

Guinea-Bissau

Mr. President,

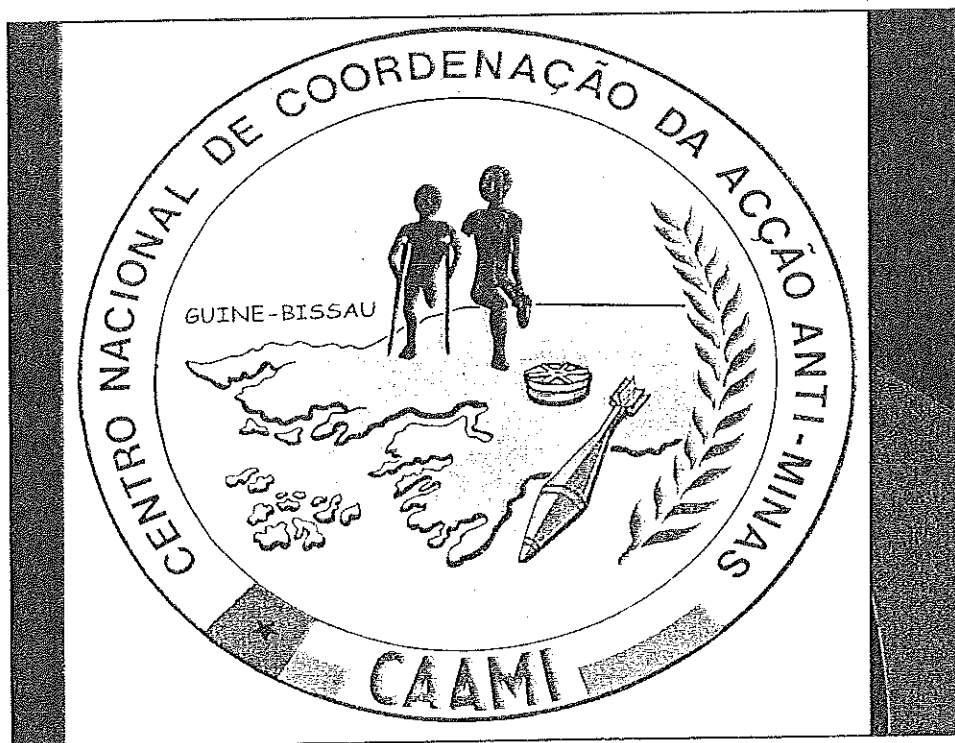
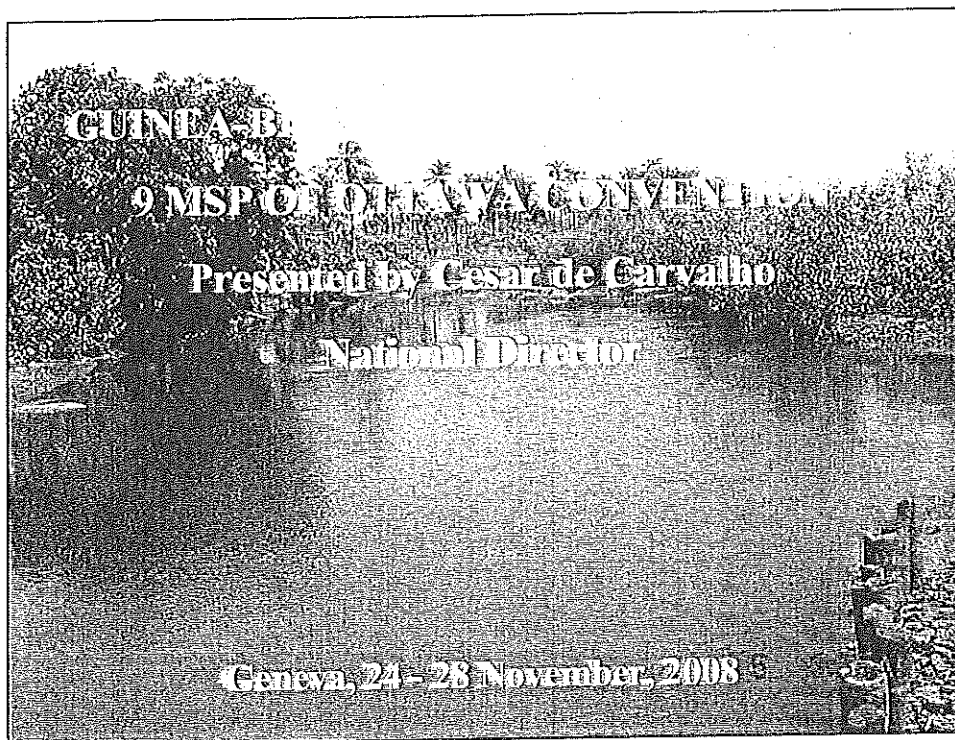
Taking in account that my delegation is taking the floor for the first time, I would like to joint with other delegations congratulating you for the election as the president of the 9 Meeting of States Parties of the Ottawa Convention and express the full commitment of my delegation in contribute with your work.

I would like also congratulate His Royal Higness Principe Mirad of Jordan, , for the excellent way he conducted his duties as President of the 8MSP and Committee of Analyzing Group on Extension Requests.

Excellencies,

As a mine affected country which deals permanently with the situation of lack of financial support, I would like to express our solidarity with all those extension requests of those States Parties which already showed commitment and results of their mine clearance work, specially justified under the basis of lack of financial resources, climate conditions and complexes cases, as faced by Senegal.

Thank you Mr. President.



## Landmine Impact Survey

In according to LIS, 80 communities contaminated by mines and/or ERW. These affected communities Represent 30% of the communities visited. Ninety Percent of the affected communities have at least a single SHA. Map 2 and Table 4 show the communities Surveyed and the impact identified.



Table 4: Proportion of communities affected and unaffected by region

Region	Number of communities affected	Number of communities unaffected	Total communities surveyed	Percentage of surveyed communities affected by region
BAFATA	7	17	24	9%
BIOMBO	3	8	11	4%
BOLAMA	0	1	1	0%
CACHEU	20	49	70	25%
GABU	7	24	31	9%
OIO	17	64	80	21%
QUINARA	13	15	28	16%
TOMBALI	13	6	19	16%
Total	80	184	264	100%
Percentage affected/ unaffected	30%	70%	100%	

**Seven out of the 8 regions of Guinea Bissau are affected by ERW and/or mines. The highest concentration of high-priority communities is in Cacheu with 73% in the region. Four regions in the country do not have any high-priority communities. Bolama is the only region not found to be affected in this impact survey.**

**The workshop to evaluate the LIS reached the following conclusions:**

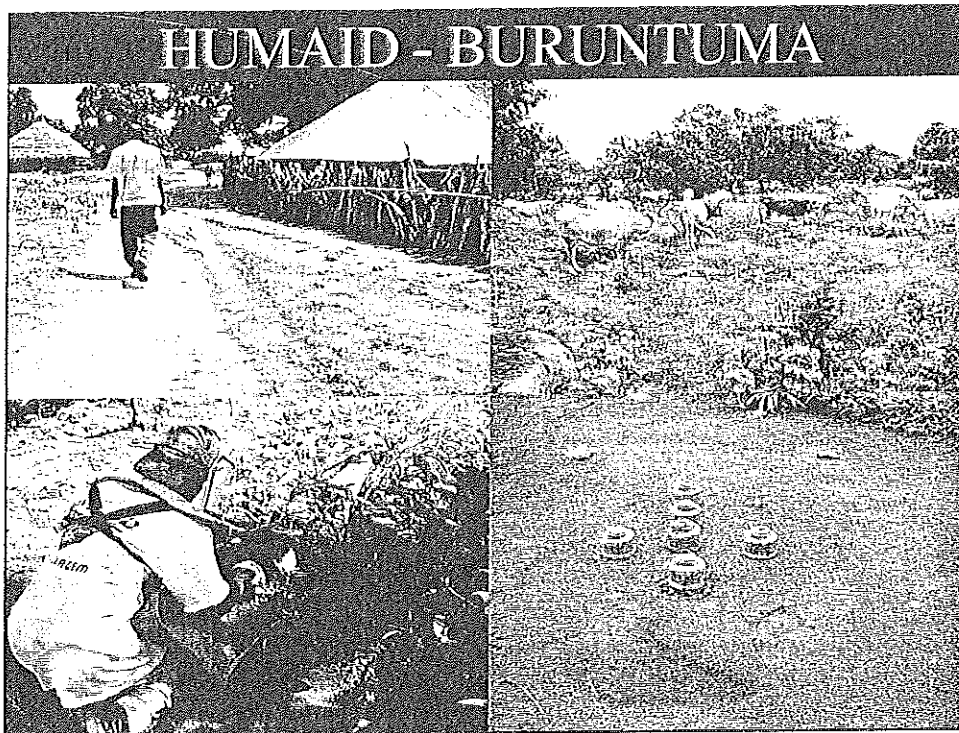
- 1. The LIS can be accepted as a basis for future action plans during 2009-2001, although it does not reflect the complete reality of the country's contamination by mines and UXO.**
- 2. Secondly, according to the LIS, many communities were not visited due to difficult access and the security conditions.**
- 3. The LIS did not take into account the number of victims by region**
- 4. The LIS will be supplemented by technical surveys during demining/EOD operations.**

## **A- Buruntuma MineField**

**Minefield from the Independence War located on the border with Guinea-Conakry.**







<b>BURUNTUMA</b> <b>Productivity January – October 08</b>			
A/C m2	A/P	A/T	UXO
372.089	316	53	33

**Buruntuma Mine field  
Productivity May 07 – October 08**

A/C m2	M. A/P	M A/T	UXO
468.975	344	73	47

**S. Domingos - Northern Border**

- At the end of 2007 we launched LUTCAM NGO to start clearance operations in S. Domingos sector in our common border to Senegal(the famous Barraca Mandioca). At this time NGO Lutcam Preparing to continue the Clearance there witch was Stopped in last June, due to the lack of Financial Support.

## ERW Problem

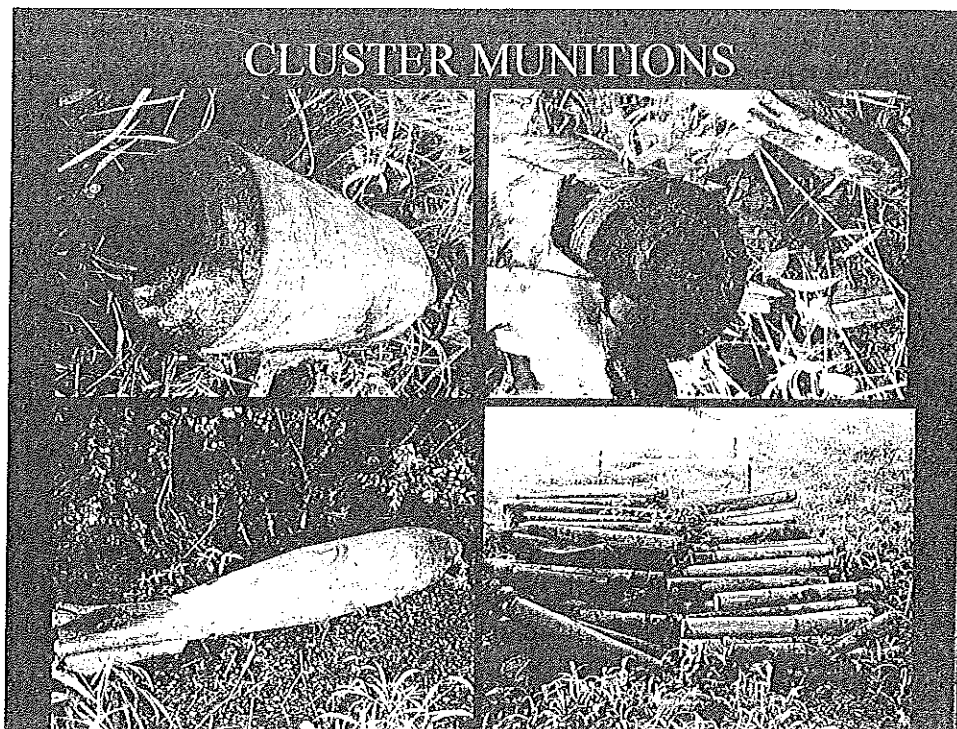
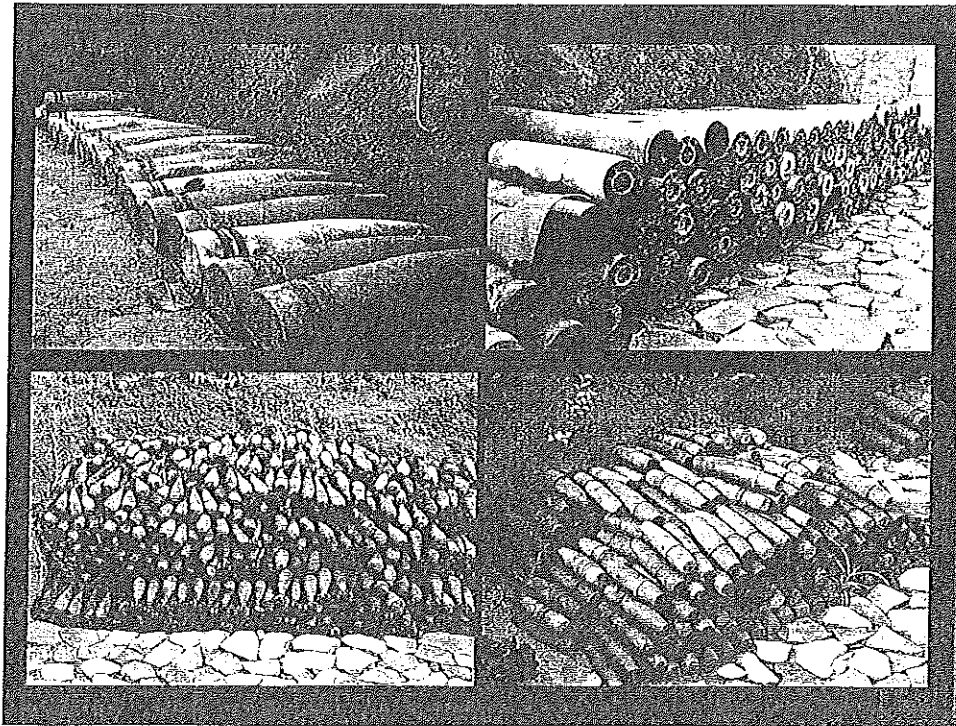


## ERW-Problems

### Explosive Remnants of War - Paiol

- Former ammunitions storage named Paiol de Bra (in Centre of Bissau City) which was exploded during the 1998/99 conflict, continue to be a only affected area in Capital. But the European Commission approved the project with an amount of 1.4 M Euro for 17 months clearance and EOD task.
- The project started in July This Year.



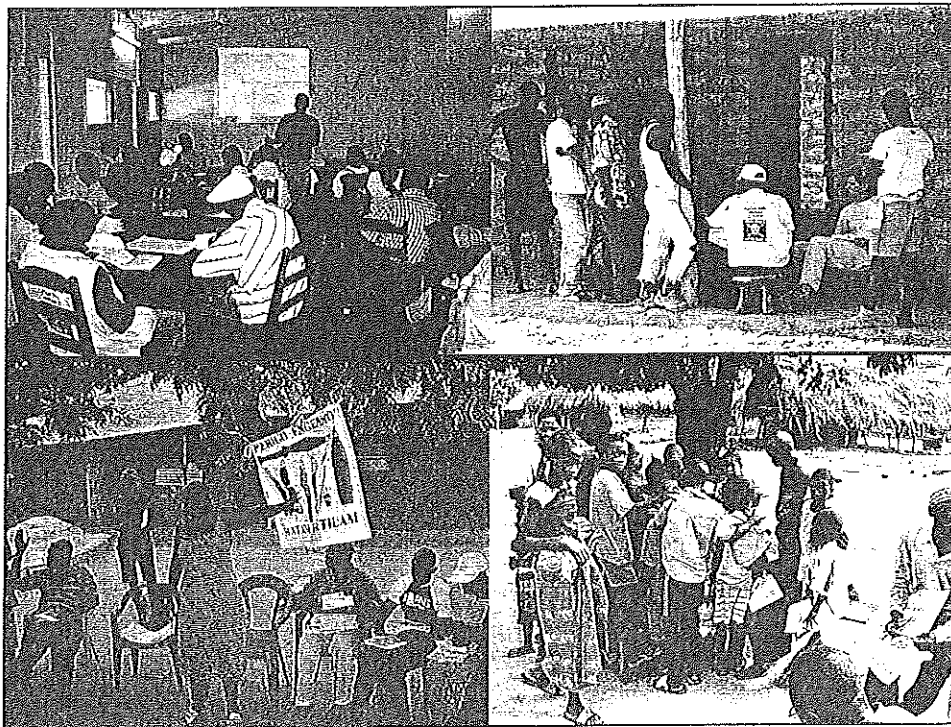


## **Challenges/Difficulties**

- **Lack of funding for sustained funding for demining/EOD, i.e., Funding has been for short periods of 3 to 4 months and gaps between funding contracts, force temporary halts in the work.**
- **Lack of explosives for detonation (especially high grade, high velocity)**
- **Due to inconsistency in funding we face a challenge in meeting the objective of having Guinea-Bissau free of mine and UXO contamination by the end of 2011.**

## **Mine Risk Education**

- **Financial support from the International Community for MRE significantly reduced over the past two years. This has led to a reduction in the number of MRE “activists” in the country. UNICEF continues to support us with a funding that we are using in the high priority area of S. Domingos, which borders Senegal.**

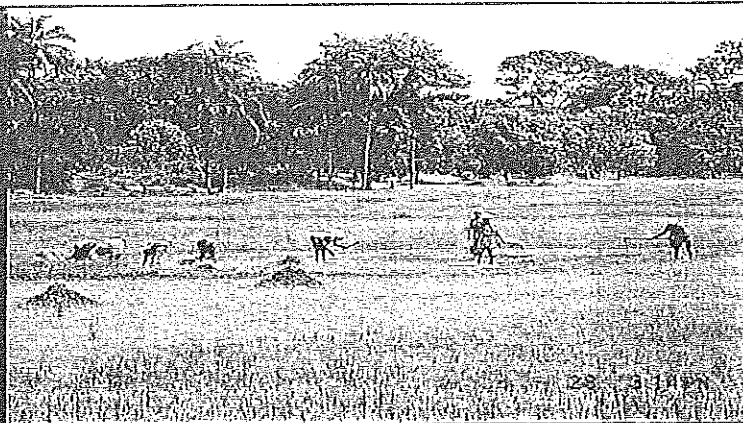


## National Commitment

- During the past six months Guinea Bissau's transitional government faced many challenges and considered the legislative elections in November and payment of salaries as its most urgent priorities;
- Therefore; the mine action program suffered from a lack of government leadership and support prior to the November elections



- From the newly elected government in November we expect greater support for achieving the objectives of the Ottawa Convention;
- Guinea-Bissau requires financial, technical and logistical support to meet its Convention obligations and to assist communities affected by mines and UXO. The amount required will be defined in our Action Plan 2009-2011 to present later this year.



***CAAMI's vision is for a Guinea-Bissau  
Free of Landmines and UXO***

**Thank for your attention  
We thank all our current and past stakeholders**



unicef

