

SAFE LANE

Winter 1999-2000 Number 10

CANADA'S LANDMINE BAN REPORT



Canadian Forces carry KLA victim of landmine to medical transport in Ade, Kosovo.

KOSOVO MINE CRISIS

UN coordination and the Canadian response
page 4

INSIDE

After Maputo	3
New Landmine Charity	9
Mine Action on Display	9
Peru-Ecuador Phase 2 clearance	10
Canadian Centre for Mine Action Technologies	12
New tools for learning on landmines	17



Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce international

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SAFE LANE

CANADA'S LANDMINE BAN REPORT



Winter 1999-2000, Number 10

SafeLane is published quarterly by the Mine Action Team, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

Submissions are invited from governmental agencies and NGOs active in the campaign against landmines. Please send articles of 400 words or less; *SafeLane* editors reserve the right to condense and adapt text. Captioned, print-quality photos much appreciated.

Send submissions, along with clear contact information, to:

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AFTER MAPUTO:

A renewed commitment to mine action



Last May in Mozambique, the international commitment to a global ban on anti-personnel mines was reaffirmed at the First Meeting of States Parties. The occasion was a tremendous accomplishment for those working to universalize and implement the ban. And the success of Mozambique, a severely mine-affected state, in hosting the international gathering was in itself a triumph.

It was also a time for celebration of the early accomplishments of the treaty – the declining trade in these inhumane weapons, reductions in casualty rates in some of the world's most mine-affected countries, the destruction of more than 14 million stockpiled anti-personnel mines, an increase in funding for mine action, and, of course, the rapid embrace of the Convention by the international community.

Our celebration of this progress was tempered, however, by the knowledge that in parts of the world, landmines continue to be laid and continue to be used as weapons of terror against civilian populations. This was made all too clear on my journey to Maputo, via Kosovo, where I visited one of the many refugee camps that had sprung up on the perimeter of that beleaguered province. Among the traumatized civilians were those who had fallen victim to landmines.

The mine action problem in Kosovo is one we have seen all too often– in Bosnia, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Mozambique and many other countries. These weapons are deployed by warring factions with tragic consequences for fleeing (and later returning) refugees. The tragedy of Kosovo made apparent the need for a rapid and coordinated response to deal with mines in the aftermath of conflict. While in Maputo, I hosted a meeting at which we discussed the need for a UN-coordinated rapid reaction capacity, knowing we would face this challenge not only in Kosovo, but also in Angola, and other places where mines continue to be used.

Out of that meeting, Canada and Belgium co-sponsored the first UN mission to assess the mine situa-

tion in Kosovo. From this assessment, came the establishment of a UN Mine Action Co-ordination Centre in Pristina to ensure the safe and rapid return of refugees and to work towards the longer term demining of the region.

Canadians were among the first to enter Kosovo, taking part in the essential work of clearing landmines and other explosives from roadways and bridges to ensure the safe passage of UN forces and humanitarian relief. And Canada remains active in Kosovo today, with National Defence personnel posted to the Mine Action Coordination Centre in Pristina, Canadian demining experts deployed in the field and Canadian contributions supporting a range of coordinated activities.

Kosovo's experience underscores the urgency of the global landmine challenge. The situation in Kosovo mirrors the plight of millions the world over and makes clear the need to sustain our efforts to defeat this deadly weapon.

That is why I am pleased to note the launch of a new, private sector charitable initiative–the Canadian Landmine Foundation. Its aim is to create a sustaining fund to which individuals and corporations can contribute to help eradicate landmines and ease the suffering they cause. In June, I announced seed funding of \$1 million from the Government of Canada to the Canadian Landmine Foundation. The Foundation plans to multiply this initial contribution through outreach to the private sector.

I am confident that, through support for such fundraising efforts, the goodwill of Canadians will go a long way to ensuring the peace and security of our fellow global citizens as we enter a new millennium. The Ottawa Process and our response to this crisis are but one measure of our willingness to recognize how our welfare is linked to that of others.

– Lloyd Axworthy, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Mozambican Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Dr. Leonardo Santos Simão, at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Convention, Maputo, Mozambique.

KOSOVO MINE CRISIS



World Vision Canada / Steve Matthews

UN coordination central to Kosovo clearance

United Nations KFOR members with AP and AT mines retrieved in Kosovo, later destroyed at a nearby American Forces facility.

In the aftermath of Serbian occupation and subsequent NATO air strikes against Serb forces, Kosovo faces serious contamination from mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO). These explosives pose an immediate threat to people's lives and seriously impede delivery of humani-

tarian assistance and the rebuilding of homes, infrastructure, essential services and the norms of civil society. The United Nations, through the UN Mine Action Service and other agencies, has been central in coordi-

nating the response to this crisis.

Efforts to deal with the impending threat began even before hostilities ended. With thousands of refugees massed in border camps, UNICEF—the UN lead agency in mine awareness education—coordinated a public information campaign aimed at informing refugees about the mine/UXO threat that they could find upon returning to their homes in Kosovo.

The principal mine threat is from mines laid by the Serbian Armed Forces, police and paramilitary forces, particularly along the borders with Albania and Macedonia. Some defensive minefields are located in the interior and nuisance mines were placed in and around villages and essential infrastructure. Although the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) also used mines, these have been reported as cleared in accordance with the requirements of a Military Technical Agreement signed with NATO.

The United Nations Mine Action Coordination Centre (UNMACC) was established soon after an initial UN assessment mission in June 1999. The MACC is now effective in the operational coordination and

tasking of 17 accredited mine clearance organisations (NGOs and commercial companies) working on defined priorities. Simply put, these priorities are to get refugees back into their homes or on to their land and to support the reconstruction and rehabilitation of essential services and infrastructure before the arrival of winter.

All mine action companies and NGOs have to be accredited by the MACC and must meet minimum standards of training, equipment, procedures, medical coverage and communications. Materials being disseminated for mine awareness must match the International Guidelines for Landmine and Unexploded Ordnance Awareness Education.

A number of organisations have provided training for local mine clearance capacity and, to date, more than 500 local deminers have been recruited.

The main mine awareness programs being implemented are community-based activities including the "Safer Village" concept and the "Child to Child" program. The Child to Child program was implemented because mine/UXO awareness will not become part of the school curriculum until November 2000. It focuses on the child as trainer of other children and parents in the home, using traditional games and activities. This program is also supported by a clearance team which undertakes immediate clearance tasks along with the identification and marking of "child safe areas".

Kosovo demining snapshot¹

Number of recorded minefields	616
Number of known cluster-bomb strike areas	333
Number of mine/UXO casualties ²	300
Square metres of land cleared by UNMACC ²	4,940,560
Number of houses cleared ²	13,702
Number of schools cleared ²	559
Estimated number of years to clear mines/UXO	2-3

1. Information provided by the UN
2. From June to November 1999

Burin Perteshi, 12, lost his leg to a landmine while picking strawberries.



AP Photo/Pier Paolo Cito

Already there have been occasions when children have used their training to report cluster bombs and UXO.

The Safer Village concept looks at the specific needs of a village and tries to provide alternative solutions to risk-taking behaviours. This may be the provision of firewood over winter until a dangerous firewood collection area can be cleared.

Among the 300 casualties recorded to date, there have been 54 deaths. The rate at which the casualties are occurring has stabilized somewhat in recent months at approximately 40 per month. Deterioration of the public health system poses a considerable challenge in dealing with the short and long-term needs of survivors. The lead agency for victim assistance is the World Health Organization (WHO), which along with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and a number of NGO partners such as Handicap International and the Mother Teresa Society, are developing the means to provide comprehensive medical and rehabilitation care to mine victims.

- UN MAS

The Canadian response

ON November 1, the Canadian government announced a comprehensive aid package of \$100 million for Kosovo and the Balkans. Of this, \$5 million over the next two years will be devoted to institutional support for the UN Mine Action Coordination Centre, mine clearance, mine awareness and victim assistance.

Canada's support for Kosovo mine action started even before peace came to the region: With support from CIDA, UNICEF began essential mine awareness education among refugees as they waited in border camps for a chance to return to their homes.

Canadians were also at the forefront when peace came in June: As they led the way for UN forces entering Kosovo after Serb withdrawal, the soldiers of Edmonton's 1 Combat Engineer Regiment were among the first outsiders to witness the extent of damage inflicted on this tiny province. The demining and disposal expertise of these military engineers was cru-

cial in clearing landmines, booby traps and other explosives (UXO) from roadways and bridges to allow security forces and humanitarian relief to enter.

Canada's push for a coordinated 'rapid response' to the landmines crisis in Kosovo was driven by an early recognition that mines and UXO would be a major threat to civilians in the aftermath of the war. In June, Canada and Belgium co-financed the first UN Mine Action Service mission to the region to establish a plan for coordinating the global mine action effort.

A key outcome of this mission was the establishment of the UN Mine Action Coordination Centre (MACC) in Pristina. Three Canadian National Defence staff members were seconded to assist in setting up a database and mapping landmines and unexploded ordnance in Kosovo through the MACC. So far they have contributed to the production and con-

Continued next page



KOSOVO MINE CRISIS

Below: Canada's Wolf's Flats/CIDC team cleared this site, providing this Kosovar with access to winter grain stored behind his destroyed home.



Wolf's Flats

Continued from page 5
tinuous update of hundreds of maps, covering the entire province. These maps are essential to the UN MACC's work in coordinating, tasking and providing quality assurance of mine clearance operations.

Mine clearance work is being carried out by a combination of NGO and commercial organizations, including a small team fielded by two Canadian Companies—Wolf's Flats Explosive Ordnance Disposal Corporation and the Canadian International Demining Centre. Between August and November, this team of four technicians with field support staff cleared 71 schools, 46 homes, 7 medical clinics, 4 power plants, a few TV/radio transmission stations and a water pump house. The school clearance work has permitted a return to fall studies for thousands of children.

The International Demining Alliance of Canada is also receiving Canadian support to clear mines in Kosovo. It has

Right: Private Sheldon Porter of the Edmonton-based 1 Combat Engineers Regiment sweeps for mines at the Yugoslav Army's bombed-out main base in Pristina, Kosovo. Once cleared, the compound became a base for Canadian UN troops and helicopters.

Far right: Ethnic Albanian refugees pass a mine awareness sign at the Albania-Kosovo border, June 17, 1999. Ignoring such warnings, thousands of refugees streamed back into Kosovo.

The Edmonton Journal/Chris Schwarz



fielded five disposal and demining teams whose work so far has permitted the return of numerous families to their homes, secured routes to community wells and power stations, and cleared schools and farm complexes.

Shelter projects by CARE Canada and World Vision are being made safe through mine clearance work by Mines Advisory Group and MINETECH with support from CIDA.

Queen's University is also being funded to expand its Balkans community-based rehabilitation program for disabled persons— including landmine victims—to Kosovo for a six-month period.

—Lisanne Garceau Bednar, CIDA

Canadian funding to date¹ for Kosovo mine action

UN Assessment mission	\$75,000
Support to UN MACC	
Six-month secondment of three Canadian Forces personnel	\$229,000
Mine Clearance	
Wolf's Flat Explosive Ordnance Disposal Corporation/ Canadian International Demining Centre	528,000
International Demining Alliance of Canada	\$1,255,000
Mines Advisory Group	\$300,000
MINETECH	\$300,000
Mine Awareness	
UNICEF	(Portion of) \$1,000,000 ²
Victim Assistance	
Queen's University community based rehabilitation	\$500,000 ³

1. As of November 15, 1999

2. Reflects total commitment to UNICEF for their Balkans Regional Program, including Kosovo. Relevant portion estimated at about 20%.

3. August 1999 to January 2000





Heads of delegations to the First Meeting of States Parties.

Maputo conference builds momentum

Less than three months after the entry-into-force of the Ottawa Treaty, Maputo, Mozambique was the site of another milestone in the movement to ban anti-personnel mines: the First Meeting of States Parties. A total of 108 governments, including 12 non-signatories and 15 international and non-governmental organizations were represented in Maputo – an excellent location to launch the Ottawa Convention as Mozambique is both a mine-affected state and one of the first supporters of the landmine ban in

Africa.

True to the traditions of the Ottawa Process which launched the ban treaty, the Maputo Conference featured a blend of formal and informal action-oriented work drawing upon the expertise of a broad range of global mine action actors including the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) – represented by a total 140 members from more than 60 countries.

One of the key objectives of the Maputo Conference was to get the new convention up and running to ensure its rapid and full implementation as a framework for action to address the global landmine crisis. Governments approved a common format for the submission of their transparency measures (Article 7) reports to the UN and heard reports from each country on the status of their efforts to implement the Convention. The final declaration of the Maputo Conference pledged “unwavering commitment to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines.” Several governments condemned the new use of mines in Angola and Kosovo.

One of the other key results of the meeting was the launch of an intersessional work program by Standing Committees of Experts to identify and resolve practical challenges related to the implementation of the Ottawa Treaty. These standing committees will meet regularly and are to report back to the Second Meeting of States Parties scheduled for September 2000 in Geneva. The intersessional work will be led by 20 states representing developed, developing and mine-affected regions of the world.

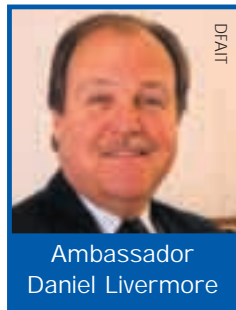
Intersessional work towards the Second Meeting of States Parties

Standing Committees of Experts

Expert Group	Co-Chairs	Rapporteurs
Mine Clearance	United Kingdom Mozambique	Peru Netherlands
Victim Assistance and Mine Awareness	Mexico Switzerland	Nicaragua Japan
Stockpile Destruction	Hungary Mali	Malaysia Slovak Republic
Technologies for Mine Action	France Cambodia	Yemen Germany
General Status and Operation of the Convention	Canada South Africa	Zimbabwe Belgium

Canada appoints new Ambassador for Mine Action

Canada has a new Ambassador for Mine Action. Daniel Livermore, formerly Canada's Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala and the Republic of El Salvador, was named to the post in August.



"The international community has made enormous progress in the past two years, but we have to maintain the momentum," says Livermore, who holds a Ph.D. from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario and has considerable experience working with the

United Nations in security and human rights issues.

"Achieving a landmine ban treaty has been a momentous landmark achievement. We need to apply the same vigour and dedication to the process of fully implementing all the provisions of the treaty and getting non-sig-

natories to come on board."

The Ambassador for Mine Action post was created by Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy in May 1998 to ensure the Ottawa Convention is fully implemented and makes a real dif-

ference in the lives of mine-affected communities world wide.

Jill E. Sinclair, who served from May 1998 to August 1999 as Canada's first Ambassador for Mine Action, has been named Director General of the Global and Human Issues Bureau at Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

Ban Landmines 99 – Mine action on display

To demonstrate Canada's continued commitment to the fight against landmines, Mines Action Canada, the Canadian Red Cross and DFAIT's Mine Action Team will be co-hosting *Ban Landmines 99*, a mine action exhibition to be held at Lansdowne Park's Aberdeen Pavillion in Ottawa, December 2-3.

The exhibition will be open to the public and will feature a range of Canadian and international organizations in the global struggle against landmines. Prominent supporters of the ban movement, such as Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Nobel Laureate Jody Williams of the ICBL, will participate.

Events and activities will include a simulated mined village, a cyber-café and mine action 'film



festival', a 'speakers' corner' featuring presentations and panel discussions by mine action experts and mine ban advocates. As well, mine clearance teams, including Norwegian People's Aid, will be on-hand to demonstrate and talk about their life-and-death work.

VIPs to toast new landmine charity

On December 3, 1999, the Canadian Landmine Foundation, a newly launched private sector charity, will celebrate the second anniversary of

the Ottawa Convention signing ceremony with an inaugural dinner in Ottawa. The evening will be hosted by Governor General Adrienne Clarkson and her husband, John Ralston Saul. Renowned guests will include Queen Noor of Jordan, pianist Oscar Peterson, philanthropist George Soros, US Senator Patrick Leahy, ICBL Ambassador Jody Williams and Maurice Strong, currently President of the United Nations University for Peace.

In addition to marking an important milestone in the struggle to ban landmines, the December 3 dinner will also recognize the Foundation's founding patrons who are contributing to the 1999 fundraising target.

Funds raised by the Canadian Landmine Foundation will provide a sustaining fund for mine action, initially supporting demining operations, with some emphasis on victim assistance.



Peru-Ecuador border clearance moves to Phase 2

Canada, with the Organization of American States (OAS) and the United States, conducted a mine action exploratory mission to Ecuador and Peru in mid-August 1999.

The goal of the mission was to identify the financial and human resource needs of the Ecuadorians and Peruvians as they enter Phase 2 of demining efforts in their border area and to learn more about the countries' priorities and plans of action.

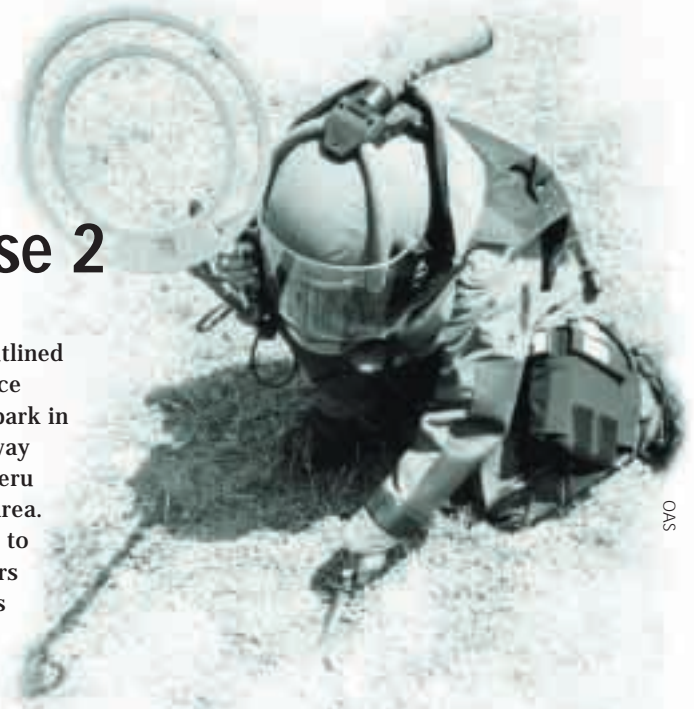
The Peru-Ecuador peace accord, signed Oct. 25, 1998 in the aftermath of their 1995 border conflict, was the first peace treaty in the history of the Western hemisphere to include mine action as one of its terms.

Phase 1 of demining – the demarcation of the Peru-Ecuador border – was carried out from January to April 1999. The area's dense jungle terrain, laden with landmines from border conflicts spanning the second half of this century, made mine clearance onerous. Demining teams had to be flown in and lowered directly on to the ground where they were to work.

Under these conditions, Peru and Ecuador identified demining equipment and shared mine clearance expertise as key to a safer, more efficient operation.

In September, Phase 2 of mine clearance efforts began in the border area of Tiwinza, the priority

area for demining outlined in the countries' peace accords. A national park in Ecuador and a highway linking the park to Peru are planned for the area. Phase 2 is scheduled to be finished in 10 years under the obligations of the Ottawa Convention which Peru and Ecuador have signed and ratified. To date, Canada has contributed a total of \$400,000 for demining in Peru and Ecuador.



Deminer at work on Peru-Ecuador border wears Canadian supplied Med-Eng protective gear.

Zagreb provides regional focus

Croatia was one of the first nations of southern Europe to sign and ratify the Ottawa Convention. Since then, international attention has been slow to focus on the serious mine problem plaguing the country, and to recognise the steps taken by its government, with the United Nations, to address the situation. The Zagreb Regional Conference on Mine Action held June from 28 to 30, provided a forum for discussion of mine action and the implications of the Ottawa Convention in the region. The conference was successful in bringing together NGOs, governments and international organizations from countries such as Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova, Ukraine,

Slovenia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. It gave participants a valuable opportunity to exchange experiences of managing the mine problem in the region and implementing the Convention, particularly commitments for mine clearance and stockpile destruction.

The conference also provided insights into how Croatia is dealing with its landmine problem. The Croatia Mine Action Centre (CROMAC) is responsible for setting priorities, maintaining a database of mine incidents, mapping cleared land and mined areas, quality assurance of mine clearance and donor coordination. Since a law was passed in March 1998 governing mine clearance operations and restricting activities largely to

Progress report: Ukraine stockpile destruction

Important groundwork has been laid for the destruction of the roughly 9.6 million stockpiled landmines in Ukraine.

In keeping with the Memorandum on Mutually Beneficial Cooperation between Canada and Ukraine signed on January 28, 1999, Canada and Ukraine are in the process of choosing a company to destroy the stockpiles and drafting the contract to begin work. Environmental assessment and financial and technical verification mechanisms are also being structured.

These stages should be completed in the coming months so

that stockpile destruction can begin within the next year. The program is being designed to destroy all stockpiles in four years in compliance with the time frames specified in the Ottawa Convention.

To facilitate development of the stockpile destruction program, a Canadian delegation, headed by Advisor to the Ambassador for Mine Action Lt.-Gen.(retired) Gordon Reay, visited Kyiv, Ukraine from July 19 to 23 for meetings with representatives of the Ukrainian Ministry of Industrial Policy, Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Since then, Canada has been

involved in consultations with other donor countries and organizations such as NATO to seek additional resources for the destruction program. In late October, Lt.-Gen. Reay gave a presentation on the Ukraine program to NATO in Brussels, with the intention of setting up a form of joint cooperation and/or NATO investment in the stockpile destruction.

Both Ukraine and Canada will be attending the up-coming Intersessional Standing Committee of Experts Meeting on Stockpile Destruction in Geneva, December 9-10. Ukraine will be one of the cases examined by the international community at those meetings.

for mine action

The Zagreb Regional Conference on Mine Action opened with the destruction of 3434 anti-personnel mines marking the beginning of Croatia's fulfilment of Article 4 of the Ottawa Convention.

commercial companies, much of the mine clearance is being done by both international and Croatian commercial firms.

CROMAC is an indigenously-run mine action centre, responsive to priorities identified by local communities and open to new technologies and methods of operation in implementing its national mine action plans. Though it is almost completely nationalized, CROMAC is supported by two teams of international advisors, one group from the Western European Union and the other from the UN's Mine Action Assistance Program.



ICBL/Mary Wareham

The Canadian Centre for Mine Action Technologies



When the federal government launched the Canadian Landmine Fund, it recognized the need for a technology component to address emerging needs in

the field of humanitarian mine action. This resulted in the formation of the Canadian Centre for Mine Action Technologies (CCMAT) at the Canadian Forces Base in Suffield, Alberta, a location chosen for its proximity to the Defence Research Establishment Suffield (DRES) and the Experimental Proving Ground (EPG). Through its association with DRES, the Centre has access to expertise and sophisticated test facilities developed for the military countermine research and development program.

CCMAT is a partnership between the Department of National Defence (DND) and Industry Canada with a mandate to research, develop and commercialize low cost technology for humanitarian mine action. While DND focuses on research and development, Industry Canada, through the Technology Partnerships Canada program, works with Canadian industry to bring promising technologies to market.

Using test facilities on the Suffield EPG, the Centre will act as an assessment agency to ensure new technology meets the requirements of the demining community.

Access to these world class facilities will allow the Centre to be a founding member of the International Test and Evaluation Program (ITEP) and, through ITEP, work towards a global standard for testing new demining technology.

A major part of the Centre's mandate is to acquire and disseminate technical information on mine action. An

important initiative in this area is the Information Forum, proposed by Canada and the European Union, which will sponsor workshops and an international journal of mine action technology. While the emphasis will be on technical information, the Information Forum will actively solicit participation from the demining community and will ensure that its product is directly relevant to the needs of deminers.

CCMAT will make a significant contribution to protecting the deminer and investigating alternatives to anti-personnel (AP) mine capabilities. The Centre's main contribution to the former will be a better understanding of the mechanism of blast injury which will improve the design of protective clothing and equipment. Work



CCMAT tests and evaluates new mine action technologies. This prodder underwent testing in Cambodia.

on alternatives has begun with an operational research study on the role of the AP mine in warfare.

In its first full year of operation, the Centre's overall program has been mapped out and many important projects are underway. The test and evaluation facilities essential for the Centre's role as an assessment agency are now in regular use. By active participation in the Information Forum and the ITEP, the Centre has made an auspicious start to information exchange and the standardization of testing methodology. By maintaining close links with the mine action community, the Centre will ensure that the people in the field ultimately benefit from the Centre's activities. For more information, see the Centre's web site (www.ccmata.gc.ca).



ICBL sets goal for 100th ratification

The International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) has continued its intense pace of global activity since the First Meeting of States Parties (FMSP) in Maputo, Mozambique in May – campaigning for at least 100 ratifications by March 1, 2000.

At its Second General Meeting in Maputo, the ICBL added the United States to its 'most wanted list' and agreed to redouble its universalization efforts on the states of the former Soviet Union and the Middle East/North Africa. It pledged continued, unrelenting pressure on all non-signatories to join the treaty and pressure on all non-state actors to abide by the spirit and intent of the ban.

During its Second General Meeting, the ICBL committed to participate in the intersessional work program established at the FMSP. ICBL working groups are aligned with the five Intersessional Standing Committees of Experts, and a full-time ICBL staff person has been designated to liaise with governments in this and related work.

International Advocacy

In recent months, members of the ICBL have organized and attended conferences in Germany and Croatia. A national workshop in Nigeria helped set in motion steps for the new government to accede to the Treaty.

ICBL members also undertook advocacy missions to Kosovo, Korea, United Arab Emirates and elsewhere. The ICBL sent letters to heads of state and engaged in advocacy activities at the Francophonie summit in New Brunswick in September and the UN General Assembly in New York. It also visited the UN missions of targeted states in New York during September and used the occasion of a Special Summit of the European Council in Finland in October to press for the mine ban.

Over the next few months, regional and thematic seminars are planned in Georgia, Panama, Egypt, the Horn of Africa and the U.S. in the continued campaign for universalization and effective implementation of the treaty.

National Campaigns:

In France, activists constructed shoe pyramids and held events in 20 cities through September. In Italy, the national campaign hosted Peace Week events including a delegation of Afghan mine action experts. A postcard campaign to Brazil's President Fernando Henrique Cardoso was launched on October 1 when the Treaty entered into force in that country.

The ICBL also issued several action alerts originating from country campaigns. One alert related to a state-owned Romanian company, Romtehnica, which solicited buyers of AP mines at an arms fair in the United Kingdom. The UK is a state party to the ban treaty, while Romania has yet to ratify.

Another alert called for lobbying of a U.S. congressional committee considering funding of a military system called RADAM containing both AP and anti-tank mines. The RADAM system runs contrary to the stated goal of the U.S. to join the ban treaty by 2006.

– Liz Bernstein, ICBL



Postcard sent by the Brazilian Campaign to Ban Landmines to President Fernando Henrique Cardoso when the Mine Ban Treaty entered into force for their country, October 1, 1999.

Article 7 Reports

The Ottawa Convention's transparency measures went into effect in August when Article 7 Reports became due from several states parties.

According to Article 7 of the Convention, states parties are required to provide annual reports to the United Nations Secretary General on steps taken to implement the Convention. As of October 25, 1999, 20 states parties had submitted their reports. These reports are available on the Internet at: <http://domino.un.org/Ottawa.nsf>.

Article 7 Reports serve as a means to assess national implementation of the Convention and provide information of direct relevance for mine action.

Research underway for second Landmine Monitor Report

After the successful launch of the ground-breaking 1100-page *Landmine Monitor Report 1999* at the First Meeting of States Parties in Maputo, Landmine Monitor researchers and ICBL campaigners have continued to distribute the report as widely as possible and prepare for the next one.

The *Report's* executive summary and many of its country reports have been translated into Arabic, Burmese, French, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish, Russian and Ukrainian. These translations, along with the full report, are now available on the Internet at:

www.icbl.org/lm

The Landmine Monitor five-member Core Group has met twice to evaluate research applications submitted for the second *Landmine Monitor Report*. The

Landmine Monitor reporting network has expanded to 91 researchers from 80 countries. They will provide research on landmines in 140 countries and mine-affected areas of the world. In-country researchers are still being sought for some countries.

A research guide has been circulated to the researchers who will be updating information provided in *Landmine Monitor Report 1999* and providing information on any new problems or progress in the implementation of the ban treaty and the humanitarian response to the landmine crisis. The Landmine Monitor database continues to be developed and is expected to go on-line in late 1999.

The second report and its executive summary will be released in September 2000 at the Second Meeting of States Parties in Geneva.

For more information please consult the Landmine Monitor section of the ICBL Web site at: www.icbl.org/lm or email: lm@icbl.org

– Mary Wareham,
Human Rights Watch

Cover photo: Nic Dunlop, courtesy Human Rights Watch



The first *Landmine Monitor Report*, launched at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Convention in May 1999.

LANDMINE
MONITOR

MINES ACTION CANADA: New international roles

Mines Action Canada (MAC) has taken on new international responsibilities while sustaining its action on the home front.

On December 3, the anniversary of the landmine treaty signing, MAC will launch the Landmine Monitor database. As a member of the Landmine Monitor project's Core Group, MAC has created and maintained this partially on-line information tool which researchers can now use to share data and from which the Landmine Monitor annual reports will be compiled.

MAC has also become a member of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) Coordinating Committee, where it advocates with the ICBL for the establishment of a "no use" landmine policy in NATO.

As well, MAC is now a co-chair of the ICBL Non-State Actors (NSA) working group which coordinates national campaigns' outreach to non-state entities in a position to use mines or having de facto control over mined areas.

Within Canada, MAC has identified two key research and advocacy issues: weapons with the same effects as anti-personnel mines which fall outside the treaty and additional resources for mine clearance and assistance to mine victims.

MAC continues its energetic education and outreach program through participation (with DFAIT and the Canadian Red Cross) in the Youth Mine Action Ambassador Program, special projects like a symbol design competition for youth and a quarterly newsletter and Web site.

For a second year, MAC is attempting to encourage Canadian research capability through a demining technology competition for university students. The 1999/2000 competition was launched with a series of university lectures given by mine action experts.

MAC is also organizing a number of workshops to improve NGO mine action programs by sharing experience and examining new

resources such as the revised Bad Honnef framework, the UNICEF mine awareness guidelines and research by CIETinternational.

– *Mary Foster, Mines Action Canada*

1 Mine war has passed over their area, people begin to put their lives back together. Their struggle is made difficult and dangerous by the presence of mines.

2 To students at Canadian universities and colleges (teams and individuals)

30 September 1999

3

DEMINING
Technology Competition 1999/2000
Appropriate Technology for Community-based, Humanitarian Mine Clearance

FIRST PRIZE: \$5000
SECOND PRIZE: \$2500
THIRD PRIZE: \$1000

www.minesactioncan

Mines Action Canada
Demining Technology Competition
11 McMillan Street, 1st Floor
Ottawa, ON K1P 1Y1
Tel: 613 231 2371
Email: mac@minesactioncan.org

Demining Technology Competition poster



Following on the successful first year of the Youth Mine Action Ambassador Program (YMAAP), seven new ambassadors were deployed across Canada to continue the mine action momentum. Joining this group of seven are two returning Youth Ambassadors—Melanie Gagnon in the role of National Youth Ambassador, hosted by UNICEF Quebec, and Alison Clement, Program Assistant at the YMAAP Secretariat in Ottawa. Melanie and Alison will share their experience with the new recruits and represent YMAAP on a national and international level.

The program also welcomed five new host organizations to the program—the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) in Toronto, Quebec City, Calgary and Vancouver and Oxfam Canada in Halifax. These agencies will join Mines Action Canada in Ottawa, UNICEF Quebec in

Left to right:

Violaine Des Rosiers (Quebec City YA), Jennifer Brammer (Halifax YA), Jill Olscamp (Fredericton YMCA Global Education intern), Darryl Toews (Winnipeg YA), Nancy Ingram (Calgary YA), Jenny Mittelsteadt (ICBL University of Minnesota intern), Carla Potts (Ottawa YA), Rochelle Johnston (Toronto YA), and Jackie Hansen (Vancouver YA).

Montreal and CRC Winnipeg in providing office and supervisory support to the ambassadors throughout the 10 month program cycle.

This year's cycle began in August with three weeks of intensive training to prepare Youth Ambassadors for educational outreach work with schools and community groups. With growing interest in the program, the training session this year

A new year of youth activism

also welcomed two guest interns, now applying their passion and skills at the Fredericton YMCA's Global Education department and the University of Minnesota respectively.

Youth Ambassadors will gain valuable international experience this year through participation in a field visit, international meeting or conference to expand their knowledge of current trends in mine action and mine ban advocacy. First hand experience of the problem and the international campaign will enrich and expand their domestic outreach work.

As part of their mandate, Youth Ambassadors will once again coor-

dinate two YMAAP signature events: the fundraising "Dance Without Fear", and a regional youth conference which focuses on the landmine issue and activism of Canadian youth.

A focus of this year's program is on career development to assist Youth Ambassadors in identifying goals for career development in the mine action sector. YMAAP is a cooperative partnership of the Canadian Red Cross, Mines Action Canada and DFAIT's Mine Action Team, with intern support from DFAIT's Youth International Internship Program.

For more information, contact the YMAAP Secretariat at 613-241-4141 or email: ymaap@sympatico.ca

– Gail Zboch,
YMAAP Program Manager

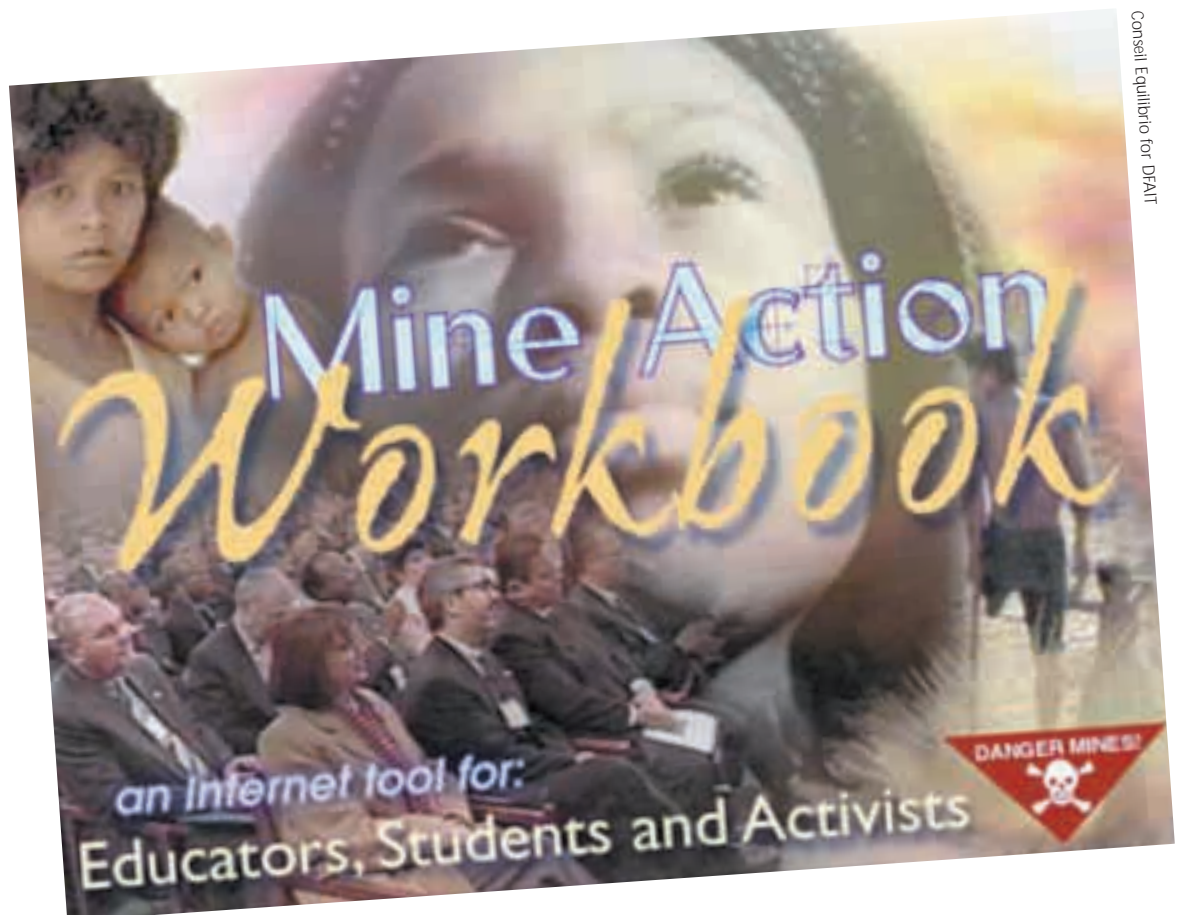
DFAIT launches *Mine Action Workbook*

Students, activists and educators have a new Internet tool for research and learning on the landmine crisis, the AP Mine Ban and the state of mine action. The *Mine Action Workbook* is now available as an interactive and downloadable PDF file through Canada's SchoolNet at www.schoolnet.ca/home/e/resources and DFAIT's SafeLane Web site at www.mines.gc.ca.

This easy-to-use Web resource contains visually appealing

lessons, project and activity ideas for involvement or further research and imbedded links which let users reach out instantly to dozens of agencies and organizations active in the global campaign against landmines.

Designed primarily for secondary school users, the *Mine Action Workbook* will be of interest to anyone involved in advocacy, research or education on the landmine issue.



Conseil Équidario for DFAIT

Check out DFAIT's new Mine Action Workbook at www.mines.gc.ca.

What can I do to help?

Government and NGO representatives working on the landmines issue hear one question from Canadians more often than any other – What can I do to help? Mines Action Canada (MAC) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) think they have an answer. Working together, MAC and DFAIT have established a fund to accept donations from Canadians who want to support Canadian Mine Action programs. The Canadian Landmine Action Fund is jointly managed by MAC and DFAIT. Donations directly support the delivery of Canadian Mine Action programs in the field such as mine clearance and mine victim assistance. **All donations are tax deductible.**

What Can You Do to Help?

Give generously to the Canadian Landmine Action Fund. Please send to:

**The Canadian Landmine Action Fund
Department of Foreign Affairs and
International Trade, Cashiers Office
125 Sussex Dr., Ottawa, ON K1A 0G2**

I'd like to donate \$ _____

Method of payment (please check one)

Cheque (*made out to Canadian Landmine Action Fund and enclosed*)

Visa Mastercard

Card# | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Expiry date | | | | |

Cardholder name: _____

Signature: _____

If you require an official receipt for Canadian Income Tax purposes, please provide the following information:

Full name: _____

Address _____

_____ Postal Code _____



John Rodstied



Mine Action Research Program

A new initiative launched in September is challenging Canadian university students to apply their ideas to the issues surrounding the implementation of the Ottawa Convention.

The *Mine Action Research Program*, a joint initiative of York University's Centre for International and Security Studies and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, is designed to encourage policy relevant academic research in support of Canada's efforts to ensure the universalization and full implementation of the Ottawa Convention.

In mid-November, 10 graduate and senior undergraduate students from Canadian universities were selected to write policy-oriented research papers on key themes related to the Ottawa Convention and the landmine problem. In return, these students will receive cash awards and an invitation to attend a mine action colloquium in Ottawa in May 2000.

Watch for news on the *Mine Action Research Program* in future editions of *SafeLane* and on the *SafeLane* Web site at www.mines.gc.ca

Survive the Peace takes flight

No, no, don't look at the sky, they cannot do you any harm any more from above. Lower your head, because the danger is in your mother earth. If you have survived the war, try to survive the peace!

– *Melisa Dzanovic, Grade 7, Gracania, Bosnia-Herzegovina*

These opening lines to Melisa Dzanovic's 1997 award-winning essay are both poignant and shocking. They reveal the creativity of a wounded soul and the truth that indeed, for some, peace is far more dangerous than war. It is especially dangerous if you are young and full of hope. Melisa has touched the truth.

These lines also form the basis of the Canadian Red Cross community education campaign *Survive the Peace*, now available in communities across Canada.

The campaign's goals are to keep the landmine issue front and centre on the list of global concerns for Canadians – especially young people – and to provide a focus for humanitarian action here and abroad.

The campaign, designed to run at least two years, includes a variety of materials including posters, postcards, stickers, magnets, a newsletter and a community awareness guide, entitled *Surviving Landmines*. More than just a collection of materials, it opens the door to volunteers to make a significant contribution to public understanding of the landmine crisis by coordinating community and school presentations, organizing awareness activities

and promoting overseas projects.

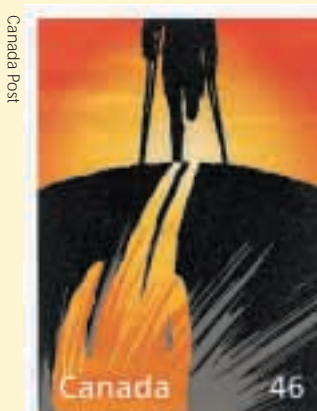
Materials are available at Red Cross offices throughout the country. In larger centres volunteers and staff have been trained as presenters and facilitators. The Red Cross Web site (www.redcross.ca) will soon be revised to have a complete *Survive the Peace* section.

– *David Pardoe, National Education Coordinator Canadian Red Cross*



Canadian Red Cross

Canada Post launches mine ban stamp



Canada Post

One of 68 stamps launched September 15 as part of Canada Post's Millennium Collection, this mine ban stamp is one of the starkest images in a collection intended to represent, according to Canada Post, "a snapshot of what Canada is and how we're seen nationally and around the world." These special stamps are available at Canada Post outlets or by calling 1-800-565-4362.