

**Saleh Hissein Hassan the Coordinator of Chad Mine Action Center  
Geneva, June 22, 2010**

Since this the first time Chad takes on the floor, I would like to add my voice to those of the pervious speakers of today and yesterday on commending the Co-chairs, Ambassador Susan Eckey and GICHD on their meticulous and painstaking effort <sup>To</sup> <sup>E</sup> on making this conference possible.

Since its independence my country (Chad) have know numerous armed conflicts resulted in mines and UXO contamination. It affected almost all the national territory.

The result~~d~~ of the social-economic impact survey of the mines and the none exploded remnants of war on the Chadian communities not including the Tebisiti area, found 1081 km square is contaminated, 249 localities of which 91 in the B.E.T are affected and 417 zones are polluted. A total of 284435 inhabitants are directly affected in one way or another.

The survey also concluded that, 90 percent of the mines are found in the northern part in B.E.T (in the Sahara desert) and have a direct impact of the social economic live of its inhabitants and that the UXOs cause more accidents than the mines. There are 2816 mine victims as of survey of last year.

With our modest resources and the generous contributions of the donors we have cleared and destroyed 24312 mines and UXOs of the major roads, grazing areas, water sources, caches and ~~major~~ cities.

The climate, financial and security difficulties hindered to meet our dateline; therefore, we have requested a second extension of 14 months until January 2010.

Here we are now only six months away from our current dateline, but I don not think we will meet our current date line of article 5.

Our government has paid special attention to its commitment to meet its article 5 obligation;

- The government has signed a peace agreement with MDJT the last group fighting out of the Tebisti area, an area that was not included in the impact survey.

- It allocated 3 billion FCFA (equivalent to 6 million dollars) for the Tebesti area solely for the demining purpose, including the hiring and training of 160 new deminers.
- In Mars 2010 a presidential decree appointed an especial delegate to the Tibisti area in charge of the mince action.
- The government has also allocated 1.5 billion FCFA equivalent to 3 million dollars for the mine action center.
- Thanks to Japan who very generously donated 5 million dollars through the UNDP as the highest single time donor to the Chadian Mine Action mainly to be used for the Survey in addition to the demining in Wadi Doum and depolution on other areas. The implementing partner MAG has already arrived and planning to deploy before the end of July 2010.
- We have signed an agreement with the Libyan Demining Committee to finance 12 months of operation of three demining platoon starting July 15, 2010.
- Thanks to the Canada who has been one of the steady financial sources of Chad Mine Action for the last 10 years. Canadian funds are being used through Handicap International for capacity building on data base, mine victim assistance and land release policies.
- Thanks to Belgium on its co-financing the ongoing Deming of the Fada and its surroundings
- There have been several meetings in Geneva, Ndjamen and New York between Chad and the UNMAS to explore the possibility of UNMAS mobilizing resources to be specifically used for Fada and its surroundings. In this regard a joint team of CND and UNMAS will be heading to Fada for an assessment towards the end of this month.

### **National priorities in 2010 are the followings**

- General survey in Tebisti followed by major road openings
- Technical survey of Tebesti
- Technical survey of the contaminated zones
- Conduct quality assurance in the demined areas of Ouanaga kabir and Fada followed by land release
- Continue the Deming operation on the mine affected areas
- Continue depolution in the east and south east



- Work on mine victim assistance guide
- Elaborate and implement a mine victim assistance *action plan*
- Survey the victims'*
- Continue the mine awareness on the refugee and IDPs areas
- Training and capacity building for field workers, middle and senior managers

## **The Objective of the Survey**

The objectives of the survey are to undertake a Mine Action assessment of the country and specifically but not limited to:

- Determine what clearance has been previously conducted, in what specific areas, by what particular organization and to what exacting standard.
- Ascertain the full extent of the contamination that is remaining, to include a technical appreciation of all task types (Submunitions clearance Tasks, Route/Road Clearance Tasks and Mine-field Tasks).
- Make technical recommendations for the most cost effective and efficient methodical options available for the clearance of the known targets, which could include mechanical and/or manual assets in a variety of survey, assessment and/or clearance roles.
- A technical evaluation of both the capacity and capability of the present CND assets employed. Particular attention should be made to the present level of training, their knowledge of multi-asset integrated operations and the current standard of equipment being utilized.
- An analysis of the proposed future composition of the assets required to clear all known targets in a safe, expedient and effective manner.

- An evaluation of the administrative and logistical support requirements that would be necessary to support the proposed future asset composition; this should include but not be limited to access to accommodation, water availability, availability of explosive storage areas, availability of equipment storage areas, methods of communication etc.
- An evaluation of the present medical facilities in the contaminated zones, and if necessary recommendations made as to what would be required to fulfill the requirement of a standard Level II medical facility.
- An evaluation of the regional infrastructure that is presently in place; this is to include road and air access to and from contaminated zones.
- An analysis of the information management support requirements that would be necessary in order to establish and manage an appropriate communications and data base system during any future operation.

Chad will do at its most to meet the article 5 obligation and of course of the rest of the articles of the Ottawa Convention

Thank you for your attention