualification. The CWA on EOD Competency Levels 1 to 3 will also be reviewed and updated as part of this process.

The proposal was accepted by the RB in principle and the Secretary said that he will try to secure funding for this project. If funding is secured, the Secretary will work with Mr King to draft the standard and present it to the RB as soon as possible.

9. RAPID

The Secretary stated that on the request of UNMAS, the GICHD designed an electronic database, known as RAPID (Reporting, Analysis, and Prevention of Incidents in Demining). The database had been established based on the Information Management System for Mine Action - Next Generation (IMSMA NG) in 2011. It collects information and enables the analysis of trends in demining work place accidents globally. Its main purpose is to implement changes in work practices and develop safer tools and protective equipment in order to prevent future accidents. RAPID was launched early in 2012. Currently there are 1,375 records of accidents and 1,726 corresponding victims in the database.

He said that data collection from the field remains a major challenge and needs to be discussed. Only two accidents were reported to RAPID in 2012 and this has resulted in a delay of analysis and subsequent publishing of information on the website. He asked the RB how UNMAS/GICHD should go about getting information related to demining accidents from demining programmes.

David Hewitson said it is important to also collect actual working hours from the field – this would allow a comparison to be drawn between countries, regions, organisations and mine types on the number of accidents per working hours. There was also a suggestion that the number of deminers is also an important factor to be looked at in the analysis.

Havard Bach suggested that a person should be given the responsibility to follow up RAPID. Creating a mechanism alone may not help the process, unless a person is specifically assigned to this task.

The Chair said that he will ask representatives of the national programmes attending the 16th Meeting of National Programme Directors and UN Advisors to provide demining accident data on a regular basis. He said that he will follow up with countries that are not providing such data individually.

10. Stakeholder analysis

The Secretary briefed the RB about the IMAS Stakeholder Analysis conducted by the GICHD between March and May 2012. He said that the analysis aimed to address gaps in information regarding the views of the IMAS Stakeholders, through an in-depth analysis of the opinions of a sample of 58 participants from pre-identified stakeholder groups. The analysis recorded the viewpoints of stakeholders regarding the importance of the IMAS – their satisfaction with the format and content, as well as management structures and outreach and support efforts. He said that key trends that emerged from the study were:

- The overwhelming view is that the IMAS are an essential component of a well-functioning mine action sector. The importance of standardisation and good practice to the sector was recognised by all groups and stakeholders, who identified multiple benefits of the IMAS.

- A very high rate of overall satisfaction was expressed by stakeholders regarding the format and the general content of the IMAS. Although participants expressed some criticism of the IMAS format, it was generally recognised that it allows for easy reference and substantial clarity. In terms of content, suggested changes and additions were highlighted, but in general participants were satisfied with the standards.

- Unfortunately in terms of management structures, the trend was decidedly less positive. There appears to be a lack of clarity for stakeholders in regard to the management structures in place, and how field level input arrives at the technical level in terms of IMAS development and review. Similarly, there is a lack of confidence that IMAS management structures are working effectively. This appears in part to be related to limited communications outside IMAS structures and to limited visibility in regard to the outputs achieved by these various levels of management.

- Although stakeholders frequently highlighted the importance of minimising expenditures related to managing the IMAS, a number of areas were suggested where targeted outreach efforts could be made to assist certain groups, such as new mine action programmes and military clearance operations, that may have more limited access to assistance regarding IMAS. In addition, a number of suggestions were made regarding taking advantage of advances in communications and social media, to better coordinate around issues of good practice and lessons learned, so that it could be fed into the IMAS management process.

- Finally, the lack of translation of IMAS documents and the limitations caused by language barriers to contributions and consultations was a key element raised by many stakeholders, but most notably by the national mine action authorities.

- Only nine members of the RB/SG responded to a questionnaire sent to them which was studied separately. Their opinions generally mirrored what was found in the wider study population.

11. Any other business

- IEDs in MRE – the Chair proposed that MRE should include IED messages. Sharif Baaser said that abandoned IEDs are part of the definition of ERW and are already included in MRE messages. The MRE messages are not disaggregated by mine, UXO and IEDs.

  A question on whether the UN policy on IEDs was published was asked. The chair confirmed the policy was published and stated that he will provide a copy to the Secretary to be circulated to the RB members. The Secretary said that the IMAS do not provide any guidance on IEDs. As a minimum, he suggested that a reference to the UN policy should be established and the definitions of active IEDs, legacy/abandoned IEDs be included in IMAS 04.10 for clarity. This was agreed by members of the Board.

- IMAS Translation to Spanish - the chair said that Inter-Agency Defence Board (IADB) of the Organization of American States (OAS) will translate IMAS into Spanish. The Secretary said that a Jordan/German based NGO ‘International Organization for Consultancy Training & Rehabilitation’ (IOTRC) will translate IMAS into Arabic.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked all attendees for their valuable contributions and declared the meeting closed.

Anwaruddin TOKHY
20 April 2013

GICHD | CIDHG

April 2013

To: Members of the IMAS Review Board

IMAS NEWS 2013

The following is an update on some IMAS activities in 2012, including 1st quarter of 2013, for your information.

1. Next Review Board Meeting

The next IMAS Review Board (RB) meeting is scheduled to be held at the GICHD on Tuesday 9 April from 4 to 7 pm , ahead of the annual International Meeting of National Directors and UN Advisor meeting, which is taking place from 10 -12 April 2013.

2. IMAS Steering Group Meeting

No IMAS steering group meeting is scheduled in 2013.

3. Overview of IMAS, TN and CWA

› IMAS - currently, 41 endorsed IMAS are published on the website. A new IMAS 05.10 "information management" for mine action has been developed, approved and published in Sep 2012 as "draft first edition".

› Technical Notes - there are 15 Technical Notes (TN) published on the website. TN 10.20.01 "estimation explosion danger area" was amended and updated in 2012. The remaining TN will be reviewed and updated in 2013.

› CWA - there are seven CEN Workshop Agreements (CWA) related to humanitarian mine action published. It's planned that these CWA will be re-labelled either to Test and Evaluation Protocols for Mine Action or TN in 2013. See details in section 8 below.

4. Proposals for new/amendment of IMAS/TN

The following proposals for new IMAS/TN were made in 2012;

a) Proposal for a TN for Chinese Type 84 Cluster Munitions
b) Proposal for a TN for Responding to IED threat within demining operations
c) Proposal for EOD Level 4 competency standard
d) Proposal for underwater demining standard

The following proposals were submitted for review and revision of the IMAS;

e) Amendment of the Mine Detection Dogs IMAS 09.40, 09.41, 09.42, 09.43 and 09.44
f) Review of the IMAS 09.20 – post-clearance inspection (sampling) and IMAS 07.40 monitoring of demining organizations
g) Rewrite of the land release IMAS following the NGO perspective circulated in Nov 2012.

The review board supported all the above proposals except (b) where there were some reservations

5. IMAS review and amendments in 2012

5.1. IMAS in relation to IATG

In accordance with the recommendation of the RB meeting in 2012, a complete review of the IMAS series to include IATG issues was conducted by a consultant Mr Adrian Wilkinson, who has also been involved in the development of IMAS and IATG. The review was completed in August 2012 and the final report was submitted to the RB. Key conclusions were:

- Major amendments - were made to two IMAS; 10.50 S&OH storage, transportation and handling of explosive and 11.10 guide for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines. Changes included removal or rewording of some clauses and/or Annexes, and inclusion of new text and/or normative references. The RB approved IMAS 11.10 but not 10.50. The earlier was published and the latter will be debated in the RB meeting in April;

- Minor amendments - were made to nine IMAS e.g. inclusion of a normative reference(s) to the relevant IATG and, or adding a small text. These were; IMAS 01.10, 04.10, 07.20, 09.10, 09.11, 09.30, 10.20, 11.20 and 11.30. The amendments were accepted and the IMAS were published;

- No amendments – the remaining IMAS did not require amendments although they were reviewed;

- TN 10.20.01 "estimation explosion danger area" was amended and updated;

- New IMAS - a new IMAS 09.12 "EOD clearance of ammunition storage area explosion" has been recommended for inclusion in the IMAS series. Content of the new IMAS, for the most part, is the same as the IATG 11.30. This will be published once the issues are discussed in the next RB meeting in April 2013; and

- It has been recommended in IMAS 01.10 that an IATG Representative should be invited to participate as a co-opted member of the IMAS Review Board. Similarly, it would be appropriate that the GICHD IMAS Secretary be a co-opted member of the IATG Technical Review Panel.

An article will be written to provide clarity in regard to the application of IMAS and IATG in mine action later in 2013.

5.2. Land release IMAS

Upon a request, the land release IMAS 08.20, 08.21 and 08.22 were amended and presented in the last RB meeting in March 2012. NPA requested more time to review the IMAS and later on, came up with an NGO Perspective draft – all three IMAS in one. It was circulated to the RB in October 2012. The draft *was not* accepted by the RB and the Chair requested the GICHD to re-establish a lead in this process, and consider a major rewrite - taking on board valuable content in the NGO Perspective together with the comments received from the RB. Accordingly, a Consultative Group was established that consisted of a broad representation of 18 participants from across the mine action sector, including national authorities (IKMAA, MACCA, CMAA), commercials (RONCO), IHL/Advocacy (ISU-APMBC, ICBL, LM & CM, ICRC), the United Nations (UNMAS, UNDP), INGOs (HALO, NPA, MAG) and GICHD. The group met over two days (29-30 Jan) and discussed the form and content of the IMAS which was facilitated by a consultant, Mr David Hewtson. As a result the IMAS were amended, circulated and agreed by the IMAS RB following agreement by the Consultative Group. The IMAS are now approved and published.

IMAS 08.20 land release has been written to allow its elevation to the management level within the overall IMAS structure and relabelled 07.11. This provides a more consistent approach to distinguishing between standards relating to the management of activity and those addressing the specific activities. As such the IMAS 08.21 non-technical survey and IMAS 08.22 technical survey are now relabelled IMAS 08.10 and IMAS 08.20 respectively. The new IMAS 07.11 land release and new IMAS 08.10 non-technical survey incorporate elements of the former 08.10 (General Assessment) and thus rendering it redundant.

These changes prompt a review of the entire IMAS series to ensure they are up-to-date.

A Plenary session is also planned on Wednesday, 10 April 2013, in the 16th meeting of National Programme Directors and UN Advisors, to highlight importance and application of the recent amendments to land release IMAS to the broader mine action community.

6. Review Plan 2013

The following IMAS, TN and CWA are planned to be reviewed in 2013;

a) IMAS

- Land release IMAS 08.20, 08.21, 08.22 (competed)
- Terms and definitions IMAS 04.10;
- Quality management IMAS 07.30, 08.40 and 09.20;
- Use of mine detection dogs IMAS 09.40, 09.41, 09.42. 09.43 and 09.44;
- A complete review of the IMAS series in relation to the new land release IMAS; and
- Development of a new standard on underwater demining.

b) Technical Notes

- TN series will be reviewed and revised in 2013. This is to ensure they reflect recent development within mine action standards;
- A new TN on EOD competency L4 will be drafted; and
  Note: CWA on EOD competencies will be reviewed, updated and re-labeled as TN.
- A new TN for Chinese Type 84 Cluster Munitions (TBC with UNMAS).

c) CWA

- The following CWA will be re-labelled *Test and Evaluation Protocols for Mine Action:*

  - 14747:2003 T&E of Metal Detectors
  - 14747-2.2008 T&E Soil Characterisation and GPR
  - 15044:2009 T&E of Demining Machines
  - 15756:2007 T&E Personal Protective Equipment
  -

  The CWA page on the website will also be renamed *Test & Evaluation Protocols* in 2013.

- The following CWA will be reviewed, amended and re-labelled as TN:

  - 15464:2005 EOD Competency Standards – will include EOD Level 4
  - 15832:2008 Follow-on after Use of Demining Machines
  - 15833:2008 Quality Management for Mechanical Demining

7. IMAS stakeholders analysis

A Stakeholder Analysis for the IMAS was conducted by the GICHD between March and May 2012. This analysis aimed to address gaps in information regarding the views of the IMAS Stakeholders through an in-depth analysis of the opinions of a sample of 58 participants from pre-identified stakeholder groups.

The analysis recorded the viewpoints of stakeholders regarding the importance of the IMAS, their satisfaction with the IMAS format and content, as well as management structures and outreach and support efforts. Key measures were recorded for stakeholder opinions both across and within the defined stakeholder groups.

The following trends emerged from the study:

- The overwhelming view is that the IMAS are an essential component of a well-functioning mine action sector. The importance of standardization and good practice to the sector was recognized by all groups and stakeholders identified multiple benefits arising from the IMAS.

- The very high rate of overall satisfaction expressed by stakeholders regarding the format and the general content of the IMAS. Although participants expressed some criticisms of the IMAS format, it was generally recognized that allows for easy reference and substantial clarity. In terms of content, suggested changes and additions were highlighted, but in general participants were satisfaction with the standards.

- Unfortunately in terms of management structures, the trend was decidedly less positive. There appears to be a lack of clarity for stakeholders in regard to the management structures in place, and how field level input arrives at the technical level in terms of IMAS development and review. Similarly, there is a lack of confidence that IMAS management structures are working effectively. This appears in part to be related to limited communications outside IMAS structures and to limited visibility in regard to the outputs achieved by these various levels of management.

- Although stakeholders frequently highlighted the importance of minimizing expenditures related to managing the IMAS, a number of areas were suggested where targeted outreach efforts could be made to assist certain groups such as new mine action programmes and military clearance operations, that may have more limited access to assistance regarding IMAS. In addition, a number of suggestions were made regarding taking advantage of advances in communications and social media, to better coordinate around issues of good practice and lessons learned, so that it could be fed into the IMAS management process.

- Finally, translating documents and limiting language barriers to contributions and consultations, was a key element raised by many stakeholders, but most notably national mine action authorities.

- Only nine members of the RB/SG responded to a questionnaire sent to them which was studied separately. Their pinions generally mirrored what was found in the wider study population.

8. Review Board membership

There are 30 seats on the IMAS review board - 28 full members and two observers.

In 2012, Mr Jurkuch Barach, National Director of South Sudan and Mr Abdel Monim Suliman, Acting Director of Sudan had retired. UNICEF's representative Ms Judy Greyson was replaced by Mr

Sharif Baaser and CNDH's representative Mr Jean Francois Beriard was replaced by Mr Bernard Thomas. Additionally, Mr Ian Mansfield, Secretary of the Mine Action Support Group (MASG) has been invited as a donor representative.

In accordance with IMAS 01.10 – Clause 12.2, there currently are six vacancies in the following categories:

- one in donor – a potential candidate may be Japan;
- two in national authority – a potential candidates is VN;
- one in demining school – potential candidate may be the US HDTC;
- one in non-affiliated; and
- one in IATG – a potential candidate may be ODA's Ms Gillian Goh or UNMAS's C-IED Officer

We have also requests from the following individuals to join the RB:

- GICHD Operations Head; Mr Guy Rhods;
- ISU APMBC Director – Mr Kerry Brinket:
- Deputy Commander of Engineering (MoD) Vietnam – Sr Col Tuan;
- Deputy Director HDTC USA – Mr Angel Belen; and
- Daniel ZOLLER (Ltc (Ret.), NATO EOD COE DSS Specialist.

9. IMAS website

The IMAS website (www.mineactionstandards.org) was continually updated throughout 2012. Amended, and translated IMAS and TN as well as other relevant documents, were published on a regular basis as and when available, and e-mail messages of "what's new" were sent to all registered individuals regularly. IMAS-related questions and queries were responded to within one business day. On average, three queries per week were sent to UNMAS/GICHD. Information about the IMAS RB such as the IMAS framework, membership list, meeting minutes, work plans, stakeholder analysis, publications and other relevant documents were made available.

To improve transparency, as was suggested in the past, all proposals and justifications for new or amendment IMAS/TN, mentioned above, are posted on the Review Board page.

The table below provides a brief overview of the www.mineactionstandards.org statistics. More details on statistics are available and can be provided on request.

Visits	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	total
2012	1691	1815	2016	1708	1722	1909	1761	1552	1614	1973	1730	1366	20857
2011	1931	1919	1948	1694	1804	1753	1537	1591	1881	1935	1938	1428	21359

10. RAPID

On the request of UNMAS, the GICHD designed an electronic database, known as RAPID (Reporting, Analysis, and Prevention of Incidents in Demining). The database has been established based on Information Management System for Mine Action Next Generation (IMSMA NG) in 2011.

It collects information and enables the analysis of trends in demining accidents globally. Its main purpose is to implement changes in work practices and develop safer tools and protective equipment, in order to prevent future accidents.

RAPID was launched early in 2012. Currently there are 1,375 records of accidents and 1,726 corresponding victims in the database. *Data collection from the field remains a major challenge and need to be discussed in the next RB meeting.* Two accidents were reported in 2012 and this has resulted in a delay of analysis and subsequent publishing of information on the website.

11. Translation of IMAS

Efforts continued to translate the IMAS into other languages and make them available for the mine action community, as in previous years.

Currently, 42 IMAS English, three Arabic, 37 Armenian, two in Chinese, 42 French, 28 Russian and nine Spanish translations are published.

12 TN and 6 CWA are also available in French. In 2012, the following three CWA were translated or updated in French.

- *14747:2003 Détecteurs de métal*
- *14747-2:2008 Caractérisation des sols*
- *15833:2008 Gestion de la Qualité équipe mécanique*).

12. IMAS publications

The IMAS CD ROM 2012 edition was issued in March 2012 and distributed to mine action organizations. In addition an article "relationship between IMAS, NMAS and SOPs" was published in Journal of Mine Action. Multi-language IMAS CD 2013 is under production and it includes IATG in Arabic and English as well. The following publications can be viewed and ordered through the IMAS websites:

- A series of best practice guides to mine risk education (MRE) IMAS
- A guide to IMAS 2010 edition - will be updated in 2013
- IMAS CD edition No-9/2013 - will be produced in April 2013.

13. National Standards

In 2012, the GICHD supported a number of mine action programmes, either in the development and/or revision of their national mine action standards. These countries included Jordan, Vietnam, and Mozambique. Up-to-date versions of national standards of 11 countries, including Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Colombia, Jordan, Lao PDR, Mozambique, Sir Lanka, Sudan, and Senegal are published on the IMAS website, as examples of NMAS.

That's all for the 2013 edition of IMAS News.

Best regards,

Faiz Paktian
Secretary, IMAS Review Board

Attachments

- Review Board members list as at March 2013.
- IMAS Framework as at April 2013