



INTERNATIONAL MINE ACTION STANDARDS (IMAS)

MINUTES OF IMAS REVIEW BOARD MEETING

30 MARCH 2012
GICHD-LAKE ROOM

A meeting of the IMAS Review Board was held at the GICHD on March 30, 2012.

Members attended:

1. Paul Heslop – UNMAS (Chair)
2. Lou Luff – UNOPS
3. Tim Horner – UNDP
4. Bill Howell – HI Federation
5. Gilles Delecourt – HI Federation
6. Dan Bowen – RONCO
7. Dave McDonnell – G4S
8. Prum Sophakmonkol – Cambodia (NMAA)
9. Davor Laura – Croatia (CROMAC)
10. Sediq Rashid – Afghanistan (MACCA)
11. Siraj Barzani – Iraq (IKMAA)
12. Pablo Parra – Colombia (PAICMA)
13. Phil Bean – Non-affiliated
14. Faiz Paktian – GICHD (Secretary)
15. Guy de Decker – Belgium (Military)
16. Steinar Essen – NPA
17. Mark Thompson – MAG
18. Magnuss Bengtsson – Sweden (MSB)
19. Richard Boulter – The HALO Trust
20. Roger Fasth – DDG

Other participants:

1. Tammy Hall – Consultant
2. Asa Gilbert – GICHD (Land Release Advisor)
3. Guy Rhodes – GICHD (Head of Operations)
4. Per Breivik – GICHD (Operations Advisor)
5. Lina Maria Castillo M. – GICHD (Programme Officer, note-taker)
6. Migenko Vahtaric – CROMAC
7. Grant Salisbury – The HALO Trust
8. Lance Malin – UNMACC South Sudan
9. Charles Stoneapher – U.S. DoS

Members excused;

1. Dave McDonnell
2. Judy Greyson



1. Welcome and introduction

Mr Paul Heslop (the Chair) opened the meeting by welcoming all the participants and asking each one to present themselves. Mr Bill Howell (HI Federation) announced that he will leave HI soon and that he has been replaced by Mr Gilles Delecourt, who was also present at the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The chair asked for any points on the minutes of the last two meetings. There were no comments and the minutes were accepted.

3. Composition of the Review Board

The secretary said that in accordance with IMAS 01.10, there are 27 permanent members and three observers to the IMAS review board. He said that there were five vacant seats; two for donors, two for demining schools and one for non-affiliated representatives. He asked members of the board if there were any suggestions for potential new members.

It was suggested that the operations section of the GICHD should join the board. Others pointed out that there was a need for representation from the victim assistance and mine risk education community.

A question regarding the actual representation of members was raised. It is needed to clarify whether members on the board represent the views of an organisation or an individual.

There was a suggestion on expanding the consultation process to other practitioners in the sector. For example, it may be useful to consult representatives of the national authorities on IMAS issues. The Chairperson of the IATG and ISACS should be invited as a member/observer. Some members suggested that NMSA and NATO should be invited. In Donor category, Japan and the Secretary of the MASG (Mine Action Support Group) were mentioned to be invited.

The chair suggested that IMAS 1.10 should be reviewed, and that further discussions on this matter could continue when the Stakeholders Analysis is completed. He also concluded that members who did not respond to the IMAS requests or did not attend the board's meeting should be replaced by new members. It was also agreed that membership of national representatives from Sudan and South Sudan will be offered to other mine-affected countries.

4. Secretary's report

The secretary presented an update on IMAS activities for the past year. See "IMAS News 2012" annexed for his full report.

5. Update on IMAS Stakeholder Analysis

Ms Tammy Hall presented an update on the methodology and preliminary findings of the IMAS stakeholder analysis. See her PowerPoint presentation (annexed) for more details. She took note of suggestions made by members of the board in regard to the methodology and analysis of the data. She said that the analysis will be completed by the end of April 2012.

6. Update on UNOPS prequalification and certification process

Mr Lou Luff (UNOPS) gave a brief update on the prequalification and certification process of UNOPS. He said that last year, UNOPS pre-qualified around 35 companies, and this year, it has requests from some 40 companies. He said that an additional person will soon be hired to help



with the process and extension reviews, and some new areas will be developed in the prequalification process, as articulated in the contracts.

The chair explained that prequalification is a UNOPS process for companies wishing to respond to UNOPS contracts. It is not an IMAS certification. It is a confidential process and it is forbidden for the companies to advertise their prequalification as a commercial advantage. He also said that it is impossible to use prequalification as an international certification process because there are liability issues. National authorities must set their own standards to allow demining organisations to work in their countries.

7. Training requirements and certification – proposal from Croatia

CROMAC had previously submitted a proposal and justification for an IMAS/TNMA for minimum knowledge requirements for demining functions and certification of training organisations. For further information see CROMAC proposal attached.

The chair explained that these requirements and the certification process must be developed by the national authorities according to each country's needs and norms. The UN cannot certify or provide guidance on the issue because of financial cost and liability issues.

The CROMAC representative Mr Mirenko Ahtaric emphasised that there is a great need for guidelines on the issue. He requested the board to give the proposal some more time. He said the CROMAC will discuss the issue internally in order to establish national standards and will share that with the review board.

8. Proposal for responding to IED threat within demining operations

A proposal for a new TNMA on responding to the improvised explosive device (IED) threat within demining operations was submitted earlier by the OPTIMA Defence & Security (ODS), based on their experience in Afghanistan. The review board supported the issue with some reservations. It concluded that the issue should be referred to the UNMAS IED experts for an opinion. The chair will follow up the issue and will write to the board on the UNMAS position.

9. Amendments to land release IMAS – GICHD/NPA

Mr Guy Rhodes and Mr Per Breivik of the GICHD provided a brief overview of the main changes to the IMAS 08.20, 08.21 and 08.22. See Mr Breivik's presentation (annexed) for details.

NPA and APOPO representatives made some general comments on the proposed changes. They said that the amendments do not reflect their opinion and that the amended IMAS should be given more time to be carefully reviewed. The chair concluded that the decision to accept changes to these IMAS be postponed until next review board meeting in September 2012. He asked NPA and APOPO to either agree with the proposed changes or come up with alternative wording ahead of the next meeting.

10. Any other business

- > **IMAS and IATG** – Mr Lou Luff suggested that there are two sets of standards for mine action community; the IMAS and the IATG. He said that when it comes to ammunitions, UNOPS contracts refer to the IATG. He suggested that IMAS should be reviewed and updated in the light of newly endorsed IATG. The review board supported the proposal.
- > **IMAS Review by National Authorities** – it was suggested that a formal forum made up of national representatives be created to debate and discuss amendments to IMAS and their



application to national standards. The board agreed that the chair or the secretary should formally conduct national authorities to nominate a national focal point to this form.

- > **IMAS and support to victims** – Mr Bill Howell said that there appears to be a gap in the IMAS framework when it comes to victim assistance. He said Handicap International might be interested to put some effort in putting together a response from the victim assistance network.
- > **EOD Level competency** – There was a discussion on the need for clarification on the IMAS level 4 qualification and it was agreed that MAG and AVTS would work to draft a technical note on the subject matter.

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

Lina Maria CASTILLO M.
April 30, 2012



21 March 2012

To: Members of the IMAS Review Board

IMAS NEWS 2012

The following is an update on some IMAS activities, for your information.

1. Next Review Board Meeting

The next IMAS review board meeting is scheduled to be held at the GICHD in Geneva on Friday 30 March from 09.30 am to 3 pm, following the UNMAS National Directors meeting, which is taking place from 26 -29 March 2012.

2. IMAS Steering Group Meeting

An IMAS steering group meeting will also take place ahead of the IMAS review board meeting at the GICHD on 29 March 2012 from 5 pm to 6 pm. The review board members will be briefed on decisions made at the steering group meeting.

3. UNMAS/GICHD independent evaluation of IMAS

An independent evaluation of the IMAS was conducted by Southpac Consulting Limited, during the Intersessional meeting of the Standing Committees of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, from 20 to 23 June 2011. A final report was delivered in October, and members of the IMAS review board and steering group were briefed on findings and recommendations in a meeting convened in Copenhagen on 27 and 28 October 2012. Full report of the evaluation, minutes of the review board and steering group meetings are posted on the IMAS website.

4. IMAS stakeholders analysis

In the aftermath of the evaluation of the IMAS, a joint meeting of the IMAS steering group and review board was held in Copenhagen in October 2011. During this meeting, participants expressed the fact that information was lacking in order to make informed policy decisions. One of the conclusions of the meeting was to conduct an IMAS stakeholder analysis, to help better understand and map IMAS stakeholders.

To this end, the term of references for an IMAS stakeholder analysis were developed and sent to members of the review board and steering group for comments. An independent consultant, Ms Tammy Hall, was contracted in March 2012 to conduct the analysis in close coordination with the IMAS review board. The consultant came up with a plan that was subsequently shared and accepted by members of the review board. As part of the methodology, she planned to interview approximately 50 stakeholders representing the broader mine action community, as well as seeking responses from members of the IMAS steering group and review board. She will provide an update on her findings during upcoming review board and steering group meetings in March 2012.



5. Overview of IMAS

Currently, 41 endorsed IMAS are published on the IMAS website. A new IMAS on information management is in its final stage of drafting, and will be submitted to the review board for approval in April 2012.

In 2011, there were no requests for a new IMAS. However, two requests were received for amendments of IMAS that are discussed in section 7 below. Plan for review/amendment of IMAS in 2012 is also discussed in section 7 below.

6. Overview of TNMA

Currently there are 15 TNMA in English published in the website. No request was made for a new TNMA in 2011. However, during first quarter of 2012, the following requests were made to the review board:

1. Proposal for a TNMA for Chinese type 84 Cluster Munition
2. Proposal for a TNMA for Responding to IED threat within demining operations
3. Proposal for a new IMAS/TNMA for EOD Level 4 competency

The review board supports 1 and 3 and they will be drafted in 2012.

7. IMAS review and amendments

As the entire IMAS series were reviewed and updated in late 2009 and 2010, a regular revision of the IMAS was not conducted in 2011. However, a number of IMAS were reviewed and validated. These included IMAS 07.30 accreditation, 07.40 monitoring and IMAS 09.20 post-clearance sampling. It is to be noted that the mentioned IMAS on quality management will be amended in 2012.

Additionally, based on a proposal for amendment, IMAS 09.50 – mechanical demining - was amended and approved by members of the review board in 2011. The review board also approved a request from a group of operators to amend the land release IMAS 08.20, 08.21 and 08.22. A meeting was convened on 24 Jan 2012 and following that meeting, the IMAS were amended and submitted, and are to be discussed by the review board in March. IMAS 04.10 was amended but could not get full support of the review board because of a few definitions. IMAS 04.10 will be updated and amended to incorporate recent changes to the land release IMAS in 2012.

Review and amendments of IMAS in 2012 include:

- Land release IMAS 08.20, 08.21, 08.22, 08.40, 09.10 and 09.11;
- 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; and
- If time allows; a review of the stockpile IMAS 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, and 08.41 in view of recently approved IATG will be conducted.

8. Review board membership

There are currently 30 seats on the IMAS review board - 27 full members and three observers.

In 2011, UNMAS Chairman of the board Mr. Chris Clark was replaced by Mr Paul Heslop. DDG's Mr Fredrik Pålsson was replaced by Mr Roger N. Fasth, and MAG's Mr. Jesse James was replaced by Mr Mark Thompson. UNDP's Ms Sara Sakkenes was replaced by Mr Tim Horner, UNOPS's Mr Paul

Heslop was replaced by Mr Lou Luff and UNICEF's Mr Sharif Baaser was replaced by Ms Judy Greyson.

Additionally, Mr Andy Smith, a non-affiliated member and Mr Erik Lauritzen, a Danish representative, have retired from the board. Mr Jean Francois Beriard, the CNDH demining school representative, has indicated that he will retire from the board in 2012. Attached is an up-to-date list of IMAS review board members as of March 2012.

As such, in accordance with IMAS 01.10 – Clause 12.2, we have currently two vacancies for donors, two for demining schools and one for a non-affiliated member that need to be filled in 2012.

9. CEN Workshop Agreements (CWA)

Currently, there are seven CEN Workshop Agreements (CWA) related to humanitarian mine action published on the IMAS website.

In Jan 2011, CEN formally transferred ownership rights for these CWA to GICHD/UNMAS, on behalf of the mine action community. It was planned to re-label CWA as *Test and Evaluation Protocols for Mine Action* in 2011. However, due to the long absence of the Chairman, the plan could not be implemented.

With the acceptance of the IMAS review board, it's planned that the following CWA will be re-labelled *Test and Evaluation Protocols for Mine Action* in 2012.

- 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 following CWA will be reviewed, amended and relabelled as TNMA:

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

They will be reviewed and amended, when needed, as part of the IMAS/TNMA through the IMAS review and amendments process in the future. The CWA page on the website will also be renamed *Test & Evaluation Protocols* in 2012.

10. International Ammunition Technical Guidelines

In 2008, a United Nations group of governmental experts reported to the general assembly on problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus. A central recommendation made by the group was for technical guidelines for the stockpile management of ammunition to be developed within the United Nations. This provided the mandate to the United Nations for developing 'technical guidelines for the stockpile management of conventional ammunition', now commonly known as the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG).

The work of preparing, reviewing and revising these guidelines was conducted under the United Nations Safer Guard Programme, by a technical review panel consisting of experts from member states, with the support of international, governmental and non-governmental organisations.

Currently, there are 12 chapters of IATG published on the UNODA website. A link to these standards is also established on the IMAS website – references and publications page. The ITAG chapters include:

1. Introduction and Principles of Ammunition Management
2. Risk Management
3. Ammunition Accounting
4. Explosive Facilities (Storage - Field and Temporary Conditions)
5. Explosives Facilities (Storage - Infrastructure and Equipment)
6. Explosive Facilities (Storage - Operations)
7. Ammunition Processing
8. Transport of Ammunition
9. Security of Ammunition
10. Ammunition Demilitarisation and Destruction
11. Ammunition Accidents, Reporting and Investigation
12. Ammunition Operational Support

11. IMAS website

The IMAS website (www.mineactionstandards.org) was continually updated throughout 2011. Amended, and translated IMAS, TNMA and CWA 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 review board, such as the IMAS framework, the minutes from the meetings, work plans, evaluation reports and other relevant documents were made available for information.

To improve transparency measures, as suggested by members of the board, proposals and justifications for new IMAS and TNMA are now posted on the review board page. Links to other standards and publications have also been established on the website. Additionally, a new page known as RAPID was established. See more details below.

The table below provides a brief overview of the www.mineactionstandards.org statistics:

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	2011
# Visits to Site	1,931	1,919	1,948	1,694	1,804	1,753	1,537	1,591	1,881	1,935	1,938	1,428	21,359
# Unique visitors	1,108	1,177	1,200	1,113	1,190	1,133	992	1,090	1,203	1,347	1,298	960	12,107
Pages Viewed	8,758	9,429	9,772	7,420	8,612	7,091	7,125	7,027	8,658	8,777	7,261	5,202	95,132
Pages per Visit	4.54	4.91	5.02	4.38	4.77	4.05	4.64	4.42	4.60	4.54	3.75	3.64	4.45
Average time on site (mins)	04:29	05:13	04:39	04:06	04:21	03:34	04:38	04:16	04:51	04:47	04:00	03:46	04:25
Bounce rate	45.21%	35.96%	36.50%	41.56%	39.97%	46.15%	41.77%	44.88%	42.05%	38.14%	42.47%	45.59%	41.51%
New visits	50.34%	52.48%	52.93%	56.67%	56.10%	56.47%	55.37%	56.57%	55.56%	59.64%	56.30%	57.21%	55.38%

More details on statistics are available and can be provided on request.

12. 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.

RAPID 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.

Currently, information regarding accidents is being collected from all programmes, and plans are underway to present quarterly reports on the website by end of June 2012. A page has been established with all relevant information, and reports will be published on the the IMAS website.

13. 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, 41 endorsed IMAS are published in English. There are two Arabic, 35 Armenian, two Chinese, 41 French, 28 Russian and nine Spanish translations.

In 2011, a number of TNMA was translated into French. These included; *NT 01.10.01*, *TN 07.30.01*, *TN 09.30.01* and *TN 10.20.02*. Additionally, six CWA were translated and published. These include:

- *15044:2009 Test et évaluations des engins de déminage;*
- *15044:2009 Complément 3 Retour Expérience;*
- *15044:2009 Complément 3 RETEX;*
- *15832 :2008 Mesures de suivi après utilisation d'un engin de déminage mécanique;*
- *14747:2003 Détecteurs de métal and*
- *15833:2008 Gestion de la Qualité équipe mécanique).*

14. IMAS publications

In March 2011, 1,000 IMAS CD ROMs were produced and distributed to mine action programmes and mine action organisations. The IMAS CD ROM 2012 edition was issued in March 2012. 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 (book)
- IMAS CD edition No-8/2012

15. National Standards

In 2011, the GICHD supported a number of mine action programmes, either in the development and/or revision of their national mine action standards in 2011. These countries included Tajikistan, Vietnam, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Jordan. The national standards of 11 countries, including Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Jordan, Lao PDR, Mozambique, Sri Lanka, Sudan, and Senegal are published on the IMAS website, as examples of NMAS.

That's all for the 2012 edition of IMAS News. I look forward to meeting you in Geneva during the UNMAS meeting from 26 to 29 March, or at the IMAS review board meeting on Friday 30 March 2012.

Best regards,

Faiz Paktian
Secretary, IMAS Review Board

Attachment - IMAS review board members list as of March 2012.

IMAS STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Interim report

Objectives

The primary objectives:

- To identify groups and organizations that are likely to be affected by IMAS;
- To achieve an understanding of how the IMAS are currently being used by stakeholder groups;
- To understand the viewpoint of stakeholders regarding the importance to their work of IMAS as a component overall mine action structures;
- To map the position of stakeholders in relation to IMAS and its current management.

Secondary objectives are related to satisfaction of IMAS users:

- To assess the satisfaction with the current content of IMAS
- To assess the satisfaction with the current support services for IMAS
- To solicit views on where gaps lie in terms of current products and services, and targeted suggestions on what new elements should be added.

Methodology

- Overall methodology of data collection is one of semi-structured, targeted interviews.
 - Open-ended questions combined with closed quantitative elements.
- Pre-identified list of stakeholder groups and total of 50 interviews.
- Individuals will be identified in terms of:
 - Regional representation and balance.
 - Representation of both national and international level representatives.
 - Particular knowledge and exposure to IMAS and its structures.
- Stakeholder analysis will capture data in a relational table: identify stakeholder groups, their level of interest in the issue, their influence/power regarding changes to IMAS, their overall position (i.e. supportive, non-supportive), and the impact of this issue on the stakeholder.
- Analysis will combine quantitative aggregate data in clear charts and graphs, with more detailed qualitative analysis.

Interim Results

- The following conclusions are indicative of interim results only.
- Approximately half of the total number of interviews have been conducted.
- This early sample is heavily weighted towards national programme representatives and UN field staff due to technical considerations.

Stakeholder Positioning

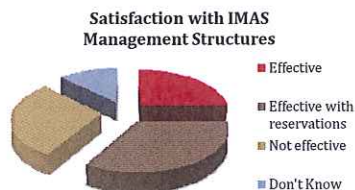
Sample Stakeholder Table

Stakeholder Group	Involvement	Interest	Influence/Power	Position
National Authorities/MAC	Medium	High	Low	Non-mobilised
UN Managers/Advisors	Medium	High	Medium	Supportive
Implementing Orgs (commercial)	High	High	Medium	Supportive
Implementing Orgs (NGOs)	High	High	High	Mixed
Donor	Medium	Medium	High	Supportive
Multilateral Orgs	Medium	Medium	Medium	Supportive
UN agencies	Medium	Medium	High	Non-mobilised



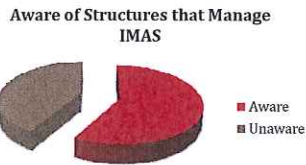
Management Structures

- Although 58% expressed satisfaction or satisfaction with reservations regarding IMAS management, 30% of respondents were not satisfied.



Management Structures cont'd

- Many respondents (42%) were unfamiliar with the structures that manage IMAS.



- A large number did not feel their views were consulted 46% (**only 29% felt consulted**).

Management Structures cont'd

- Less interest and fewer opinions were expressed regarding Steering Group, or policy level membership and activities.
- Main concerns expressed about the representation on the Review Board and the **role of the RB as a « technical body »**.

Format

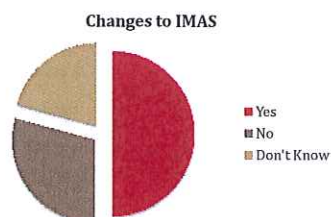
- **70% were satisfied with the format of IMAS**, with 30% expressing the opinion that the document is overly repetitive, too long, and could be better organised.

Content

- Most respondents (96%) were satisfied with the **overall content** of IMAS as it currently exists, but there were a number of reservations expressed regarding specific elements

Content cont'd

- 50 % feel that changes to certain IMAS chapters are required.

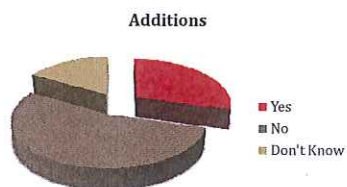


Content cont'd

- Among those chapters suggested were
 - Guidelines for Post-Clearance Sampling
 - MDD chapters (9.41-3)
 - Land Release

Content cont'd

- 29% of respondents thought there should be new chapters added to IMAS:



Content cont'd

- Those new issues suggested for inclusion in IMAS (or technical notes) included:

- Reporting
- Cluster munitions destruction (stockpiles)
- IED, Chemical UXO
- EDD

Overall trends

- Generally high satisfaction with the IMAS product was expressed.

- However:

- National programmes tend to feel that the process is unclear and they are not included;
- Field level staff in some areas see technical input as coming from HQ and not the field – unsure how technical « experts » are chosen;
- IMAS decision-making processes are not understood by the majority of mine action stakeholders.

Interim Conclusions

- Study will continue in the coming days and weeks.
- Final results should be available by the month of May.



**PROPOSAL AND JUSTIFICATION
FOR
AMMENDING AN EXISTING INTERNATIONAL MINE ACTION STANDARD, DEVELOPING A
NEW STANDARD,
OR
A NEW TECHNICAL NOTE FOR MINE ACTION**

This form is intended to provide the start point in a process that identifies both shortcomings and improvements needed in International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and their accompanying Technical Notes on Mine Action (TNMA).

After it has been properly completed and submitted, the proposal will be reviewed by the Chairman and the Secretary of the IMAS Review Board who will then include their comments, if any, and circulate it to the Review Board. If there is support for the proposal from at least 25% of the Review Board's members the process will continue.

Note 1: When the Review Board supports the subject matter, the proposal for a new IMAS will be submitted to the IMAS Steering Group for approval.

Note 2: In the event of amendments to an existing IMAS, this form will only be used when the amendments are substantial (e.g. NMAA and Mine Action Organizations may need to amend their National Standards and/or SOPs).

Note 3: When the Review Board cannot agree on a proposal, the issue will be put to the IMAS Steering Group for a final decision.

I Nikola Pavković, Director of CROMAC-CTDT wish to propose that the following is considered within the framework of International Mine Action Standards:

Theme or subject matter?

We would like to propose to establish a work-group/committee, that would consist of experts from UNMAS, GICHD, National Authorities and operations, that would, once they meet, work on establishment and adopt an Agreement that would regulate minimum required knowledge that persons in mine action should have (such as deminers, group leaders, demining project leader, QA/QC officers, etc). This Agreement should regulate, among other issues, following topics: who can hold training (qualification of lecturers), who can be a candidate for certain level of training, and which organisation fulfils the criteria to organise and carry-out training.

Rationale as to why there is a need?

Our organisation conducts various types of training courses that are mainly related to mine action and UXO removal (levels 1-3, and a specialist level), intended not only for the requirements of the Republic of Croatia, but also for organisations in South-Eastern Europe and other regions in the world.

The problem that we encounter during conducting of these training courses is that International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and CEN Workshop Agreements (CWA) do not

regulate the scope of lectures, number or ratio of theory and practice hours, etc. Hence, there is not a standardised curriculum.

We have raised these issues on many occasions, many of our international partners have asked on numerous occasions the same questions, but no-one seemed to have an answer. Conclusion was always the same: IMAS and CWA are guidelines, and it is up to National Authority to regulate these issues or in lack of National Authority, an organisation can conduct training as long it is somewhere along the lines of IMAS.

State the current shortcoming and/or need for improvement of existing IMAS/TNMA that this new topic will seek to address? (max 200 words)

- 1 *standardised curriculum, with exact number of theory and practice classes*
- 2 *definition of organisations that can conduct training (knowledge and skills requirements of teaching personnel – who can train?)*

Explain the negative impact on field operations that this shortcoming will or has caused and/ or the improvement that is expected? (max 200 words)

- 1 *education of labour force*
- 2 *based on new agreement the minimum required knowledge will be determined*
- 3 *education will be equalised world-wide*

Explain the negative impact on the mine affected community that this shortcoming will or has caused and/ or the improvement that is expected? (max 200 words)

- 1 *based on this new Agreement there would be less professional casualties*
- 2 *furthermore there would less civilian casualties, because higher quality demining could be achieved through unified way of education deminers and other stakeholders in mine action*

Are there any existing publications already dealing with this topic? (max 100 words)

- 1 *SEEMACC Agreement on Minimum Knowledge required in Mine Action In South-eastern Europe*

State why this issue is best addressed through IMAS/TNMA and may not be adequately covered by support and/or endorsement of an existing or under draft publication? (max 200 words)

- 1 *as far as we are aware, there is not any documents that cover this issue, and there is not any under draft publication*
- 2 *IMAS is the greatest authority in humanitarian demining so this why an IMAS regulating this issue should be agreed upon*

Date:

Comments of the secretary of the IMAS Review Board:

Date:

Comments of the chairman of the IMAS Review Board:

Date:

The above proposal is submitted to the IMAS Review Board with a view to seeking at least 25% of the Review Board's members who support it.

The following members of the IMAS Review Board support the above Proposal: *(To be prepared by the Secretary or the Chair of the IMAS Review Board)*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

Summary and recommendations of resulting discussion within the Review Board: *(To be prepared by the Secretary or the Chair of the IMAS Review Board)*

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LAND RELEASE IMAS

"Reviewing 08.20, 08.21 and 08.22"

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WHAT IS LAND RELEASE?



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LR meeting 24th January 2012

- GICHD
- Halo Trust
- NPA
- MAG
- DDG
- UNMAS
- APOPO
- Landmine Monitor

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LR IMAS review objectives – various feedback

- Consolidate what's been achieved – provide further clarity
- "Back to basic" - approach
- Simplify
- Reporting consistency and clarification
- Less is more – IMAS more in line with ISO-type phrasing
- Better reflect differences in efforts between NTS, TS and clearance
- Land Release is about efficiency – not just procedures
- Get it right from the start – rather than fixing an exaggerated problem quantification

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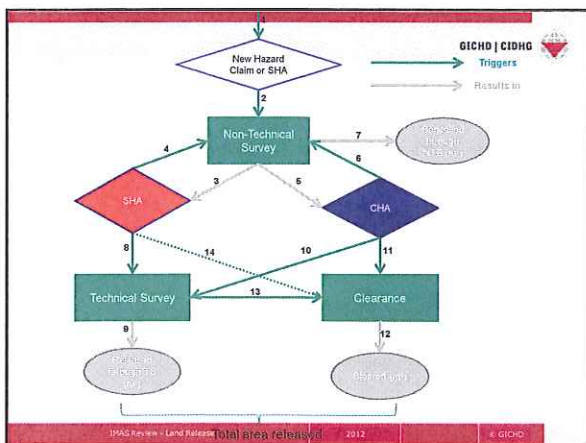
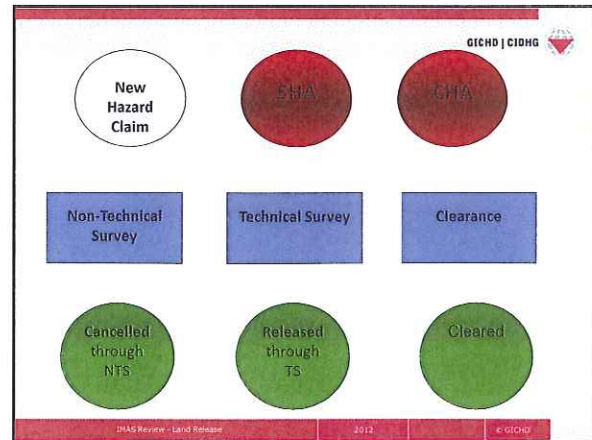
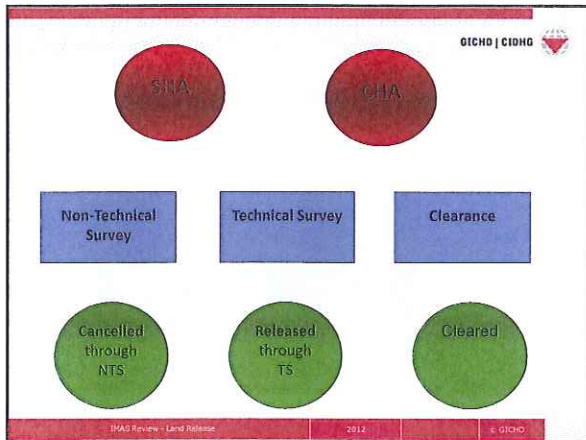


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Reporting


	No. of mine	Total area of MHA (m2)	No. of AP mines destroyed	No. of AV mines destroyed	No. of ERW destroyed
1 Reported/triggered Areas (SHA)					
2 Cancelled activity by NTS					
3 Cancelled activity by TS					
4 Released activity by TS					
5 Released activity by TS					
6 Area CHA closed					
7 Part of SHA closed					
Total cancelled/destroyed/released					
8 Confirmed Mine Areas (CHA)					
9 Area CHA closed					
10 Cancelled activity by NTS					
11 Cancelled activity by TS					
12 Released activity by TS					
13 Released activity by TS					
14 Area CHA closed					
15 Part of CHA closed					
Total cancelled/destroyed/released					
16 IAC					
17 ERW systems					
18 Reserves					
Total number of mines: CHA					

New Definitions

Cancelled Land (m2)
 A specified area concluded not to contain evidence of mine/ERW contamination following a non-technical survey of already existing SHA/CHA.

New Definitions


Land Released through Technical Survey (m2)
 A specified area concluded not to contain evidence of mine/ERW contamination following a technical survey.

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New Definitions

Land Cleared (m2)
 A specified area cleared through the removal and/or destruction of all **mine and ERW** hazards to the specified depth.


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Amended Definitions

Land Release
 The term "Land Release" describes the process of applying all reasonable effort to identify, define and remove all presence and suspicion of mines/ERW through non-technical survey, technical survey and/or clearance. The criteria for "all reasonable effort" shall be defined by the NMAA.


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Amended Definitions

Suspect Hazardous Area
 The term "**Suspect Hazardous Area**" (SHA) refers to an area where there is a reasonable suspicion of mine/ERW contamination.


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Amended Definitions

Confirmed Hazardous Area
 The term "**Confirmed Hazardous Area**" (CHA) refers to an area identified by a survey in which the necessity for further intervention through either technical survey and/or clearance has been confirmed and the presence of mine/ERW contamination has been determined using an evidence based approach.


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Amended Definitions

Non-technical survey:
 The products of non-technical survey may be cancelled land, a SHA or a CHA.

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Amended Definitions

Technical survey:
 The product of technical survey is released land.

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SHA and CHA criteria

Criteria for recording a SHA may include, but not limited to:

- Informants claiming the presence of mine/ERW contamination but absence of physical evidence
- Former armed conflict zone
- Potentially productive land not being used by nearby communities
- Impact from mine/ERW contamination previously recorded but not substantiated by evidence

The overriding principle for recording a SHA is that there is a reasonable suspicion of mine/ERW contamination, yet not sufficient evidence to record a CHA.

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SHA and CHA criteria

Evidence justifying recording a CHA may include, but not limited to:

- Physical evidence such as craters from detonations or pieces of mines
- Fragmentation from unexploded submunition observed
- Mine accidents or incidents recorded
- Detonations recorded during burning of land or wildfire
- Reliable information provided by various informants

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Technical Survey Approaches

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Land Release is about releasing land with **no evidence of explosive hazards through survey** and focusing clearance resources on actual mined areas.

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Other changes

- “Mine/ERW contamination” replaces “explosive hazard” and “mine” only
- “Competent” staff replaces “trained” staff

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- IMAS language/content-wise more in line with ISO
- IMAS should describe “minimum requirements”
- IMAS should focus more on “What” rather than “How”
- Leave more space for NMAS and SOP to describe details
- Writing complex LR IMAS and pitching it on a very high level will disqualify rather than include those already struggling with Land Release implementation

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01CHD | 01CHD 

Thank you for the attention!



IMAG Review - Land Release201201CHD