

## MINE ACTION CO-ORDINATION CENTRE – SOUTH LEBANON



مركز التنسيق لنزع الألغام - جنوب لبنان

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### **REPORT OF THE MINE ACTION CO-ORDINATION CENTRE, SOUTH LEBANON for the MONTH OF APRIL 2006**

#### **GENERAL**

1. The DMA Initiative team of MACC SL was able to raise around \$ 15,000 from the fundraising Gala Dinner that was held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April in Beirut to commemorate the first International Day for “Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action”.

#### **National Demining Office**

2. NDO hosted the national standards workshop from 24-28 April. Mr. Phil Bean and Mrs. Vera Bohle from GICHD will assist the NDO in drafting the standards. MACC SL PM and Chief of Ops also participated on 25 and 27 Apr.

#### **UNIFIL, Demining Co-ordination Cell, OGL**

3. UKRBATT were fully repatriated during this month and were replaced with a contingent from China. The MACC SL has recently received a request from UNIFIL to provide support to DCC and CHINBATT for the training and eventual accreditation evaluation of the CHINBATT demining capability. This training will address all issues identified in the Pre-Deployment Visit (PDV) report written by the MACC SL Chief of Operations in Mar 06. The objective of this training will be to fully accredit CHINBATT in accordance with National Technical Standards and Guidelines. It is expected the writing of new SOP's, the re-training and eventual accreditation evaluation of CHINBATT to take eight to ten weeks to complete.
4. The MACC SL continues to provide OGL with close Mine Action Support in regard to IMSMA training and providing up to date mine information.

#### **VISITS/TRAINING**

5. MACC SL PM and Chief of Ops met with UNIFIL Deputy Force Commander and Chief of Ops on the 5th of April to initiate discussions regarding CHINBATT training and accreditation.

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6. On 26<sup>th</sup> April, MACC SL Planning Officer conducted a brief for students from a Norwegian University. The students were interested to know about the work that MACC SL does, and the mine/UXO situation in South Lebanon.

## **PROPOSED AREA 6**

7. The overall area is now broken down into six separate, sub-sectors, that may be operationalised individually or all at once. The new Lebanese government has now begun formal representation to various GCC countries to secure the necessary funding assistance to complete clearance of this remaining mine/UXO contaminated area in South Lebanon.
8. The concept note prepared by MACC SL and UNDP Socio-economic Rehabilitation Programme for South Lebanon for a proposed demining and socio-economic rehabilitation project in South Lebanon supported by the Japanese supported, United Nations Human Security Trust Fund (UNHSTF) has been approved and UN HQ are now working on submission of the full Proposal document. It is hoped to be able to implement this much-needed project in the coming months.

## **OPERATIONAL CAPACITY**

### **Mines Advisory Group (MAG)**

9. MAG clearance teams continue operations in Area 6 with the manual teams working near the villages of Sejoud, and Kfar Roummame. The Minecat flail completed the verification task in Yohmor and is now operational in Sejoud conducting further verification tasks. MAG had a one week block leave period this month for all demining teams to account for the numerous National Holidays.
10. The training of the new DFID funded demining team will commence 2 May 06 and will continue until Wednesday 24 May with accreditation evaluation of this team on Thursday 25 May. MAG will train 20 students on the course and will eventual select 8 deminers for the new team. These 8 deminers will be those students that attained the highest overall results for the entire course.

### **LAF Survey/Sampling Team**

11. The LAF Survey Team continues clearance in the village of Marun Ar Ras adjacent to the Blue Line. This minefield was laid in the 1970's and therefore the pattern has been some what disrupted in the 30+ years. Due to the high contamination of metal in the ground the team conducts clearance by full excavation.

### **Quality Assurance**

12. The MACC SL QA Officers continue with weekly QA evaluations of all clearance sites within the Area of Operations. This currently consists of the LAF Survey Team, the MAG manual clearance teams and the MineCat flail. As CHINBATT has yet to be accredited they are not as yet subjected to QA by

the MACC SL. However once they have passed accreditation they will also undergo routine QA evaluations.

13. Once MAG have completed the planned re-structure of their manual clearance teams they will undergo re-accreditation.

### **Mine/UXO Clearance Statistics**

14. The clearance results for the period under report are as follows:

<b>Clearance Operations Progress In South Lebanon</b>	<b>This Month</b>	<b>Year To Date</b>	<b>Total To Date</b>
Cleared Area/Land - m <sup>2</sup> (see note 1)	<b>6,381</b>	34,535	5,091,988
Hazardous Area, which, as a result of actions other than clearance, is reconsidered not to represent a Risk from mines/UXO – m <sup>2</sup>	<i>Note: There are 28 areas awaiting final confirmation from NDO totalling in 336,000 m<sup>2</sup></i>	0	2,064,000
Total Area released to the community (see note 2)	<b>6,381</b>	34,535	<b>7,155,988</b>
Anti-Personnel Mines Destroyed	<b>44</b>	173	57,013
Anti-Tank Mines Destroyed	<b>6</b>	36	1,744
Unexploded Ordnance Destroyed	<b>15</b>	66	4,576

*Note 1: This is area/land all of which has been physically and systematically processed by a demining organisation to ensure the destruction/removal of all mine/UXO hazards.*

*Note 2: This figure represents the total land released back to the community through either clearance or “actions other than clearance/ cancellation” process.*

### **Public Information**

15. The “DMA Initiative” team of the MACC-SL hosted a Fundraising Gala Dinner in “Le Bristol” hotel dated the 4 April 2006 on the International Day for “Mine Awareness & Assistance for Mine Action”.
16. The event included a promo video, live music/entertainment and a Prize Raffle Draw which succeeded in raising around \$ **15,000 (more than the double amount of money raised on the first event)** that will go directly to assist MAG landmine clearance in Lebanon.
17. Over 300 people attended this Fundraising Gala Dinner. Attendees were International and local business people, companies (Lebanese Canadian Bank, Bridgestone, Fidelity Assurances Lebanon, UFA Assurances...), organizations (Al Waleed Bin Talal Humanitarian Association, ICRC, Rotary Club...), more than 10 of the international Embassies located in Lebanon (Australia, United Kingdom, France, Spain, Japan, US, Korea, Switzerland, Czech, Italy, Canada, Egypt, Nigeria), General Managers (Rige Lebanese des tabacs et tombacs...), UN agencies (PRSG Officers, OGL, UN MACC, UNIFIL, UNDP CTA) and the former NDO (National Demining Office) director Brig.Gen. Salim Raad.

18. The Gala Dinner was highly covered by media outlets. More than 8 articles about the success of the Gala were published on different newspapers other than the TV and the Radio stations coverage.
19. The Media and Post Clearance Officer conducted meetings with the “Beirut International Marathon” Association as part of the process of preparations of “Tyre” International Half Marathon that will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2006 under the theme “Run for Lebanon Free of Mines”.

### **OBJECTIVES FOR THE MONTH UNDER REPORT**

20. The objectives for the month of April 2006 and the activities undertaken in respect of these objectives were as follows:

<b>General:</b>	<b>Activities Undertaken:</b>
Work with NDO to secure funding/donor to support mine/UXO clearance in the proposed Area 6	Ongoing
Work with UNMAS to access UNHSTF funding for Lebanon	Ongoing.. <i>almost complete</i>
Discuss options for training incoming CHINBATT	Ongoing
Attend ISG meeting, 4 Apr	Completed
Draft Qtly Report Jan-Mar 06 (English & Arabic Versions)	Completed
Meet/Brief new MAG manager	Completed
Assist NDO to hold national standards workshop 24-28 Apr	Completed
Draft additional TORs for upcoming evaluation of Lebanon mine action Programme	Completed
<b>Operations:</b>	
Monitor clearance operations in UNIFIL AO	Ongoing
Write Clearance/Survey Plans for targets in Area 6	Ongoing
Monitor current operations within MACC SL AO	Ongoing
QA Monitoring of LAF Sampling/Survey Team, MAG Manual/Mechanical Teams, UKRBAT Manual Teams	Ongoing
Conduct OGL/Liaison Branch Landmine Safety Briefs	Ongoing
Provide OGL with Maps and IMSMA training	Ongoing
Assist CHINBATT with writing SOP's	Ongoing
Assist CHINBATT with Demining Training	Ongoing
Assist CHINBATT with MDD Training	Ongoing
Conduct Orientation Training for new DCC Officers	Ongoing
<b>Administration and Logistics</b>	
Receive and inspect requested demining equipment from UNIFIL	Ongoing
Review and update support SOP's	Ongoing
Prepare and submit budget requirements for UNIFIL budget period 2006 - 2007	Ongoing
Receive requested stationary from UNIFIL	Ongoing

Conduct induction briefs and visits for UN MACC interns	Ongoing
<b>Public Information:</b>	
Conduct the Gala Dinner on the 4 <sup>th</sup> of April	Completed
Follow up after the Gala Dinner	Completed
Preparations & Planning for the Tyr Marathon	Ongoing
Prepare the draft for the MACC SL Newsletter	Ongoing
Prepare Draft of New MACC SL Logo	Ongoing
<b>Information Technology:</b>	
Exploring new digital techniques for automated minefield field data capturing and processing	Ongoing
Installing IMSMA and GIS software and data along with performing training for the various OGL (Observers Group Lebanon) teams operating along the Lebanese – Israeli border in order to enhance their knowledge of the location and status of un-cleared minefields/dangerous areas and clearance operations	Ongoing
Update the DCC IMSMA GIS and Front End	Completed
Update the MAG IMSMA database	Completed
Data entry of completions in OES1-5 as per the lane clearances and assets used as part of the IMSMA database customisation and enhancement	Ongoing
Data entry of new LAF targets in Area 6	Completed
Update the Information Section SWP in order to cope with the extended data entry capabilities and responsibilities of the Ops staff	Ongoing
Coordinate with NCRS over up-to-date geo data	Ongoing
Coordinate with DCC over minefield and clearance information along the border	Ongoing
Updating the UNIFIL military locations/helipads	Completed
Perform database synchronization with the NDO	Completed
Close coordination with the Ops and Plans sections over the confirmation process for the Area 6 targets and the rationalization of the target list	Ongoing

### OBJECTIVES FOR MAY 2006

21. The following are the objectives for May 2006:

<b>General:</b>	<b>Activities Undertaken:</b>
Work with NDO to secure funding/donor to support mine/UXO clearance in the proposed Area 6	
Work with UNMAS to access UNHSTF funding for Lebanon	
Finalise options for training incoming CHINBATT	
PM visit to Kosovo, 4 <sup>th</sup> of May till the 9 <sup>th</sup>	
UNMAS Director, Mr. Max Gaylard visit to Lebanon on the 13 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> of May	
Facilitate GICHD evaluation of Mine Action in Lebanon	

Support SRSA Mine Action Training Course from 20-27 of May	
<b>Operations:</b>	
Monitor clearance operations in UNIFIL AO	
Write Clearance/Survey Plans for targets in Area 6	
Monitor current operations within MACC SL AO	
QA Monitoring of LAF Sampling/Survey Team, MAG Manual/Mechanical Teams	
Conduct OGL/Liaison Branch Landmine Safety Briefs	
Provide OGL with Maps and IMSMA training	
Assist CHINBATT with writing SOP's	
Assist CHINBATT with Demining Training	
Assist CHINBATT with MDD Training	
Conduct Orientation Training for new DCC Officers	
Conduct training for SRSA Officers	
Conduct training for NPA Officers from Jordan Programme	
Conduct briefings for new Director of UNMAS	
Conduct Accreditation of new MAG Demining Team	
<b>Administration and Logistics</b>	
Receive and inspect requested demining equipment from UNIFIL.	
Prepare for the SRSA training course in May.	
Prepare for the UNMAS visit in May.	
Prepare for procurement under the UNIFIL budget for the period 2006/2007.	
Travel arrangements for the PM's travel to Kosovo.	
Review and update support SOP's.	
Prepare and submit budget requirements for UNIFIL budget period 2006 – 2007.	To be completed in May – budget to be submitted to UNIFIL in June 2006.
Prepare equipment requests under the UNIFIL budget.	
Receive requested stationary from UNIFIL.	
Receive requested IT-equipment from UNIFIL.	
Conduct training for UN MACC intern.	
Training of the admin and finance intern.	
Budget for unspent funds to be re-phased by UNOPS to 2006.	In cooperation with UNOPS in New York
Completion of Imprest returns for the month of April.	To be submitted to UNOPS on 5 May
Support in writing of project proposals.	
Review of budget status and reporting to UNOPS on the same.	
Complete inventory of all UN MACC assets.	
Relocation of the UN MACC stationary store.	
Review and update support SOP's.	
<b>Public Information:</b>	
Finalise the preparations for Tyr International Half Marathon	

Organise and Participate in the Marathon Village	
Update and re-new the MACC-SL Website	
Conduct presentations for the Director and Deputy Director of UNMAS	
Prepare the draft for the MACC SL Newsletter	
<b>Information Technology:</b>	
Performing an Information Management/IMSMA presentation for UNMAS delegation	
Update IMSMA/GIS maps throughout the MACC	
Exploring new digital techniques for automated minefield field data capturing and processing (PDA-GPS)	
Performing training on the MACC – Plans database for the plans section	
Installing IMSMA and GIS software and data along with performing training for OGL	
Data entry of completions in OES1-5 as per the lane clearances and assets used as part of the IMSMA database customisation and enhancement	
Update the Information Section SWP	
Coordinate with NCRS over up-to-date geo data.	
Coordinate with DCC over minefield and clearance information along the border	
Updating the UNIFIL military locations/helipads	
Perform database synchronization with the NDO	
Close coordination with the Ops and Plans sections over the confirmation process for the Area 6 targets and the rationalization of the target list	

### **Constraints**

22. At present the following constraints are limiting the scale and effectiveness of the operation:
- a. There are no current operational constraints, although the overall political and security situation in Lebanon remains volatile.

### **Support Required From UNOPS/UNMAS**

23. The following support is requested from UNOPS/UNMAS for May 2006:
- a. UNMAS to ensure that this Monthly Report is posted on E-mine and distributed at HQ as appropriate.
  - b. UNMAS are requested to continue to seek funds to support a demining capability to work in south Lebanon:
    - (1) UNMAS to continue working with UN OCHA regarding the necessary actions/follow up required for the UN Human Security Trust Fund

now that the Concept Note has been agreed/approved.

- (2) UNMAS to advocate for continued support for the mine clearance programme in South Lebanon.
- c. UNOPS to provide copies of BRIO reports for the year of 2006 through the month of April and confirm outstanding balances/re-phasing amounts available.
- d. UNOPS to complete re-phasing of any unspent funds from 2005.

**Support Required from the Office of the PRSG**

- 24. The following continued support is requested, for the UN Component of MACC SL, from the Office of the Personal Representative of the Secretary General in Lebanon during May 2006:
  - a. Continued overall political guidance regarding the mine action programme and future intentions. *(Note that the mandate of the PRSG now covers all of Lebanon)*

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