



CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

OTTAWA CONVENTION SEMINAR

*in cooperation with the German Federal Foreign Office,
Croatian Office for Demining and Croatian Mine Action Centre (CROMAC)*

Dates	23 – 26 October 2012
Venue	RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation
Background	<p>The Ottawa Treaty or the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, officially known as the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, aims to eliminate anti-personnel landmines around the world.</p> <p>Besides ceasing the production and development of anti-personnel mines, Parties to the Treaty must destroy their stockpile of anti-personnel mines as well. The Treaty also calls on States Parties to provide assistance to mine-affected persons in their own country and to provide assistance to other countries in meeting their Mine Ban Treaty obligations.</p> <p>The Mine Ban Treaty is the most comprehensive international instrument for ridding the world of mines. It deals with everything from mine use, production and trade, to victim assistance, mine clearance and stockpile destruction.</p> <p>Mine action involves all the activities aiming to reduce the social, economic and environmental impact of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW).</p>
Purpose & Objectives	<p>The purpose of this seminar is to provide assistance with the implementation of the Ottawa Convention on the regional level in accordance with Article 6 of the Treaty - International Cooperation and Assistance, highlighting scientific and technological information concerning the implementation of the Convention and supporting any efforts with regard to the mine victims assistance.</p> <p>The objectives of the Seminar are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To highlight the specified elements of the Ottawa Convention, underlining specific rules and procedures followed in its execution;• To share the experiences of regional countries in the assistance, care, rehabilitation, social and economic reintegration of mine victims;• To present a podium for the mine affected persons;• To set an example of the effectiveness of national efforts with regard to the mine clearance and the acquisition of financial, technological and human resources required for the implementation of programme;• To outline the exemplary role of the national demining organisations;• To deepen contacts between representatives of various national and international organizations dealing with the implementation of the Ottawa Convention;• To provide the forum for discussion on open issues and future prospects.
Participants	<p>Participants should represent National Mine Action Centres in the SEE, mine action NGOs, other international organizations dealing with mine action, as well as representatives of diplomatic missions and countries which are affected by mines, and representatives of public and private companies that deal with the abovementioned issues.</p> <p>The target participants are also mine victims who are explicitly invited to attend.</p> <p>The seminar also targets the countries which are actively involved as co-operators / supporters in the process of mine destruction.</p>
Methodology	<p>The seminar is designed as a combination of classroom presentations, a field trip and open discussions.</p> <p>The working language will be English. Consecutive Croatian - English interpretation will be provided if necessary.</p>
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