

STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA ON NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES

Intersessional Meeting of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) Geneva, 7 - 9 April 2014

Thank you Mr. Coordinator.

In mid 2013 Minister of Interior established a Working Group for drafting a new Act on Mine Action. This Group consists of representatives of all key actors in Croatian mine action system, namely representatives from the Office for Mine Action (coordinates the WG), the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Defence, the Croatian Mine Action Centre, as well as unions and employers associations active in humanitarian demining.

Drafting of the new Act started with the intention to regulate not only humanitarian demining, which is just one segment of mine action, but to comprise all the components including the activities which have not been so far sufficiently regulated by the current Act.

In this part the emphasis is primarily on assistance to mine victims and on their socioeconomic rehabilitation and integration as well as mine risk education. The novelty is the obligation of running a data base on mine victims and their family members with the aim of providing systematic assistance adapted to age and gender. This kind of help includes medical care, rehabilitation and psychological support which will endeavor to secure their social and economic inclusion.

One of the fundamental bases is coordination with the latest achievements in International Mine Action Standards, specifically those related to technical surveying and the possibility of verifying non-contamination of mine suspected areas.

In conclusion, let me just add that the new Act is comprehensive, meaning it incorporates mines, cluster munitions and UXOs, i.e. ERWs in general. Also, the Act states that each failure in treatment of cluster munitions is subject to misdemeanor sanction.

Thank you Mr. Coordinator.