



**Mine Clearance National Stakeholders Dialogue**  
**Humanitarian Demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Towards Completion**

18-19 October 2018 | Hotel Hills Congress, Sarajevo

Thursday 18 October	Friday 19 October
09:00 – 09:30 Registration	09:30 – 09:50 Featured speaker: Paralympian Nijaz Memic
09:30 – 10:45 High Level Dialogue Open   Official photo	09:50 – 10:40 Information management, transparency & exchange of information under the Maputo Action Plan
10:45 – 11:00   Break	10:40 – 11:00
11:00 – 11:50 Landmine clearance in the international context	11:00 – 12:00 Cooperation & Assistance in line with the <i>Maputo Action Plan</i>
11:50 – 13:00 The draft National Mine Action Strategy	12:00 – 13:00 Breakout discussions
13:00 – 14:00   Lunch	13:00 – 14:15   Lunch
14:00-15:00 Plans to quantify and qualify the remaining challenges	14:15 – 15:00 Feedback on breakout discussions
15:00 – 15:15   Break	15:05 – 15:30   Break
15:15-18:00 Land-release standards, policies and methodologies Plenary – breakout session – discussion	15:30 – 17:00 Bosnia and Herzegovina: Towards the future
18:00 Cocktail – reception	



## Humanitarian Demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Towards Completion

Sarajevo Hills Hotel, 18-19 October 2018

### Programme Day One – Thursday 18 October

09:30-10:30

Opening of the Meeting | High-level Segment

*BiH Demining Commission Mladen Mrkaja and BHM MAC Acting Director Sasa Obradovic chair the opening session that includes the following keynote speakers representing the host country and co-host and sponsor of the Dialogue,*

H.E. Goran Ćosić, Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Civil Affairs



H.E. Marina Pendeš, Minister  
Ministry of Defense



H.E. Lars-Gunnar Wigemark  
Head of Delegation  
Delegation of the EU to BiH



Representing other stakeholders are,

H.E. Andrea Rauber Saxer  
Ambassador of Switzerland to BiH  
Chairmanship of Art 5 Committee



Mr. Sukhrob Khoshmukhamedov  
Deputy Resident Representative  
UNDP



Ms. Selma Guso  
Journalist, Landmine survivor



*The opening of the National Stakeholder Dialogue will be followed up by a group photo to which all participants are cordially invited. The session resumes after a brief pause.*

10:30-10:45

Official group photo

***This session seeks to create a firm understanding of Article 5 (mine clearance) obligations under the Convention, and the role that BiH can play towards realising a mine-free region. The session seeks to provide stakeholders with a space to expand on these views.***

Chaired by,

- **Mr. Sasa Obradovic, Acting Director BHMAC**

BHMAC is the Commission's technical body, established by the Ministry Council decision in 2002. It has two main offices (Sarajevo and Banja Luka) and eight (8) Regional Offices established across the country, Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Pale, Tuzla, Brčko, Mostar, Travnik and Bihać. The regional centres are responsible for overseeing operational activities in their respective areas, including for the location and marking of suspected hazardous areas and database.

Panellists,

- **Mr. Juan Carlos Ruan, Director, AP Mine Ban Convention ISU**

The Implementation Support Unit (ISU) provides advice and support to the Convention's President, Committees and States Parties in matters pertaining to victim assistance, transparency reporting, stockpile destruction, compliance and mine clearance obligations including for the preparation of requests to extend deadlines. The ISU is also responsible for organisation of formal and informal meetings of the Convention.

- **Ms. Jelena Vicentic, ICBL-CMC**

The International Campaign to Ban Landmines is a global network in some 100 countries, working for a world free of anti-personnel landmines. In 1997, the ICBL and its Coordinator, Jody Williams, were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their work calling for the creation of the Convention.

- **Ms. Lucy Pinches, Mine Action Review**

*Clearing the Mines* is an independent report by the Mine Action Review produced to assess progress in survey and clearance in accordance with obligations laid down in the Convention. It gathers and analyses mine action data on landmine contamination, survey, and clearance from operators, mine action centres, national authorities, and the United Nations.

*The session provides an opportunity to discuss the draft National Mine Action Strategy which will serve to guide BiH's efforts in mine action. During the session, BHMACH will present an estimate of remaining landmine contamination based on current data and project what can be expected based on non-technical survey undertaken. Through this session, stakeholders should gain a better understanding of the request presented by BiH to extend its 1 March 2019 deadline until 1 March 2021.*

Chaired by,

- **Mr. Marc Bonnet, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)**

The GICHD provides support to the Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre (BHMACH) and other in-country mine action actors in programme management and operations. The Centre was also instrumental in working with BiH to develop the national Mine Action Strategy.

Panellists,

- **Mr. Mladen Mrkaja, National Demining Commission**

At the State level, the Bosnia-Herzegovina Demining Law regulates the Demining Commission which is the central body responsible for long-term management of mine action activities and mine clearance. The Commission is part of the Ministry of Civil Affairs and consists of three members representing three nationalities.

- **Mr. Sasa Obradovic, BHMACH Acting Director**

BHMACH is the Commission's technical body, established by the Ministry Council decision in 2002. It has two main offices (Sarajevo and Banja Luka) and eight (8) Regional Offices established across the country, Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Pale, Tuzla, Brčko, Mostar, Travnik and Bihać. The regional centres are responsible for overseeing operational activities in their respective areas, including for the location and marking of suspected hazardous areas and database.

- **Col. Franz Löschnigg, EUFOR**

EUFOR's mission is based on the EU Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) Joint Action which includes an Executive part derived from the UN Security Council (Supporting BiH authorities maintain a safe and secure environment). It also includes a Non-Executive part (Capacity Building & Training for the Armed Forces); to transition BiH forces to become 'security providers'.

**What does Action 8 of the Maputo Action Plan call for? What methodology will BHM MAC use to implement the “Country Assessment” project? In this session, stakeholders and BHM MAC’s partners, NPA and the BiH Armed Forces discuss intended timeline and prioritization.**

Chaired by,

- **Ms. Lucy Pinches, Mine Action Review**

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Panellists,

- **Mr. Kenan Dautović, Brigadier General, Armed Forces**

The project “Country Assessment” which is supposed to provide Bosnia-Herzegovina with clarity concerning contamination is being implemented in partnership with NPA and the BiH Armed Forces. The aim of this project is to increase the efficiency in mine action through implementation of improved general assessment of mine threat with the aim of setting a new baseline through non-technical and technical survey.

- **Mr. Saša Obradović, Acting Director, Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre (BHM MAC)**

BHM MAC is the Commission’s technical body, established by the Ministry Council decision in 2002. It has two main offices (Sarajevo and Banja Luka) and eight (8) Regional Offices established across the country, Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Pale, Tuzla, Brčko, Mostar, Travnik and Bihać. The regional centres are responsible for overseeing operational activities in their respective areas, including for the location and marking of suspected hazardous areas and database. COPIED FROM ABOVE

- **Mr. Hans Risser, Norwegian’s People Aid**

Within the mine action activities, NPA conducts Non-technical survey, technical survey and clearance, technical survey and clearance, permanent Marking, explosives ordinance disposal, mine risk education, task impact assessment and liaison with mine-affected communities, among others.

*This session aims to better understand the challenges identified in land release methodologies and how they are being addressed in BiH. In addition, stakeholders will discuss challenges faced in Mine Risk Education, and should be able to gain better understanding of how SOPs are being prioritized and integrated to ensure effective and efficient implementation.*

Chaired by,

- **Mr. Sasa Obradovic, Acting Director BHMAL**

Panellists,

- **Mr. Tarik Šerak, Head of MA Management Department, Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre (BHMAL)**  
( BHMAL profiled earlier)

- **Mr. Marc Bonnet, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining**  
(GICHD profiled earlier)

- **Ms. Fotini Antonopoulou, Programme Manager in charge of Mine Action, EU Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina**

The European Union has provided more than €46 million for mine action programmes in Bosnia and Herzegovina since 1996, and has funded two new projects to support a hazardous areas country assessment, and improve the BHMAL's information management system. The two additional projects will enable accurate mapping of suspected mine-contaminated areas, which is a key input to the design of more effective demining projects in BiH, as well as the development and implementation of an improved mine action strategy.

- **Mr. Fahrudin Solak, Director, Federal Administration of Civil Protection**

The Civil Protection is responsible for implementation of international obligations and cooperation in matters of civil protection, including by coordinating activities of civil defense services and their harmonization in case of natural or other disasters.

- **Mr. Mile Međed, Director, Civil Protection of Republic of Srpska**

The Republic of Srpska Civil Protection is responsible for implementation of services in case of natural or other disasters, and adoption of programs and plans for protection and rescue.

- **Ms. Svjetlana Pavlović, "Posavina without mines"**

Posavina Bez mina is a non-governmental organisation working on rural mine action projects, victim assistance, land use management and energy efficiency in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

16:20-17:20

Introduction to Group Work

**Moderator Group 1: Mr. Zoran Grujić ----- Moderator Group 2: Mr. Tarik Šerak**

- In addition to the national authorities, stakeholders are invited to share their perspectives, ideas and experiences, formulate recommendations (and/or priority actions) to further assist BiH in implementation of the objectives of the national strategy.
- Groups are encouraged to interact with BiH's mine action strategy within BiH extension request; discuss methodologies to address remaining areas; identify obstacles and challenges to attain clarity on the remaining contamination; and, provide recommendations.
- National and international organisations are encouraged to present recommendations for a way to identify the precise perimeter of mined areas, and ensure integration of land release methodologies.

17:20 – 17:50

Discussion in plenary

**Chair: Mr. Aladin Bajrektarević, Head of BHMAL Bihać office**

17:50 – 18:00

Closing remarks

## Humanitarian Demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Towards Completion

### Programme Day Two – Friday 19 October

09:30-09:50

Why a BiH free of the threat of anti-personnel mines?



Mr. Nijaz Memic, is a Bosnia and Herzegovina's Paralympian skier, and was the flag bearer at the 2010 Winter Paralympic.

He became a Paralympian after surviving the explosion of an anti-personnel landmine but has not let this tragedy stop him from his destiny. Mr. Memic recently started a skiing school for children with disabilities.

09:50 – 10:40

Addressing challenges in mine action: information management, Transparency and exchange of information under the Maputo Action Plan

This session is intended to provide an overview of reporting under the Convention, goals and objectives of the “Mine Action Governance and Management Project” in terms of information management, and how this project will lead to improvements in governance and management of Bosnia and Herzegovina's mine action programme.

Chaired by,

- **Mr. Olaf Juergensen, UNDP**

A new UNDP programme running until 2020, is working to accelerate demining in BiH in a coordinated manner. UNDP assisted BiH in developing its draft demining strategy, required legislation, and seeks to improve communication and coordination between relevant demining stakeholders.

Panellists:

- **Mr. Juan Carlos Ruan, Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention ISU**  
(Convention ISU profiled earlier)
- **Mr. Zoran Grujić, Head of IT, BHMACH**  
(BHMACH profiled earlier)
- **Mr. Slobodan Tadić, Program Manager, UNDP**
- **Mr. Marc Bonnet, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining**  
(GICHD profiled earlier)

*This session seeks to provide stakeholders with a greater understanding on how to strengthen partnerships and address challenges. It also seeks to provide BiH on how to transparently steer the Mine Action Strategy and associated work plans towards their successful implementation from partners and donors.*

Session chaired by,

**Juan Carlos Ruan, Director of the Convention’s Implementation Support Unit**

*Panelists,*

- **Mr. Suvad Džafić, Demining Commission**  
(Demining Commission profiled earlier)
- **Mr. Olaf Juergensen, UNDP and the Sustainable Development Goals**  
(UNDP profiled earlier)
- **Mr. Frank Meeussen, European External Action Service**

The European Union has a long history of support for actions that address the threat of mines and explosive remnants of war. EU assistance covers all key aspects – mine clearance, risk education, victim assistance, stockpile destruction, capacity building and research and development on mine detection and clearance technology – and has benefitted many heavily affected countries.

- **Mr. Tomaž Lovrenčić, Director, ITF, Enhancing Human Security**

ITF Enhancing Human Security (ITF) (previously named International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance) activities are based on two main strategic pillars: reducing threats from mines, explosive remnants of war and other at-risk weapons and ammunition, and facilitating safe, long-term development and building resilience of conflict-affected communities.

- **Ms. Lucy Pinches, Mine Action Review**  
(Mine Action Review profiled earlier)

12:00 – 13:00

Group discussions

**Moderator 1: Mr. Juan Ruan Carlos ----- Moderator 2: Mr. Tarik Šerak**

#### **Group Discussion**

- Participants will discuss the “Mine Action Governance and Management Project”.
- Donors are invited to provide their perspective to the national plan and how they see themselves continuing their contribution to BiH’s national efforts.
- BiH articulates circumstances that could negatively affect implementation of its demining plans and mitigation strategies.
- Donors and other stakeholders can provide modalities through which BiH may obtain assistance from them, including recommendations for BiH to make it more attractive and likely to receive assistance from donors and the importance of a sustained national commitment.
- The open discussion is an opportunity to capture recommendations and suggestions of participants in how best to move ahead with implementation given the discussions over the last day(s).

Feedback continues after lunch

14:15-15:00

**Feedback/key points from the two groups  
on breakout discussions on donors expectations**



15:00-17:00

Bosnia and Herzegovina: Towards the future

*With recommendations received and a possible follow up action articulated, this session will provide stakeholders and BHMAC an opportunity to strategize BiH's needs and trace a path forward. In particular, the European Union as sponsor of the Dialogue, and other stakeholders can provide their perspective on BiH's follow-up action and offer additional comments and hopes for later action.*

End of workshop