



Press Release

Geneva, 6 December 2002

**Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining -
Council of Foundation adopts New Strategy for 2003 -2005**

The Council of Foundation of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) adopted this morning a new strategy for the period 2003-2005. The strategy defines the scope and content of the GICHD objectives, as well as the instruments to achieve them.

The mission of the Centre is to work towards a world free of anti-personnel landmines and for the reduction of the humanitarian impact of other explosive remnants of war by :

- providing operational assistance ;
- undertaking research to make mine action safer and more effective ;
- supporting instruments of international law.

These three pillars guide the day-to-day work of the GICHD.

The GICHD is involved in all aspects of mine action and extensively co-operates with other international organisations, states and non-governmental organisations. It is committed to supporting the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and specifically its humanitarian principles. The Centre supports further emerging and on-going mine action operations as well as the development of local capabilities.

The GICHD is an impartial and independent foundation supported by 18 governments. Some 30 staff work at the Geneva headquarters with a small number of regional representatives in mine-affected countries.

For further information and a copy of the GICHD Strategy 2003-2005, please contact :

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