



GICHD DELEGATION VISITS THE FRENCH NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ANTIPERSONNEL MINES (C.N.E.M.A.), 12.09.2007

A GICHD delegation was invited to present the activities of the Centre to the CNEMA in “les Invalides” in Paris. This building is a historical site where war veterans have resided since its creation 300 years ago. Nowadays, the building continues to accommodate military victims and civilians injured through war or terrorism.

The meeting allowed the GICHD to present its “Military and Francophone Program” in more detail and to request French support. The Program includes the translation and up-date of the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) in cooperation with the regional demining training centre in Benin (CPADD) and the National Centre for Humanitarian Demining in Anger, France. The cooperation should result in more of the existing IMAS being available in French.



In addition, the GICHD envisages the partial translation of its website www.gichd.org in French in 2008 to facilitate the access of the French speaking demining community to the Centre’s services.

Wishing to share and exchange the existing francophone expertise, the GICHD is further examining the creation of a new website aiming at the collection of all francophone documents on mine action. Several member countries of the International Organization of Francophonie have been asked to cooperate in the creation of this website.

The celebration of the 10th anniversary of the AP Mine Ban Convention in Anger the 8 November 2007 allowed the GICHD to present the mentioned activities to the unified francophone mine action community. The 8th Meeting of the States Parties to the AP Mine Ban Convention represented another opportunity to consolidate the GICHD francophone project.

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