



Invitation to a Press Briefing

Explosive Remnants of War : A deadly legacy of modern conflicts

**Thursday 12th June 2003 at 09h30
Palais des Nations Unies
Salle 3**

Dear Sir, Dear Madame,

The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) is committed to providing input on technical areas, on a case by case basis, as part of the discussions on the issue of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) at the Group of Government Experts meeting under a mandate from the 2001 Review Conference of the 1980 Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW).

At the Expert Meetings of 2002 and March 2003, the GICHD participated as an observer and was available to provide advice, papers and comment when requested by the Chair's of the process or States Parties. Its contribution is limited to technical input.

The Centre will again fulfil these functions at the June 2003 meeting. For this purpose the GICHD has published two papers in support of the CCW process :

- Explosive Remnants of War – Information Requirements of the Clearance Community

Based on a survey of the operational community, the report explains that information plays a significant role in facilitating the clearance of ERW and enabling effective, targeted mine risk-education to be implemented. This information assists in establishing the size of the operation, identification of the assets required, training requirements, resource mobilisation, and prioritisation of tasks.

- Explosive Remnants of War – Warnings and Risk Education

The report discusses the main issues and challenges concerning warnings and risk education programmes in general. It presents numerous examples from the field as illustrations, before concluding with lessons learned based on operational experience.

For further information and a copy of these studies, please contact :

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