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TWELFTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE
BAN CONVENTION | 3 - 7 DECEMBER 2012

Statement on universalization
CROATIA

(OTTAWA CONVENTION SEMINAR 23-26 October 2012, Croatia)

The purpose of the seminar was to provide assistance with the implementation of the Ottawa Convention on the regional level in accordance with the relevant articles of the Treaty, specifically any efforts with regard to the mine victims assistance. The main objectives of the seminar were:

- To share the experiences of the countries from the region in assistance, care, rehabilitation, social and economic reintegration of mine victims;
- To present a podium for the mine affected persons;
- To set an example of the effectiveness of national efforts with regard to the mine clearance and the acquisition of financial, technological and human resources required for the implementation of programme;
- To outline the important role of the national mine action centres;
- To deepen contacts between representatives of various national and international organizations dealing with the implementation of the Ottawa Convention;
- To provide the forum for discussion on open issues and future prospects.

30 participants from 12 countries and international organisations participated in the Course, namely from Albania (3), Kingdom of Belgium (2) Bosnia and Herzegovina (3), Croatia (10), Germany (1), the FYROM (3) ITF (1), APMBC ISU (1), Montenegro (1), M.A.R.E. (2), Serbia (3), ICBL (1).

Some of the issues covered during the seminar were:

- The Significance of Humanitarian and Security Conventions
- International cooperation and assistance including donor's experience
- Needs of survivors
- Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration
- Survivor's Experience and Peer Support
- The Importance of Reporting Within the Ottawa Convention - Transition from an obligation to an opportunity and a tool

- Challenges in National Implementation of Victim Assistance Programs
- Cooperation Between GO and NGO Sector in the Development of an Effective Victim Assistance System

While the first day was theoretical (presentations) second day was executed as the combination of a field visit to a demining worksite with practical demonstration and theoretical presentations.

Thank you.