

EORE AG

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education Advisory Group

Minutes of the EORE AG Meeting

Date: 10 December 2024
Time: 14:15 – 17:00 Geneva time (CET)
Location: Virtual (Teams)

Summary of Action Points

Action	Responsible	Suggested Deadline
EORE AG		
Provide inputs on the 2025-2026 EORE Advisory Group work plan	AG members	31 January 2025
Review the final draft of EORE competencies developed by the Task Team	AG members	28 February 2025
Election of Mine Action Authorities Representatives for the EORE AG	Co-chairs and Secretariat	Ongoing till March 2025
Consider volunteering to organising an AG side event at the NDM on 9-11 April 2025	AG members	15 February 2025
Review the final draft of the Progress Report 2024	AG Members	15 April

Participants

Co-Chairs: Furat Al Malkawi (The HALO Trust) & Hugues Laurence (UNICEF)

Secretary: Lubna Allam (GICHD)

Attendees

- **DCA:** Mark Wilkinson
- **DRC:** Michael Aaron
- **GICHD:** Celine Cheng
- **HI:** Sofia Cogollos
- **Colombia OACP:** Mauricio Morillo
- **MAG:** Sebastian Kasack
- **HALO Trust:** Kim Fletcher
- **NPA:** Wassim Ammane
- **UNICEF:** Bakhtiyar Salimov
- **UNMAS:** Bojan Vukovic
- **FSD:** Matt Wilson
- **UNHCR:** Isabelle Rivolet

MOM

1. Welcome remarks and updates

Furat and Hugues opened the meeting by welcoming the participants to the last meeting of the year 2024, and by sharing welcoming remarks. Lubna Allam, GICHD, was given the floor to present herself as the new secretariat of the AG as of September 2024. Furat continued by providing a brief overview of the agenda of the meeting, Annex 1.

Furat proceeded with the first agenda item of the meeting, a review of the 2023-2024 Work Plan previously filled by the AG members including:

- the establishment of the Emergency Task Team
- the development of two statements delivered on behalf of the advisory group in the 12th MSP and the APMBC 5th RevCon
- the hosting of an EORE AG side event during the APMBC 5th RevCon on 'Reflections on promoting and enhancing national ownership of EORE' co-hosted by the government of Colombia, Humanity & Inclusion (HI), and the GICHD
- the launch of the French language version of the EORE advanced e-learning course
- the continuation of the development and testing of the TOC by UNICEF
- the launch of the SBCC toolkit by GICHD
- the conclusion of the PPF course
- the hosting of IOM + GICHD roundtable discussion on synergies of the integration of EORE in IOM activities

Furat presented the draft of the new workplan 2025-2026, the deadline to complete it by the 31st of January 2025. The 2025–2026 Workplan is to stem from the collective work of the EORE AG members, with clear leads assigned for each pillar/outcome. Building on the guidelines outlined in the retreat report, we extend our appreciation to the co-chairs for drafting the structure of the workplan.

An update was given on the status of the 2024 EORE AG Stakeholder Survey that was launched on the 3rd of December. It has been shared with a wide range of EORE networks. AG members were asked to circulate it to country offices. The survey's deadline is the 21st of January 2025. Based on this survey, the progress report will be drafted and shared with the participants for feedback.

2. EORE Competencies Task Team presentation

Celine started by thanking all of the task team members. She presented on the process of developing the EORE competencies describing it as a consultative process that lasted approximately 1 year from December 2023 to November 2024. The task team drew inspiration from IMAS and specifically the technical and evaluation protocols. The task team had the added support of the GICHD training specialists who guided how to phrase competencies as well as learning objectives.

The results of the draft competencies were 64 competencies divided into contextual competencies and technical EORE competencies that are specific to EORE. There are other competencies such as community Liaison, information management, quality management, human resources, and safety.

The draft is to be shared with the EORE AG members and is open for comments and review until the 21st of February 2025 in track changes or the comment box. Once the feedback on the document is finalized, the revisions will be incorporated, the anticipated period will depend on the level and the number of comments.

Celine suggested some reviewing tips for everyone who's going to be doing the review. AG members are encouraged to consult with the representative of their organization in the task team and other members of the AG if there are certain points in the draft to be rediscussed or reconsidered. Another point is that the draft has been written in the format of technical and evaluation protocol, so it includes standardized IMAS text. Celine will highlight the areas that would require review by the EORE AG members and while they are encouraged to read the entire text, it is better to focus on reviewing the text that focuses on the EORE competencies, like the description of the competency levels. Celine suggested also making the distinction between competencies and terms of reference. She recommended using Bloom's taxonomy as suggested by the training specialist at GICHD.

3. Updates on the 5th Review Conference 2024

Hugues and Sophia gave an update on the EORE AG's participation in the 5th review conference. The EORE AG gave a statement read by Sebastian on behalf of the group and developed by Kim and Sebastian. The AG hosted a side event on 'Reflections on promoting and enhancing national ownership of EORE' co-hosted by the government of Colombia, Humanity & Inclusion (HI), and the GICHD. The side event discussed national ownership of risk education activities and presented good practices in the sector.

Had related. National ownership was represented by national authorities, but the panel provided technical assistance too.

This collaboration acted as a pilot plan that managed to balance between local NGOs, international NGOs and also mine action national authorities. On the panel, there were the Columbia Mine Action Group representatives, a representative from the Iraq mine action national authority, Ambassador Tobias from the GICHD and Hugues presenting on UNICEF's experience. From the floor, Colonel Makki shared insights on the process of owning risk education activities as part of the LMAC in response to the latest crises in the country. Katrin Atkins, GICHD consultant also presented from the floor on the management of EORE activities in residual contamination contexts.

Sophia highlighted that the event was a success, and they received good feedback as the event shed light on the improvements in the sector, being more professional as well as working on building sustainable capacities on the governmental and community levels. The event

also gave great visibility to the AG and its work in the evolution and professionalization of the sector.

Hugues echoed what Sophia mentioned, stressing that EORE as a sector must promote advocacy for the mine ban treaty as well as other key treaties on indiscriminate weapons. Hugues pointed out that by reflecting on the past two-year workplan and the work that has been executed the conference agreed to appoint an EORE coordinator. This is the first time since the treaty has entered into force. To have an EORE coordinator in the machinery of a treaty. On the other hand, for the mine action donor community, only 1% was earmarked for EORE. There is no progress between 2022 and 2023. While there is a lot of commitment and a strong statement on EORE from Member States, this necessarily doesn't translate into more funding.

4. Update on the Emergency Task Team

Moving on to the next agenda item, Sofia gave an update on the emergency task team. She mentioned that there has been wide participation and many applications to be part of the emergency task team. The task team now has 23 members, part of which are members of the Mine Action national community and the rest are external experts that are collaborating in teams relating to mine action. The task team is composed of three sub-task teams. One is working on incendiary and chemical weapons, the second one is working on CPP and the third one is working on environmental hazards.

In the coming phase, the task team is thinking of developing a two-year plan, to have concrete results to present to the AG by the end of 2025. In terms of activities, the task team will map out the emergency initiatives globally in each one of the three topics mentioned above. This is to eventually create a shared library with the available resources to facilitate the exchange of knowledge updates among emergency initiatives. This is in addition to developing a recommendations checklist of what to do in the case of emergencies. The task team has also been bringing experts to present on specific initiatives that might be relevant to the discussions carried by the task team.

5. Presentation on and request for review of the EORE chapter in the UNHCR toolkit

The EORE AG welcomed Isabelle Rivolet, consultant at UNHCR, who asked the speak in this meeting to explain her mission to revise the UNHCR toolkit on protection in armed conflicts, including the integration of a module on EORE, and request from the AG members to give feedback on this chapter. Isabelle highlighted the importance of the toolkit and the need to update it with practical and operational information. She suggested the use of the Siem Reap action plan as a framework for updating the legal and IHL components of the work. She requested that interested reviewers could do so by the 31st of January 2025.

6. HI efforts in Myanmar

This agenda item was pushed to the next EORE Meeting.

7. AOB

Lubna shared some points in the final agenda item:

- recalling members to complete the 2025-2026 Work Plan by the end of January

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- flagging that the date of submission of a side event during the NDM is 28 February 2025, if there would be any interest in hosting an event
- announcing the launch of the election of the 2 mine action authority representatives in the EORE AG in January 2025
- encouraging the members to participate in the outreach of the EORE Hour Webinar Series

ANNEX 1

Meeting Details

Date: 10 December 2024

Time: 14:00 – 16:00 Geneva time (CET)

Indicative Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Lead	Comments
10 min	1. Welcome notes	Co-chairs	
20 min	2. Review of the 2023-2024 Work Plan (activities status)	Co-chairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of activities conducted during 2024 • Status of the <u>new work plan 2025 - 2026</u> • Status of the 2024 EORE AG Stakeholder Survey
15 min	3. EORE Competencies Task Team presentation	Céline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refers to activity 1.4.3 of the <u>2023-2024 Work Plan</u>
15 min	4. Update on 5th RevCon	Sofia Hugues and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlights of the SE • Lessons learned • Highlights, outcomes, and opportunities from the 5th RevCon
5 min	Break		
10 min	5. Emergency TT Update	Sofia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on the work conducted by the emergency task team
10 min	6. UNHCR Toolkit	Isabelle, UNHCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the EORE chapter in the UNHCR toolkit
15 min	1. HI efforts in Myanmar	Sofia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on work conducted, lessons learned, and challenges
10 min	2. Organization of the next EORE AG retreat?	Hugues Lubna and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion whether an annual AG retreat is needed or not • Discussion of online vs in-person
10 min	3. AOB	Co-Chairs	

*Note: Times indicated are indicative and therefore may shift according to needs.