



**STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA ON  
VICTIM ASSISTANCE**

**13 Meeting of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention**

**Geneva, 2 - 5 December 2013**

Monsieur le President,

Je vais me limiter a quelques remarques qui se referent aux questions qui nous ont etes posees.

1. The Government Office for Mine Action has taken on the task of co-coordinating multi-sectoral group of government and non-government individuals and institutions to ensure that a real data base be collected and to that end a person has also been hired by CROMAC (Croatian Mine Action Center) to work in the Government Office for Mine Action to co-ordinate the data collection as a first step to collecting disability data on VA.
2. We are rewriting the domestic law on demining and renaming it to reflect the changes. The Law on Mine Action will include sections on Victim Assistance and on Mine Risk Education, both of which had been omitted in the 2005 law.
3. While we can report only one person injured from a land mine in Croatia in 2013, we join our voices to that of the EU members and others to deplore the use of AP mines by a number of states signatories. We are concerned and bewildered that while we struggle as a community to create the necessary conditions and find funds to rehabilitate and reintegrate mine survivors, new conditions are being created to maim people, that is to create new victims. We urge most strongly those states in violation to desist.

Thank You Mr. President