Presidencia de la República

Exploring Alternatives to Using Live Anti-Personnel Mines for Permitted Purposes

AICMA | Acción Integral Contra Minas Antipersonal

Colombia demonstrated its commitment to the destruction of antipersonnel mines through concrete actions:

- Art 3 Anticipated Compliance. Since **2002**, in its first art 3 report, Colombia reported that it had not maintained any antipersonnel mines for training purposes.

- However, in **2014** Colombia reports the destruction of 586 antipersonnel mines identified as part of the arsenal,

- Apart from **2014** Colombia reports in its article 7 not having any mines stored with training fines

- Art 4: In 2004, Colombia destroyed its entire stockpile of industrially manufactured antipersonnel mines, complying in advance with Article 4 of the Ottawa Convention.

In its initial transparency report submitted on 15 March 2002, Colombia reported stockpiled anti-personnel mines under its ownership or possession.

Notwithstanding the obligation to destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines, the Convention permits the retention of the minimum number of anti-personnel mines absolutely necessary for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques. Colombia had reported having retained 586 anti-personnel mines for these permitted purposes.

In its Article 7 Report submitted in 2014, Colombia reported having destroyed the 586 anti-personnel mines it had retained for permitted purposes in 2013.
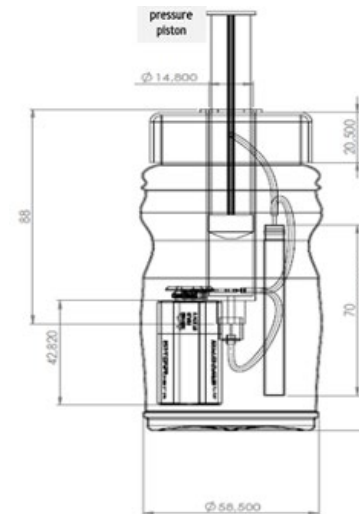
Improvised Antipersonnel Mines:

- Despite this achievement, Colombia faces the challenge persistence of improvised anti-personnel mines.

- Antipersonnel mine contamination in Colombia is mainly improvised in nature.

- Use of common and easily available materials.

- These mines are not industrially produced by the Colombian State, but layed by illegal armed groups and non-state actors.

Colombia´s challenges

Training with Antipersonnel Mine Models:

A Focus on Humanitarian Demining in Colombia

• Following the complete destruction of its antipersonnel mine stockpiles in 2004, Colombia has adopted an **approach to training** its humanitarian demining teams with the **use of mock-ups.**

Diverse types or mines of an improvised nature

TRAINING NEEDS

Training with Antipersonnel Mine Models: A Focus on Humanitarian Demining in Colombia. Why models?

Safety: The models are exact replicas of real mines, but without explosives, ensuring a safe and risk-free training environment for deminers.

Realism: They allow simulating real detection and destruction scenarios, preparing teams to face complex situations on the ground.

Efficiency and Practical Approach: The use of mock-ups of antipersonnel mines optimizes resources by allowing training focused on the practice and repetition of demining techniques, without the limitations and risks associated with handling real explosives.

This allows deminers to gain experience and **confidence** in a controlled environment, improving their performance in real-world situations.

Benefits of training with models:

Greater efficiency in demining: Better trained teams can identify and destroy mines more quickly and safely, accelerating the process of clearing territories.

Accident reduction: Safe training with mock-ups minimizes the risk of accidents during demining operations.

Continuous training: Allows deminers to maintain and update their skills, ensuring a high level of competence.

The use of models of antipersonnel mines is an example of Colombia's **commitment to innovation and efficiency** in humanitarian demining, guaranteeing the safety of deminers and the liberation of territories affected by this scourge.

Alternatives to train

1. Operational Demining

2. Huminitarian Demining Brigade

3. Civilian Humanitarian Demining

Level of training

Recognition: Elements and components of the EO, distinguishing between dangerous and harmless elements

Identification: Team Leader: Knowledge about components and fuses

Destruction: how to attack the EO to neutralize or destroy

Acciones EOD

SOBRE COHETE M-65   RESULTADOS

SOBRE MINA CPER P-5   RESULTADO

SOBRE MINA FRAGMENTACION PMR-2   RESULTADO

SOBRE GRANADA DE MANO RESULTADOS

Military Demining

Faced with this problem, the General Command of the Colombian Military Forces (CGFM) created the **Explosives and Demolitions Teams (EXDE),** units specialized in Explosives, Demolitions and Demining for the destruction of MAP and AEI.

These groups became key actors in **demining within the framework of the operations** carried out by the Military Force.

Since its creation, the EXDE have incorporated the use of models of different explosive devices (MAP/MSE/AEI) in their training.

Colombia developed the capacity of a training center - **International Demining Center (CIDES), Training Center for Peace Operations (CENCOPAZ):**

- **Basic *training*:** *Theoretical and practical knowledge of explosives, detection techniques and security measures.*

- ***Specialization*:** *Specific training in final disposal of mines and other explosive devices and handling of explosive substance detection dogs.*

- ***Field practices*:** *Simulations and exercises in realistic scenarios to apply the knowledge acquired.*

- ***Constant updating*:** *Courses, seminars and joint exercises to keep up to date with the latest techniques and technologies. Likewise, the anti-explosive groups or EOD teams of the Force saw the need to specialize, creating new units in the army, the MARTE Groups and in the Navy. National The GAUR groups, which not only attend to complexity in rural areas but also care in urban area*
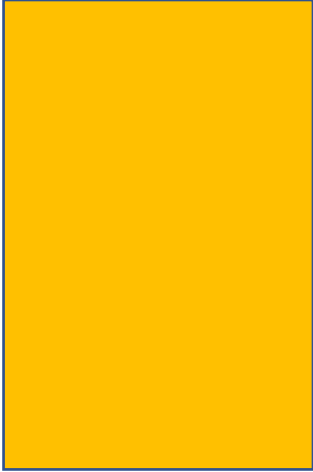
Humanitarian Demining Brigade

Team Leader is the EOD Capacity

Civilian Humanitarian Demining

Accreditation

Termita para AE (TBD).

Resultado en AE (MAP)

TBD Mediano

Resultado en AE (MUSE)

DISPOSAL

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Gobierno de **Colombia**