



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Meetings of the Standing Committees 25-29 May 2009

Article 3: Updates on plans for and use of mines retained for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques

Mr. Co – chair,
Distinguished colleagues,

In order to contribute to the fulfilment of the Nairobi Action Plan, especially its action 54 which relates to provision of information on plans requiring the retention of mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques, I would like to inform you of the following:

1. The Republic of Croatia had initially decided to retain for training 7000 AP mines;
2. In 2008, 65 AP mines were used for testing of demining machines, which left the total number of mines still on stock for training purposes at 6 038 pieces;
3. The main purpose for which retained mines were used up to date is testing of demining machines CASPER SMT-1 and Mini „MINE-WOLF” than testing of MV-4 with mill as are working tool. Only after comprehensive testing aforementioned machines will receive appropriate certificate, which will enable them to operate in Croatia and beyond. In 2003 CROMAC established the Centre for Testing, Development and Training (CTDT), whose prime task is to conduct testing of demining machines, mine detection dogs and metal detectors, as well as research and development of other demining techniques and technologies. CTDT is the only organization in the Republic of Croatia authorized to use live landmines in controlled areas and under the supervision of highly qualified personnel. In 2004, for that purpose CTDT established a test site “Cerovec” near the city of Karlovac.
4. On the basis of current estimation regarding requirements for testing of demining machines in 2009, we believe that the following number and type of antipersonnel mines will be used (and consequently destroyed):

PMA-1A	45
PMA-2	45
PMA-3	45
PMR-2A	20
PROM-1	20
TOTAL:	175

5. All this information, as well as previous data regarding the mines retained for the testing, demining machines, are available in the annual Croatian report already submitted in accordance with Article 7 of the Ottawa Convention.

Thank you for your attention.