

Progress in Implementing Article 5 of the Anti- Personnel Mine Ban Convention in Peru

Presentation to the Standing
Committee on Mine Action
Geneva, 10–11 May 2006

THE THREAT FROM MINES AND EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR IN PERU

- There are approximately 50,000 landmines in Peru.
- There is also an unknown number of items of unexploded and abandoned ordnance.

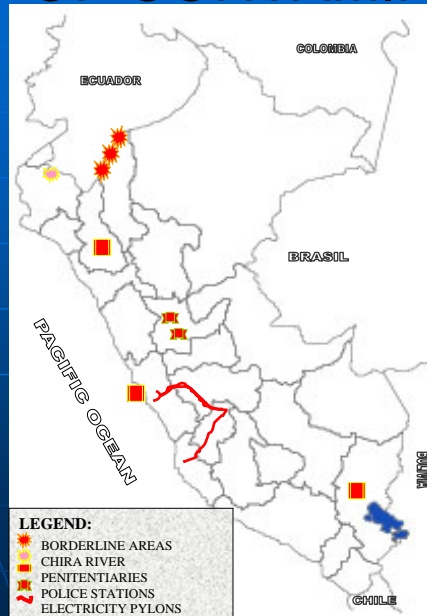
THE THREAT FROM MINES AND ERW IN PERU

- Approximately 30,000 landmines are in three sectors in the Condor mountain range along the border with Ecuador.
- A small number of anti-personnel mines in the Chira river area along the border with Ecuador.
- A total of 1,598 electricity pylons covering 115,000 square meters still require quality assurance to confirm clearance of all anti-personnel mines and UXO.

THE THREAT FROM MINES AND ERW IN PERU

- Three high-security prisons are surrounded by some 9,000 anti-personnel mines, laid during the 1990s because of a terrorist threat and covering a total area of approximately 16,500 square meters.
- Two police stations are also surrounded by an unknown number of mines.

MAP OF CONTAMINATION



THE IMPACTS IN PERU

■ Human impacts

- Hundreds of civilians, soldiers and police have been killed and injured in Peru since the 1990s.
- More than 300 mine victims recorded in the Information Management System in Mine Action (IMSMA) database.
- Recent victims have been mainly from unexploded ordnance (UXO).

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

- CONTRAMINAS set up within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to ensure operational coordination of mine action.
- Humanitarian demining undertaken by the army, the National Police, and, in the past, by the Navy industrial service.
- Some community liaison and awareness activities carried out by the army, National Police, the ICRC, the OAS, CONTRAMINAS, and by a national NGO of mine survivors (AVISCAM).

PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE 5

- Demining operations in the north of Peru are important confidence-building measure in the region following a peace agreement with Ecuador.
- Impact survey has been conducted in all five mine-affected areas in the Santiago river area in Northern Peru.
- Clearance of Chira river area in north-west of the country will be completed in May 2006.

PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE 5

- A total of 364 electricity pylons cleared to international standards in 2005, using national resources.
- Quality assurance of clearance around 1,336 electricity pylons is ongoing.

PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE 5

- One-year project signed in December 2005 with European Commission for survey and clearance in the Condor mountain range.
- OAS provides technical assistance, training and monitoring (through Inter-American Defense Board) and acts as clearing house for resource mobilisation.

PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE 5

- CONTRAMINAS is funded from national resources.
- Salaries for deminers and support staff and some logistical costs in the army and police are paid for by these institutions.
- Clearance of electricity pylons is funded by State power company.

MAIN CHALLENGES

- **But challenges remain to complete clearance activities within Article 5 deadline:**
 - Difficult topography and access, and remoteness of affected areas (dense jungle, high altitude, extremes of temperature, gradient, and rocky soil) and consequent logistical challenges;
 - Displacement of mines by natural phenomena (torrential rain, landslides, earthquakes) and other factors; and
 - Need for additional financial resources.

THE WAY FORWARD

- **Completion of joint demining operations with Ecuador in Chira river area in 2006.**
- **Continuation of EC-funded clearance and survey operations in one sector of the Condor mountain range.**
- **Significant additional resources required to complete clearance of Condor mountain range within Article 5 deadline.**

THE WAY FORWARD

- **Completion of clearance and quality assurance of all electricity pylons by end 2007.**
- **Clearance of areas around high-security prisons and police stations to be initiated in 2007 upon mobilisation of additional resources.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**