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Annual Report

on the
Work of the
Geneva International
Centre for Humanitarian
Demining

2004

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INTRODUCTION

For the mine action community, the year 2004 was a period of both looking forwards and backwards, and the Nairobi Summit provided the framework for such reflections. Five years after the entry into force of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, it was concluded that much had been achieved, but at the same time, still much more must be done on the way to a mine free world. This is also valid for the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD).

Looking back in 2004, the GICHD produced a mid-term “Review Report on the Implementation of the GICHD Strategy 2003-2005”. This review confirmed that the main objective of the Centre’s Council of Foundation – to respond quickly to the demands of mine affected countries, international and UN partners, donor countries and NGOs – is still valid. The most important yardstick to measure the success of the GICHD has been a high demand from partners for services and a constant pipeline of operational and research projects, financed by them, on the basis of their trust in the professional excellence of the Centre.

In the same year, an external evaluation reviewed the work of the GICHD and raised some critical questions, mainly in regard to the composition of the Council of Foundation, the relationship of the GICHD with operational NGO partners and the relevance of the Centre’s work for field operations. This report and the lessons learned from the current strategy, will help shape the Centre’s 2006-08 strategy, as has been requested by the Council of Foundation. The challenge for the GICHD to remain at the forefront of the mine action world and to serve as a useful tool continues to be high.

As a result of a heavy focus in 2004 on the first Review Conference/Nairobi Summit, the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) of the GICHD had to respond to a dramatically increased number of requests for support from the Presidency of the Fifth Meeting of the States Parties, the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committees, individual States Parties and, in particular, from the President-designate of the First Review Conference in preparation for the Conference and numerous regional events beforehand. The ISU handled this additional work load with efficiency and enthusiasm and the Centre was widely appreciated for its efforts at the First Review Conference.

However, the bulk of the work of the GICHD in 2004 remained in the field of its operational assistance to field programmes, including mine action information management, technical assistance and evaluation, as well as applied research activities. The Centre produced a number of publications and decided to make the distribution of publications more efficient by printing only smaller handbooks and reports in future, and to make larger and more complex studies only available electronically. This new policy takes into account the needs of the field, is more cost effective, but can be adapted to wishes of donors and clients.

In the field of information management, the 40th installation of the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) took place in Mauritania. At the same time, based on the 2003 review of IMSMA, the GICHD decided to re-engineer the IMSMA software, and this commenced with a preparatory phase (competitive bidding process, development of detailed technical specifications and establishment of a work plan). The re-engineered software will contain improvements designed to reduce and simplify system maintenance tasks and

make it more user-friendly, with the objective to optimize it as the comprehensive information management tool for mine action centres and governments.

The work of the Centre on standards saw a major review of all International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), which are developed by the GICHD on behalf of UNMAS. On the basis of this comprehensive review, a new CD-ROM and complementary documents will be produced in early 2005. In order to make IMAS more accessible and widely applied, a "Guide to the IMAS" was published in early 2004, and a large number of training activities took place. One of the main objectives of the training packages developed by GICHD is to enable mine affected countries to establish, based on IMAS, their own national mine action standards. Consistent with this objective, support was provided to Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Mozambique.

Several studies relating to mechanical demining equipment, insurance and accidents were published and supported by outreach activities. Technical assistance continued in the field of mine dog detection, socio-economic aspects of mine action, national mine action legislation and mine risk reduction education (MRE). A guide to improving communication in mine risk education programmes was published. The Centre gave advice to national authorities and international fora, and looked into new technological developments thanks to its technology officer project.

In 2004, work on a handbook on mine action evaluations continued and a number of project and programme evaluations were undertaken or started. For the first time, two of these evaluations were based on an invitation of UNOPS but linked to a competitive tendering selection process.

Research activities continued in the fields of mechanical and manual mine clearance, mine dog detection methods, socio-economic development, mine risk education and possible synergies with small arms and light weapons. However, a clear trend is visible for a less prominent role of large scale research in the work programme of the GICHD in favour of practical application and implementation of the result in the daily work of mine action.

The GICHD continued to support instruments of international law, especially through the work of its ISU, and by administering the Sponsorship Programme. The Centre also provided technical advice to the CCW and published in 2004, on the invitation of the German and US Governments, a study on the humanitarian impact of mines other than anti-personal mines (MOTAPMs). This report was presented to the CCW in November 2004.

An important step in its relations with the UN system was the conclusion of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with UNMAS. The MoU provides a solid basis for on-going co-operation. In addition, the existing memorandum of understanding with UNDP was extended for an additional year.

The financial basis of the Centre remains sound and it continues to enjoy strong donor support, but resource mobilization continues to be a central task in order to be able to finance specific tasks and projects.

2004 saw the change of the Director of the GICHD in mid-August. The year was busy with events leading to the first Review Conference and culminated in the Nairobi Action Plan for the next five years of the Ottawa Convention. This and

other challenges ahead (new strategy for the Centre, reshaping of the advisory board, implementation of the recommendation of the external evaluation) will continue to put pressure on the Centre to remain small, lean and flexible in order to remain relevant and to reach the objectives of its founders and its Council of Foundation in the future.

Geneva, 17 March 2005

Amb. Stephan Nellen,
Director

GENERAL OVERVIEW

1. In implementing the Strategy 2003-05 adopted by the Council of Foundation in late 2002, the Centre focussed on operational assistance activities, including mine action information management, standardisation, socio-economic outreach activities, evaluation and technical assistance missions. In addition, an on-going set of research activities were undertaken. The GICHD also continued to facilitate the work of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, which was marked in 2004 by the Nairobi Summit in November/ December.

OPERATIONAL ASSISTANCE

2. A first core activity of the GICHD is the provision of specific operational support and assistance to on-going mine action activities and programmes, including those run by the UN.

3. The Centre is active in the fields of information management, standardisation, technical assistance and training, evaluation, and the facilitation of the exchange of information by providing discussion fora, such as the annual Meeting of Mine Action Programme Directors and Advisors.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR MINE ACTION (IMSMA)

4. Information management is a key element for success in humanitarian demining. In order to facilitate the collection and handling of relevant information and to support planning and decision making processes at field programme level, the GICHD provides the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA). Based on standard computer technology, IMSMA covers the information gathering, data storage, mapping and analysis needs of mine action centres in the field. In addition, IMSMA facilitates the setting of priorities for future clearance operations, mine risk education (MRE) activities, etc.

5. User feedback, new developments in hardware and software technology, and other factors led the GICHD to review the IMSMA project carefully and critically in late 2003. As a result of this process, the Centre decided that a comprehensive **re-engineering of the IMSMA software** needed to be undertaken. The re-engineered IMSMA will incorporate a modular system architecture and contain improvements designed to reduce and simplify system maintenance tasks. These updates will be complimented by a new user interface and a new data collection philosophy, which will better accommodate the reporting based on

As of 31 December 2004, IMSMA is installed in the following 40 programmes:

Africa

Angola, Burundi, Chad, Congo (DRC), Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somaliland, Sudan, Western Sahara (MINURSO), Zambia, UNMEE (TSZ).

Americas

Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica (by OAS), Ecuador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru.

Asia

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand.

Europe

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina (National Impact Survey), Cyprus (UNFICYP), Estonia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Russian Federation (Chechnya, Ingushetia, Northern Ossetia).

Middle East

Iraq, Lebanon (NDO and UNIFIL), Yemen.

Training versions

France, Switzerland, UK, US.

communities, locations and hazards, rather than following the current strict process based orientation. All of these updates and changes are based on the input of field users.

6. In 2004, the re-engineering project focused on the development of detailed technical specifications and a work plan reflecting the user requirements previously collected from the field. The result of this process will be reviewed in early January 2005. This will be followed by a critical design review and the delivery of a system prototype for field testing in mid-2005. The project is progressing on schedule and within budget. Funding for the development of IMSMA and the IMSMA re-engineering project is provided by the Swiss Government.

7. **Translation work** for both the IMSMA software and user manuals was completed in French, Portuguese, Spanish, and Russian. It has been decided to place any further translation work on hold pending the first release of software under the IMSMA re-engineering project. The re-engineered system will be developed with an integrated language localisation capability and contain support for operations in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian and Arabic. Funding for translation is provided by Switzerland and the UK.

8. During the reporting period, the GICHD carried out the following IMSMA training courses:

- a) An **“Introduction to IMSMA Course”**, conducted under the NATO Partnership for Peace (PfP) framework, was held in Geneva in early May. The goal of the course was to provide an overview of the uses of IMSMA as an information management system;
- b) An **“Operations Module Course”** was conducted in Ethiopia during late May. Feedback from the course provided the IMSMA training team with further information on the areas requiring training support at the field level;
- c) The second **“IMSMA Summer Workshop”**, which took place in Geneva in early July, focused on the use of IMSMA by the operations cells of mine action programmes in the field. The following mine action programmes using IMSMA were represented by the operations officer or equivalent: Albania, Chile, Croatia, Ecuador, Eritrea, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Kosovo, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Peru, Sri Lanka, and Thailand;
- d) An **“Introduction to IMSMA Administration Course”** was conducted in Geneva in July. The aim of this course was to build local capacity with regard to the administration of the IMSMA system;
- e) Following a request from the Thai Mine Action Centre (TMAC), an **“Introduction to Operations Course”** focussing on information and map analysis took place in August;
- f) A course on **“Incorporation of IMSMA into Peace Support Operations”**, conducted under the PfP framework, was held in Geneva in October. The goal of the course was to provide an overview of the operational uses of information management generally, and IMSMA as an information management tool, within peace support operations.

Other on-site training is carried out by the Regional Support Centres (see para. 12 et sqq. below).

HAND-HELD FIELD DATA COLLECTION

9. In 2003, the Centre developed the Mine Action Extensible Mark-up Language (maXML) Registry which allows easy data transfer processes between members of the mine action community, other interested parties and domains outside of mine action.

10. The **Hand-held Field Data Collection Tool Project** is a joint-venture between the Swedish EOD and Demining Centre (SWEDEC) and the GICHD. Based on standard hand-held computer equipment, it provides a tool for technical survey data collection. This data can directly be inserted in the IMSMA system in use in the relevant country, as the data transfer process is based on the maXML Registry.

11. A series of field tests of the hand-held field data collection tool were carried out in 2004 in Albania, Chile, Ecuador, and Peru. These field tests indicated that the tool is meeting or exceeding expectations in all areas. Plans call for the expansion of the test to at least one additional location during early 2005. The GICHD funds the work for this project from contributions received from Switzerland and the UK. The development of the handheld device itself and the field data collection software is funded by SWEDEC.

REGIONAL SUPPORT CENTRES (RSCs)

12. Information management is a crucial process required for the general success of a mine action programme in the field. The extent to which programmes are able to incorporate basic information management tools and techniques into their daily operations is the key to making this process work effectively. The Centre provides direct technical and operational support to information management in the field through the deployment of its network of four Regional Support Centres (RSCs) and regional support representatives.

13. The RSCs provide first level user support, assist mine action centres in reviewing their internal information management processes as well as their information exchange and communication procedures, and with general support to information management. The RSCs also organise regional user focus group meetings, training courses, and facilitate general contacts between interested countries and the GICHD. Each RSC is staffed with one person.

14. During the reporting period, and besides routine work within the framework indicated above, the RSCs focussed on the following topics in particular:

Area of Responsibility of the Regional Support Centres (RSC):

RSC Latin America

(Established: Jan. 2002 in Managua, Nicaragua)
Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru, and Suriname.
Special contacts with the US and the OAS.

RSC Europe/Central Asia

(Established: Jan. 2003 in Geneva)
Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Kosovo, Macedonia, the Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Tajikistan, and Ukraine.
Special contacts with the International Trust Fund (ITF) and the South-East Europe Mine Action Co-ordination Council (SEEMACC).

RSC Africa

(Established: April 2003 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)
Angola, Chad, Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Zambia.
Special contacts to the African Union (AU).

RSC Northern Africa/Middle East

(Established: September 2003 in Beirut, Lebanon)
Eritrea, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Pakistan, Puntland, Somaliland, Sudan, Western Sahara, and Yemen.
Special contacts with the African Union (AU).

- a) Assistance, deployment, training and set-up of the field tests of the hand-held field data collection tool (see para. 10 above);
- b) Assistance to internal programme review workshops in Colombia designed to help define programme goals and objectives as well as the operational perspective of the national authorities;
- c) Processing and distribution of public domain satellite imagery to IMSMA projects supporting Chechnya, Chile, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Western Sahara, as well as border areas of Ecuador and Peru;
- d) Processing of digital elevation models of the border area of Ecuador and Peru;
- e) Provision of assistance on the integration and development of public domain digital map products covering a large part of the national territory of Tajikistan;
- f) Assistance to mine action programmes in Guatemala and Nicaragua preparing for mine information management processes once demining operation decrease.

15. Cambodia, Sri Lanka and Thailand are currently supported from the GICHD office in Geneva. IMSMA support activities in this region do not currently justify the establishment of a full time RSC covering South-East and East Asia. Based upon activity levels and available funding, the establishment of an RSC for this region will be periodically reviewed.

16. The Swiss Government provides funding for the existing RSCs and for the provision of support and assistance to IMSMA users in mine-affected countries. The UK Government financed the acquisition of a standard RSC training support equipment package for field use.

STANDARDISATION

INTERNATIONAL MINE ACTION STANDARDS (IMAS)

17. The International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) are prepared by the GICHD under a mandate from UNMAS. IMAS provide practitioners with an updated and revised framework of technical and procedural prescriptions for safe and effective mine action. A group of five new IMAS were endorsed by the UN in February 2004. A total of 38 IMAS have been endorsed so far.

18. Following the IMAS Review Board meeting of 19 March 2004, membership of the Board was increased to take into account better representation from the new programmes and organisations that have been established since the original review mechanism was put in place. Details on the Review Board and its composition can be found at www.mineactionstandards.org.

19. During the reporting period, a major **review of all IMAS** has been completed. Those IMAS requiring minor changes have been published on the above-mentioned website. 14 IMAS with substantive changes were circulated to the Review Board prior to revision. A new CD-ROM and complementary documents will be produced in early 2005.

20. Work continued on the **development of new IMAS** as follows:

- a) The IMAS on contracts has been submitted to the Review Board;
- b) The IMAS on national programmes and projects is under review;
- c) The IMAS on mechanical equipment is being drafted according to recommendations of the specialist User Focus Group;
- d) The IMAS on evaluation is to follow completion of the GICHD Evaluation Study;
- e) The IMAS on training has been suspended, pending a training needs analysis study being developed by UNMAS.

21. The overall objective of the **IMAS Outreach Programme** is to assist mine affected countries in establishing their own National Mine Action Standards (NMAS) based on the application of IMAS. Following a request from Afghanistan for support in preparation of NMAS, the GICHD assisted with the preparation of a comprehensive first draft in December. In addition, the NMAS of Sri Lanka and Mozambique were reviewed by the Centre.

22. The publication **“A Guide to the IMAS”** (ISBN 2-88487-027-X) became available in early 2004. It was considered as an interim publication relating to the IMAS 2003 plus the IMAS on mine risk education (MRE). A new edition, along with the IMAS 2005 CD-ROM, will become available in early 2005.

23. In order to enable the preparation of training for quality management, information related to post clearance sampling methods has been gathered from all UN programmes via UNMAS. This information will also help to expand examples described in the IMAS on the inspection of cleared land (IMAS 09.20).

24. **IMAS Training** can include an introductory presentation, detailed courses on the content of IMAS, and courses on the application of IMAS to national standards. During the reporting period, the following training activities took place:

- a) An IMAS application course was provided, with the assistance of the Swedish Rescue Service Agency (SRSA), to international personnel involved with mine dog detection (MDD) activities and quality assurance in March;
- b) A briefing on IMAS was provided to a NATO ad-hoc working group on small arms and light weapons and mine action, in March;
- c) A series of briefings were given during the 7th International Meeting of Programme Directors and Advisors (see para. 56 below);
- d) Presentations were provided to a NATO EOD Staff Officers Course during June;
- e) Presentations were provided to the Global EOD Forum annual conference in the UK in June;
- f) Briefings were given to the Cranfield mine action senior management course in the UK in August;
- g) Presentations were provided to the UNDP senior management course at James Madison University (JMU) in October;
- h) The mechanical studies consultants group was briefed in December.

25. IMAS-related activities are funded from contributions received from the UK, the Czech Republic, and Finland.

PROVISION OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION

26. The GICHD disseminates **Technical Notes for Mine Action (TNMA)**. TNMAs are advisory documents designed to accompany or supplement the IMAS series, or act as an independent source of information. TNMAs provide principles, advice and information relevant to a specific IMAS or a technical topic. TNMAs are advisory and are based on the best available current practises, field feedback and technical information. TNMAs can be obtained through the following websites: *www.mineaction.org* and *www.gichd.ch*. This activity of the Centre is financed by the UK.

27. The Centre published its twelfth TNMA during the reporting period: TNMA 10.10 covers aspects of safety drawn from lessons learnt from demining accident investigations conducted as part of the DDAS project (see para. 31 below).

28. The 2004 version of the **Mechanical Demining Equipment Catalogue** was published in January (ISBN 2-88487-026-1). The aim of these catalogues is to inform the field-based mine clearance community about the choice of machines currently, or potentially available, on the international market. This catalogue is requested by UNMAS and funded by Germany.

29. In 2003, the Centre published the first edition of the **Metal Detector Catalogue** (ISBN 2-88487-009-1). This publication explains the operating functions of metal detectors and provides technical specifications. A second – updated – version of this catalogue is currently being prepared and will become available in early 2005. This project is also funded by Germany.

30. The **“Guide on Insurance for Mine Action Operators”** (ISBN 2-88487-033-4) published in 2004 provides information for decision making on this subject, including personal accident insurance, public liability, residual liability and renewal of insurance. The work was requested by UNOPS and funded by the UK.

31. The **Database for Demining Accident Reporting System (DDAS) Project** aims to establish and update a system of accident review and analysis, in conjunction with UNMAS. In 2004, the system became available in a full version as well as in one where data has been made anonymous. This project is funded by the UK.

32. The publication entitled **“A Study of Mechanical Application in Demining”** (ISBN 2-88487-023-7) looks in detail into mechanical demining approaches with a view to increasing the future efficiency of demining operations. The study found that greater use could be made of machines, particularly for area reduction and ground preparation. The study was requested by UNMAS and funded by Norway, Sweden, and the UK.

New GICHD publications on technical information in 2004:

A Guide to the IMAS
(ISBN 2-88487-027-X)

Mechanical Demining Equipment Catalogue 2004
(ISBN 2-88487-026-1)

Guide on Insurance for Mine Action Operators
(ISBN 2-88487-033-4)

A Study of Mechanical Application in Demining
(ISBN 2-88487-023-7)

33. During the reporting period, the outreach activities on the above-mentioned study included briefings given to interested governmental agencies, NGOs, and other organisations in Denmark, Germany, Norway, Sweden, and the UK. In a separate mission, different UN organisations were briefed, including UNMAS, UNDP, UNOCHA and UNICEF.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

MINE DOG DETECTION (MDD)

34. The use of Mine Dog Detection (MDD) has become a common methodology and over 25 organisations use mine dogs worldwide. MDD can be a fast and efficient tool if implemented correctly. The use of animals for scent detection is, however, complex and difficult. History has shown that the use of dogs can become a costly and frustrating burden beyond what demining organisations are willing to risk, and MDD was discredited when expectations were not met. For this reason, the GICHD started its MDD programme in 2000.

35. Animal detection has continued to be an area of concentration in 2004, and focus shifted from generic sector support to providing tailor-made support to country programmes. The Cambodia Mine Action Centre (CMAC) and the Mine Dog Centre (MDC) in Afghanistan are two examples of the Centre's activities in this field: Both programmes are among the largest MDD programmes in the world.

36. In the **Afghanistan Mine Dog Project**, the GICHD carries out external quality control of the Remote Explosive Scent Tracing (REST) programme in this country. This activity led to one major evaluation of the Mechem REST programme MEDDS and several subsequent quality assurance missions in 2004. In addition, the Centre was asked to set up a comprehensive support package to the free running dog programme of MDC. Both activities will continue throughout 2005. This project is requested by UNMAS.

37. At the request of the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), the GICHD continued with the **SIDA PAT Project** that consists of regular monitoring of CMAC, its MDD programme, and the wider mine action sector in Cambodia. During the reporting period, two evaluation missions (April and November) were carried out, and results were discussed with SIDA, CMAC, and other interested partners.

38. At the request of Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), the GICHD continued to provide regular technical support to the **NPA REST Programme in Angola**. This assistance aimed to allow NPA to get its programme fully operational by late 2004, and to further the Centre's research in this area. After a detailed evaluation in 2004, the GICHD submitted recommendations for an implementation plan and draft SOPs. In addition, the goal of establishing a reliable REST analysis centre was achieved.

39. The **MDD Standards Implementation and Support Committee (SISC)** aims to help national mine action authorities, mine action centres and demining organisations with the implementation of international standards and guidelines for MDD. During the reporting period, the GICHD carried out support for the implementation of the IMAS 09.40 series to UNMAPA in Afghanistan. The

first step in this process has been to establish a function for test and accreditation of dogs and handlers. The UNDP mine action office in Sri Lanka has been supported in the development of national standards for the use of MDD. In addition, the development of national standards for Cambodia was assisted, as well as development of a national accreditation standard for mine detecting rats in Mozambique and the MDD programme in Afghanistan. This project is funded by contributions to the GICHD MDD Research Programme received from Norway, Sweden, the UK, and UNMAS.

40. The study entitled “**Training of Mine Detection Dogs in Bosnia and Herzegovina**” (ISBN 2-88487-034-2) published in 2004 provides a descriptive account of the methodologies and techniques used by the NPA Training Centre. The study was funded by the UK.

41. In order to facilitate the understanding of the various study results, the GICHD produced three films on MDD, which will become available in early 2005.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND MINE RISK EDUCATION

42. Within the framework of **assistance provided to the Colombian Government** in establishing its mine action process, four support missions have been conducted, including two staff development trainings and one assessment mission. The final mission from the original agreement between the Swiss Government and the Centre was conducted in July 2004. The mission specifically addressed the establishment of national mine risk education (MRE) standards, an accreditation framework and strategic planning for the coming years. This project was commissioned by Switzerland.

**New GICHD publications
on mine dog detection and
mine risk education in
2004:**

Training of Mine Detection
Dogs in Bosnia and Herzego-
vina
(ISBN 2-88487-034-2)

A Guide to Improving Com-
munication in Mine Risk Edu-
cation Programmes
(ISBN 2-88487-022-9)

43. Based on the study on the development of national mine action legislation published in 2003 (ISBN 2-88487-014-8), a training module has been developed to facilitate the **development of national legislation regarding landmines**. During the reporting period, training has been conducted in Iraq, and the Centre provided advice to Afghanistan and Azerbaijan.

44. In conjunction with UNDP, a series of **Socio-Economic Workshops** were designed to give an overview of the GICHD Socio-Economic Study in a practical, user focused environment. The five day courses stress the use of socio-economic approaches to planning, assessing and managing mine action programmes. They are aimed at the senior management level of national mine action programmes.

- a) The first regional training workshop on the socio-economic aspects of mine action was held in Amman in March. The workshop was hosted by the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation (NCDR) of Jordan. 22 representatives from six countries attended;
- b) A second workshop was conducted in Sarajevo in May for representatives of mine action programmes from the Balkans, Caucuses and Central Asia.

- c) The third workshop took place in Bangkok in October for representatives of mine action programmes from Afghanistan, Cambodia, Iran, Laos, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.

45. Within the **mine risk education outreach activities**, the Centre carried out the following workshops during the reporting period:

- a) A four day workshop for the Ethiopian Mine Action Authority (EMAO) focused on designing an MRE programme for non-literate populations. Participation included staff from the Ethiopian Government, Regional Tigrayan Government, local NGOs and the UN. This course was conducted in April;
- b) A five day workshop requested by the Iraqi National Mine Action Authority (INMAA) was designed to establish a basic strategic planning framework for MRE. It took place in April;
- c) A two day workshop on the development of National MRE Standards for Sri Lanka, convened at the request of UNICEF Sri Lanka, assisted the Sri Lankan National Authority to develop National MRE Standards based on the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). This course took place in July;
- d) A two day mine action introduction course for the Jordanian NDRC focussed on the five mine action pillars, information management, as well as on the role of the military and of the UN. This course was conducted in July;
- e) A four day workshop for UNICEF Nepal focussed on developing a proper needs assessment, data analysis and strategic planning. This workshop was attended by major UN agencies, national and international NGOs active in Nepal. This course took place in July;
- f) Based on the results established in April, an MRE training course for the Iraqi Government MRE staff was carried out in August;
- g) A four day workshop for the Somaliland Mine Action Centre (SMAC) focused on developing a proper needs assessment, data analysis and strategic planning. Participation included the Somaliland Government, Regional Government, local NGOs and the UN. This workshop took place in August;
- h) A five day workshop for INMAA focused on developing a proper needs assessment, data analysis and strategic planning. Participation included the Iraqi Government, Regional Government, local NGOs and the UN. This course took place in October;
- i) At the request of the Swedish Rescue Services Agency (SRSA), a MRE training course for SRSA, SWEDEC, and the Swedish Armed Forces mine action personnel was carried out in December;
- j) A staff development training course took place at the request of Handicap International in France in December.

46. The publication **“A Guide to Improving Communication in Mine Risk Education Programmes”** (ISBN 2-88487-022-9) became available, which is based on the principle that creative communication will enhance the effectiveness of MRE and takes into account the adoption of international standards on MRE within the IMAS framework.

47. All activities reported in this section were funded by contributions received from Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK and from private contributions.

TECHNOLOGY APPLICATION

48. The **Technology Officer Project**, funded by Canada, aims to provide an interface between field users and the research and development communities. During the reporting period, the Centre was active in the field of technology application as follows:

- a) Provision of advice to the International Test and Evaluation Programme (ITEP) on priorities and content in their work plan document and review meetings;
- b) Assistance in the development of the European Standards (CEN) Workshop Agreement for the test and evaluation of mechanical demining equipment;
- c) Provision of advice for the trial of Japanese developed multi sensor detection systems in Afghanistan;
- d) Publication – in collaboration with UNMAS – of the first edition of the “Technology Bulletin” which highlights technology developments of interest to the mine action community;
- e) Transfer of the European Demining (EUDEM) Technical Website to the GICHD Website. This website features articles/contributions of a detailed technical nature;
- f) Participation in the planning and execution of a major test and evaluation project of a detector for use in Laos. This project was requested by UNDP and UXO Lao, to provide technical input for the procurement of replacement detectors in Laos. A final report was submitted in December.

The focus of the **Technology Officer Project** is

- on the review of appropriate technologies and the requirements of mine action;
- on providing advice on priorities for test and evaluation of equipment;
- on assistance to test and evaluation efforts being undertaken in mine-affected countries; and
- on providing outreach on equipment requirements, capabilities and limitations.

ADVISORY SERVICES

49. During the reporting period, the GICHD:

- a) Provided advice to the Finnish military representatives to the CCW in February;
- b) Briefed the OSCE workshop on anti-personnel mines and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) in March;
- c) Participated at the Nordic Demining Research Forum (NDRF) workshop in Norway in March;
- d) Provided input to the Cranfield Senior Mine Action Managers Course in June;
- e) Presented a paper entitled “Post-Conflict Transformative Reconstruction and Reconciliation: The Role of Information Management” at the International Conference on Politics and Information Systems in Florida in July;
- f) Provided a briefing at the EUDEM conference in Brussels in September;
- g) Hosted the management meeting of the European Standards Working Group looking at Mine Action (CEN WG 126), at which the work plan was reviewed and progress of the various workshop agreement working groups was assessed;
- h) Provided input to the JMU Senior Managers Course in October;

- i) Briefed the UN Programme Directors and Advisors, the Survey Working Group and the Mine Action Steering Committee on the re-engineering of IMSMA in Sarajevo in November;
- j) Assessed the MRE needs, problems and interventions in Nepal at the request of UNICEF in November.

EVALUATION

50. At the request of the **German Government**, the Centre evaluated German-funded mine action programmes in the Balkans and Vietnam.

51. A preparatory mission to Paris took place in late 2004, to assess the needs and requirements of the **French Government** which plans to task the Centre to evaluate mine action projects in Mozambique and Cambodia in early 2005.

52. In a competitive tender process of UNOPS, the GICHD was selected to carry out the **Evaluation of the Mine Action Co-ordination Centre of the United Nations Mission in Eritrea and Ethiopia (UNMEE)**. The relevant field work was executed in October and November, followed by visits to key donors and troop contributing countries. The presentation of the final report is scheduled for early 2005.

53. In November, the GICHD submitted a proposal in response to a competitive tender issued by UNOPS for the **Review of Ten Years Assistance to Mine Action in Mozambique**, and was awarded the contract.

GENERAL INFORMATION

54. The second print of the English edition of the publication **“A Guide to Mine Action”** became available in January, together with the French and Spanish versions. This Guide provides a basic grounding in the key aspects of mine action to diplomats, donors, practitioners and scholars. The book reflects current realities in a fast-developing humanitarian sector. It serves as an information resource that can assist in decision-making, programme planning and research. Versions in Arabic and Russian were prepared in 2004 and will become available in early 2005. These publications are funded by the Swiss Government.

Guide to Mine Action

English version:
ISBN 2-88487-021-0

French version:
ISBN 2-88487-015-6

Spanish version:
ISBN 2-88487-016-4

Versions in Arabic and Russian will become available in early 2005.

55. A two day training course entitled **“Introduction to Mine Action”** was held in early November within the NATO PfP framework, involving 16 participants from twelve countries. The course provided key knowledge to civil servants newly involved in the landmine issue. Participants from respective ministries and from the field were introduced to the different areas of mine action. This course was funded by Switzerland and the UK.

56. The 7th International Meeting of Mine Action Programme Directors and Advisors, organised by UNMAS and the GICHD, took place in March. This meeting was attended by representatives of mine-affected countries, UN agencies, the World Bank, NGOs and observers. The 165 participants discussed topics like the role of impact assessments as a basis for national planning, measuring the impact of mine action interventions, and the importance of mine action in peace-keeping operations. In addition, the preparation of national plans to ensure compliance with the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention in view of the up-coming Review Conference was reviewed.

57. The meeting also provided donor countries with an opportunity to meet and hold discussions directly with the programme directors responsible for mine action programmes in mine-affected countries.

58. Besides its technical and logistical input, the GICHD also covered travel and accommodation costs of 52 participants from 30 UN-supported national mine action programmes.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

MECHANICAL AND MANUAL MINE CLEARANCE

59. After the publication of the “Study of Mechanical Application in Demining” (see para. 32 above), the GICHD shifted the focus of its research work in this field to the practical use of mechanical systems and management of mechanised operations. As a result, a series of new sub-studies were started during the reporting period. This “second phase” of the mechanical study work was requested by UNMAS and is funded by Norway, Sweden and the UK:

The Centre undertakes a series of **research projects** with the aim of improving quality, and to make mine action safer and more cost-effective. The results of these research projects form the basis for specific recommendations and guidelines for dissemination to the field in the form of special handbooks, training

- a) The project “**Management of Mechanical Systems**” aims to design a software tool to help programme managers establish specific causes why their mechanical assets might not be performing at optimum productivity. The software will incorporate the previously published Cost Effectiveness Model (CEMOD), and a data collection system for the recording of mechanical clearance data. During the reporting period, research was carried out in Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Thailand and the UK;
- b) The **Study on the Use of Anti-Mine Rollers in Mechanical Demining** will look at the best uses for rollers. Considering their relatively low purchase and maintenance costs, rollers are an attractive option for demining practitioners who are not prepared to spend huge sums on a tiller or flail system. Guidance on purchasing and fitting of rollers will also be given. During the reporting period, research was conducted in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Thailand, the UK and the US;

- c) The study “**Magnets: A Tool for Mechanical Demining**” is motivated by the conclusion of the “Study of Mechanical Application in Demining”, which indicated that of all the obstacles faced by a manual deminer, the most time consuming to remove from within a lane are scrap metal fragments. Tests demonstrated that with the addition of a simple magnet, over 80 % of metal fragments can be removed prior to manual demining. The study on magnets will provide practical advice on the purchase and application of magnets to existing models of mechanical demining system. During the reporting period, research has been conducted in Sweden, Thailand and the UK;
- d) The study “**Mechanical Assistance: Residual Munitions Hazard**” investigates possible circumstances where machines might leave residual hazards, and to determine if they add further risk to subsequent clearance activities carried out by manual deminers and dog teams. During the reporting period, research work has been carried out in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Croatia, South Africa, and the UK;
- e) The study “**Mechanical Application in Route Verification**” looks into route clearance practices used to quickly demine routes and open them for essential supplies transports. Research work took place in South Africa;
- f) The study “**The Environmental Effects of Mechanical Application in Demining**” investigates cases where significant environmental damage from machine use has occurred, the nature of such damage, and ways of avoiding damage in the first place, as well as the amelioration of damage if it has been inflicted. This study was started in autumn 2004.

60. The **Study on Manual Mine Clearance** aims to address efficiency and cost-effectiveness of manual demining. Three specific areas are currently being analysed: risk, management, and costings. The study has been requested by UNMAS and is financed by Finland and the UK. A working draft document has been produced, and final results are scheduled for mid-2005.

MINE DOG DETECTION (MDD)

61. The **REST test and licensing methodology development project** aims at developing a methodology that can be used when carrying out quality assurance and test/licensing of REST projects. In 2004, the GICHD developed a methodology which is currently being tested in Afghanistan and Angola. The project is funded by the UK.

62. The **REST Area Reduction Application Project** will optimise the REST concept already used for road verification. It also aims to establish if it could be applied as an area reduction tool. Tests carried out throughout 2004 suggest that the use of REST for area reduction poses

Remote Explosive Scent Tracing (REST) is a process of taking scent from a source for remote analysis. The scent is obtained by using a pump to draw air containing scent or particles from the soil surface through an absorbent filter. Filters are analysed remotely using specially trained dogs or rats, or other natural or artificial odour sensing system.

REST has the advantage of determining areas with no mine/UXO contamination. Recent study results showed that more than 97% of all land cleared upon indication of mine/UXO contamination in 15 countries turned out to be free of mines/UXOs. This result substantiates the potential for REST as an efficient land release method.

several challenges not anticipated in the past. This project is funded by Norway, Sweden, and the UK.

63. The **Rat REST Project** aims to explore the use of rats as mine detection technology. Current work focuses on filter technology, sampling procedures, and environmental conditions during sampling. This project is carried out in conjunction with APOPO. A group of APOPO free running rats was tested by the GICHD in 2004 (IMAS licensing). The test results allowed APOPO to become operational with their animals in Mozambique. This project is funded by Norway and Sweden.

64. In the **REST Research Project**, the GICHD aims to optimise scent trapping during sampling, release during analysis, and to prevent scent loss and cross contamination during storage and transportation. Although this project is on-going, the 2004 results have led to the development of both a new filter material and storage containers for the REST programme in Angola.

65. The **Mine Flux Rate Project** determined the leakage rate from 30 different landmine types. The report produced in 2004 added an important element to on-going research work on predicting the effects of environmental factors on the process of vapour transportation from landmines to the air at surface level. This project was funded by contributions to the GICHD MDD Research Programme received from Norway, Sweden, the UK, the US, and UNMAS.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND MINE RISK EDUCATION

66. The study entitled **“The Role of Indigenous Organisations in Mine Action”** focuses on how best to create the conditions necessary for the formation of local mine action NGOs or commercial companies in mine-affected countries. The study was completed and is available on the GICHD website. Final publication of a short “Guide” awaits definitive feed-back from UNMAS. The study was requested by UNMAS, and has been funded by Italy, the UK and UNMAS.

67. The **Global Response Study** aims to address questions on the success of international mine action over the past 15 years, on lessons learnt, the challenges for the future, etc. The study work is completed; publication is scheduled for early 2005. This study is funded by the UK.

68. The **Study of Capacity Development in Mine Action** will look into the development of indigenous capacities in mine action. Field work was completed in 2004, and the final version will be available in early 2005. The study has been requested by UNDP and is funded by the UK.

69. The **Study on the Role of Survey in Mine Action** analyses the various types of survey used in mine action and their respective applicability and value. The field work was completed in 2004; the full study will be ready for publication in early 2005. The study has been requested by UNMAS and is funded by the UK.

70. The **Study on the Possible Synergies Between Mine Action and Small Arms Light Weapons Programmes (SALW)** analyses the various types of mine action and SALW programmatic approaches, and the possible synergies/areas of co-operation between the two. The development of terms of reference and

other normative reference was started in 2004. This study has been commissioned by the US Department of State and will become available in mid-2005.

EVALUATION

71. The **Study on the Evaluation of Field Programmes** will establish a basic framework and standard methodology for field evaluations, for use internally by the GICHD and by other agencies. This framework will recognise that all programmes are different, but allow a more formal approach to evaluation, which will enable follow-up activities as well as appropriate inter-programme comparison. Research work was carried out during the reporting period, and a first draft for a handbook was put together. Both publications will become available in 2005. This project is funded by the UK.

SUPPORT OF INSTRUMENTS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

72. The GICHD supports the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention according to the mandate given by the States Parties in September 2001, which includes the Implementation Support Unit (ISU), the preparation and support of meetings, the provision of independent professional advice and assistance, and the offering of a documentation and resource database facility.

73. The Centre also provides independent technical input into international efforts to minimise human suffering caused by weapons and/or explosive remnants of war, which is covered by the on-going work of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW).

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT UNIT (ISU)

74. During the reporting period, the ISU worked closely with the Presidency of the Fifth Meeting of States Parties (5MSP) and the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committees in supporting their efforts to fulfil their responsibilities. The ISU assisted the 5MSP President in achieving the aims of the President's Action Programme and in facilitating the work of the Coordinating Committee.

75. A particular focus during the reporting period was for the ISU to support the active participation of mine-affected States Parties in the February and June 2004 Standing Committee meetings, and to ensure that opportunities for exchanging information in advance of the Review Conference were maximised by all States Parties. Enhanced efforts were made to ensure that pertinent information reached those who needed to receive it.

76. The ISU, in providing assistance to the States Parties and information on the Convention in accordance with its mandate, also provided support to and participated in numerous regional events organised in advance of the First Review Conference. The ISU provided advice and input on planning and preparations to regional conference hosts, developed background documents and information tools, and made various presentations on the Convention, its implementation mechanisms and its status. In one instance, with respect to the 2-3 February 2004 Reay Group Workshop in Bucharest, the ISU at the request of

the host country provided hands-on organisational support, in part by administering project funds generously provided by the Government of the Netherlands.

77. The workload of the ISU increased dramatically in response to the States Parties' preparations for the First Review Conference. The ISU responded to an significant number of requests for assistance in meeting both the additional information needs of the States Parties and the support needs of the President and Secretary-General of the First Review Conference. At the First Preparatory Meeting on 13 February 2004, the then President-Designate announced that he had asked the GICHD to have the Manager of the Implementation Support Unit serve as his Executive Coordinator. In this capacity, the ISU enhanced its strong cooperative relationship with the United Nations secretariat of the First Review Conference, working in close partnership with the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs (UNDDA) to assure sound preparations for the First Review Conference.

78. The ISU responded to the priority expressed by the President of the Review Conference and States Parties concerning communications aspects of the First Review Conference. A dedicated web site (*www.nairobisummit.org*) was established and various communications tools were produced by the GICHD, and efforts were made to coordinate with key actors and wide-ranging communications activities were supported.

79. At the Review Conference itself, the ISU provided support to the President and Secretary-General and advice in an impartial manner to all States Parties requesting it. In addition, the ISU brought coherence to the scheduling of a multitude of side events, took the lead on behalf of the President with respect to media relations, and coordinated the high level segment in conjunction with the Executive Secretary.

80. To enhance the Convention's Documentation Centre, the ISU continued to collect a large number of pertinent documents. The number of documents obtained increased considerably: The Documentation Centre currently contains over 4,000 records and increasingly is being used by States Parties and other interested actors as an important source of information on the Convention. While the physical collection of documents is an important part of the work associated with the Documentation Centre, the ISU has also worked to ensure that access to documents related to the work of the Convention is facilitated in making as many documents as possible available on-line.

81. During the reporting period, the Voluntary Trust Fund ISU received contributions from Australia, Austria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, and the UK.

SUPPORT FOR THE INTERSESSIONAL WORK PROGRAMME

82. The Centre continued its traditional support to the Intersessional Work Programme established by the States Parties to the Convention by hosting

- a) the February session of the Standing Committees, taking place in Geneva between 9 and 13 February. These meetings were attended by 545 participants;

- b) the June session of the Standing Committees, which took place in Geneva between 21 and 25 June and saw the participation of 528 delegates.

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

83. The Centre continued to administer the Sponsorship Programme on behalf of the Group of Donors. The aim of this programme is to support widespread participation in meetings related to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

84. During the reporting period, the following three Sponsorship Programmes were executed by the Centre:

- a) The February programme included 76 delegates from 53 mine-affected countries;
- b) The June programme sponsored 88 delegates from 56 countries;
- c) The programme for the First Review Conference, taking place between 29 November and 3 December, saw 102 participants from 64 countries included. This has been the largest Sponsorship Programme so far.

85. The Group of Donors includes Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and the UK.

WORK UNDER THE CONVENTION ON CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS (CCW)

86. The Centre continued to offer technical support to participants of the Meetings of the Group of Government Experts on Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and Mines Other Than Anti-Personnel Mines (MOTAPMs) at the CCW.

**New GICHD publication on
MOTAPMs in 2004**

Humanitarian Impact from
Mines other than Anti-
Personnel Mines
(ISBN 2-88487-035-0)

87. In addition, a Working Paper on the detectability of MOTAPMs was produced for the July meeting, on request of the Finnish Co-ordinator of the Group of Governmental Experts.

88. On an initiative of the German and US Governments, the Centre produced a report entitled **“Humanitarian Impact from Mines other than Anti-Personnel Mines”** (ISBN 2-88487-035-0). This publication provides an understanding of the impact of MOTAPMs on civilian populations and war-torn societies. In addition, the report summarises the technical responses available. It was presented to the CCW in late 2004. This project was funded by Germany and the Centre.

GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATION

COUNCIL OF FOUNDATION

89. The Council of Foundation held its first meeting of the year on 14 May 2004. The Council took note of the resignation of Amb. Dahinden, who had served as the Director of the Centre since May 2000, and who was heading for a new post within the Swiss diplomatic service. The Council members expressed their gratitude to the outstanding work of Amb. Dahinden, and highly appreciated the remarkable results achieved during the past four years.

90. The Council appointed Amb. Stephan Nellen of Switzerland as new Director of the GICHD. In addition, the Council approved the Annual Report 2003 as well as the Centre's accounts for that year. Finally, the Council was briefed on the on-going and planned evaluation activities of the GICHD.

91. The second meeting of the Council, which took place on 14 December, included discussion on the report on the external evaluation of the GICHD, and on the review report on the current strategy provided by the Director. This exchange marked the starting point for the process of developing a new strategy paper for the period 2006 – 08. In addition, the Council approved the Centre's budget for 2005.

Under the chairmanship of Dr. Cornelio Sommaruga, the **Council of Foundation** unites 23 members representing Austria, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Norway, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and the Republic and Canton of Geneva.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

92. In 2004, the GICHD increased its external and public relations activities. It issued a series of press statements for launching the recommendations of its studies, and provided background information and articles on its current activities in more than a dozen newspapers and magazines. Newspapers from Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and United States published articles on GICHD achievements. In addition, the Nairobi Summit provided the Centre an opportunity to brief media from various countries on its role and function in mine action.

93. During the reporting period, several high-level personalities visited the Centre, including the Norwegian Crown Prince Haakon Magnus and Crown-Princess Mette-Marit. In total, the Centre welcomed over 20 visiting delegations.

CO-OPERATION AGREEMENTS

94. On 15 January 2004, a formal agreement on the secondment of a German military officer to the Centre was concluded between the German Government and GICHD. This agreement provides the basis for this support provided to the work of the Centre.

95. On 24 June, the GICHD signed a memorandum of understanding with UN-MAS. This document provides a solid basis for on-going co-operation. In addi-

tion, the existing memorandum of understanding with UNDP was extended for an additional year.

INTERNAL ORGANISATION

96. On 31 July, the GICHD saw the departure of Mr. Paul Ellis (UK), whose two year term as seconded officer came to its end. Mr. Ellis' focus was on the work within the CCW context, where he represented the Centre and provided technical input at several stages, together with other GICHD staff. In addition, Mr. Ellis was active in several projects carried out by the Centre.

97. On 31 December, the Centre consisted of 34 permanent staff members, including four persons seconded by the Governments of France, Germany, Sweden, and Switzerland. In total, 14 nationalities are present at the Centre (including staff members having more than one citizenship): Switzerland (16 persons), Canada (7), UK (6), France (4), US (4), Norway (2), Australia, Chile, Colombia, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, Spain, and Sweden.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

GENERAL BUDGET

98. The Centre's accounts for the above mentioned activities carried out in 2004 report a turnover of CHF 19.9 million. These financial resources were allocated as follows: approx. 60 % for operational assistance, approx. 28 % for research activities and nearly 2 % for support provided to the Intersessional Work Programme of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. The remaining sum was used for administration and governance related costs.

99. During the reporting period, the Centre received contributions of CHF 8.0 million from Switzerland, over CHF 1.1 million from the UK, nearly CHF 0.7 million from Norway, nearly CHF 0.7 million from Sweden, and a total of almost CHF 1.1 million from Canada, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, and the US. In addition, various UN agencies and the ITF contributed with a total of nearly CHF 0.7 million. The sum of nearly CHF 0.35 million was received from private donations or earned from other sources. In addition, a total of CHF 7.2 million was carried over from the previous year. Not included in these sums are contributions in-kind, secondments of staff members to the Centre, or other support provided directly to project activities.

100. As a result, the Centre's accounts for the year 2004 closed with a positive remaining balance of CHF 8,165.

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME FUND

101. As indicated in para. 83 above, the Sponsorship Programme aims to ensure more widespread representation from mine-affected and other countries within the activities of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. The Centre administers this programme and the respective Sponsorship Programme Fund on behalf of a Group of Donors. The relevant accounts closed with a positive

remaining balance of CHF 312,988. This sum was carried over to the relevant 2005 accounts.

VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND ISU

102. On 31 December 2004, the Voluntary Trust Fund in support of the activities of the ISU showed a positive remaining balance of CHF 217,323. This amount was carried over to the respective 2005 account.

EXTERNAL AUDITING

103. The 2004 accounts of the Centre, as well as the Sponsorship Programme Fund and the Voluntary Trust Fund ISU, were audited and certified by Pricewaterhouse Coopers, the external auditor appointed by the Council of Foundation.

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All publications of the GICHD are available on

www.gichd.ch/publications

List of Acronyms

CCW	Convention on the Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects
CEMOD	Cost Effectiveness Model
CEN	European Committee for Standardisation
CMAC	Cambodia Mine Action Centre
DDAS	Database for Demining Accident Reporting System
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EMAO	Ethiopian Mine Action Authority
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
EUDEM	European Union in Humanitarian Demining
5MSP	Fifth Meeting of States Parties
GICHD	Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
ISU	Implementation Support Unit
ITEP	International Test and Evaluation Programme
ITF	International Trust Fund
IMAS	International Mine Action Standard(s)
IMSMA	Information Management System for Mine Action
INMAA	Iraqi National Mine Action Authority
JMU	James Madison University
MaXML	Mine action Extensible Mark-up Language
MDC	Mine Dog Centre
MDD	Mine Dog Detection
MEDDS	Mechem Explosive and Drug Detection System
MINURSO	United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara
MOTAPM	Mines other than Anti-Personnel Mines
MRE	Mine Risk Education
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NCDR	National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation (Jordan)
NDRF	Nordic Demining Research Forum
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NMAS	National Mine Action Standard(s)
NPA	Norwegian People's Aid
OAS	Organisation of American States
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PfP	Partnership for Peace
REST	Remote Explosive Scent Tracing
RSC	Regional Support Centre
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons
SEEMACC	South-East Europe Mine Action Co-ordination Council
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SISC	Standards Implementation and Support Committee MDD
SMAC	Somaliland Mine Action Centre
SRSA	Swedish Rescue Services Agency
SWEDDEC	Swedish EOD and Demining Centre
TMAC	Thai Mine Action Centre
TNMA	Technical Note on Mine Action
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNDDA	United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFICYP	United Nations Forces in Cyprus
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNIFIL	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
UNMAPA	United Nations Mine Action Programme in Afghanistan
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
UNMEE	United Nations Mission in Eritrea and Ethiopia
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
US	United States of America