



OBSERVATOIRE DES MINES
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MEDIA ADVISORY

LANDMINE MONITOR REPORT 2009 GLOBAL RELEASE GENEVA, 12 NOVEMBER 2009

Landmine Monitor Report 2009 will be released globally at a press conference hosted by the UN Institute for Disarmament Research in Geneva, Switzerland.

This is the eleventh annual report published by the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), and reports on ban policy, demining, casualties, risk education, victim assistance, and support for mine action in every country in the world. It also includes a special ten-year review of progress since the entry into force of the Mine Ban Treaty in 1999.

The press conference will take place on:

**Thursday 12 November, at 11:30 (10:30 GMT)
Press Room III, Palais des Nations
Avenue de la Paix, Geneva, Switzerland**

- Members of the Landmine Monitor Editorial Team, some of the world's leading experts on landmines, will be on hand to answer media questions and conduct **interviews** in English and French.
- A **media kit** in Arabic, English, French, Russian, and Spanish will be available in hard copy at the press conference, and all media kit contents will be posted to our website at www.lm.icbl.org starting on 12 November at 01:00 GMT.

Media not able to participate in the Geneva press conference can participate in an online media briefing including a moderated question and answer period:

**Thursday 12 November, 14:30-15:30 (13:30-14:30 GMT)
Go to www.dimdim.com, "Join Meeting," and enter the meeting
room (Landminemonitor09) and your name and organization.**

Landmine Monitor Report 2009 and related documents are available at 01:00 GMT at www.lm.icbl.org/lm/2009 on 12 November. A selection of photos is available at <http://picasaweb.google.com/lm.icbl/LandmineMonitorReport2009>. If you plan to cover this event and would like more information or to schedule an interview please contact:

- Jacqueline Hansen, Program Manager, Landmine Monitor
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Landmine Monitor is a program of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, 1997 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, and also provides research and monitoring for the Cluster Munition Coalition.

INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES

Key Landmine Monitor and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines team members are available for in-person and telephone interviews. They are all well-versed in *Landmine Monitor Report 2009* findings, have interesting personal stories, perspectives and in-depth knowledge of the landmine and explosive remnants of war (ERW) issues, including knowledge of the cluster munitions issue. These individuals can provide interviews on the global landmine and ERW situation and specific countries.

Interviews can be arranged in the following languages: English, French, and Dutch.

To request an interview please contact:

- Ms. Jacqueline Hansen, Landmine Monitor Program Manager, Geneva (GMT+1), Mobile +41-78-606-94-68 or +1-613-851-5436, email jackie@icbl.org
- Ms. Amelie Chayer, ICBL Communications Officer, Geneva (GMT+1), Mobile +41-78-728-53-20 or +33-6-89-55-12-81, email amelie@icbl.org

Geneva (GMT+1)

Mr. Stan Brabant

Brabant is head of Handicap International's Policy Unit and oversees Landmine Monitor's research on risk education, casualties, and victim assistance. He also sits on the Landmine Monitor Editorial Board. Languages: English, French, Flemish, German.

Mr. Sylvie Brigot

Brigot is the ICBL's Executive Director, coordinating civil society actions to eliminate landmines. Languages: English, French.

Mr. Stuart Casey-Maslen

Casey-Maslen works with Norwegian People's Aid and coordinates Landmine Monitor's research on mine action. He also sits on the Landmine Monitor Editorial Board. Languages: English, French.

Ms. Tamar Gabelnick

Gabelnick has served as the ICBL's Treaty Implementation Director since 2005, working with States Parties on the timely fulfillment of their treaty obligations. Languages: English, French.

Mr. Stephen Goose

Serving as the Editor-in-Chief of the Landmine Monitor report from 1999-2004 and the Executive Director of the Arms division at Human Rights Watch, Goose is the official Head of the ICBL delegation. He also sits on the Landmine Monitor Editorial Board. Language: English.

Mr. Paul Hannon

Hannon is the Executive Director of Mines Action Canada, the lead agency responsible for coordinating Landmine Monitor. MAC has worked domestically and internationally to build government support for bans on landmines and cluster munitions. Language: English.

Ms. Jacqueline Hansen

Hansen served on ICBL staff until early 2005 when she became Landmine Monitor's Program Manager. Language: English.



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EMBARGOED UNTIL 10:30 GMT, 12 NOVEMBER 2009

ANTI-LANDMINE TREATY WORKING, LIVES AND LIMBS SAVED **According to *Landmine Monitor Report 2009* released today**

GENEVA, 12 November 2009 – Since the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty entered into force ten years ago, significant progress has been made in eradicating antipersonnel mines, but much work remains, according to *Landmine Monitor Report 2009: Toward a Mine-Free World*, a report by the International Campaign to Ban Landmines being released today at the United Nations.

Global use, production, and trade of antipersonnel mines have dramatically reduced. Some 3,200km² of land has been cleared of mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), and new casualties each year declined significantly to 5,197 recorded casualties in 2008. Yet serious challenges remain, with more than 70 states still mine-affected today, and assistance to mine survivors falling short of what is needed.

“The norm against mine use is firmly taking hold,” said Steve Goose of Human Rights Watch, Landmine Monitor’s Ban Policy Editor, “Antipersonnel mines have been stigmatized as an unacceptable weapon worldwide, including by countries that remain outside the Mine Ban Treaty.” Eighty percent of the world’s states are party to the Mine Ban Treaty. Thirty-nine countries—including China, India, Pakistan, Russia, and the United States—have yet to join the treaty, but most are in *de facto* compliance with many of the treaty’s key provisions. In recent years, Myanmar and Russia are the only states using antipersonnel mines. Use by non-state armed groups decreased from a high of 19 countries in 2001 to seven countries in 2008.

Production has decreased, with 38 countries formally halting mine production, leaving only 13 countries as potential producers. No trade between states has been confirmed since 1999. For the past decade, global trade in antipersonnel mines has consisted solely of a low-level of illicit and unacknowledged transfers.

Over the past decade, States Parties have destroyed 44 million stockpiled antipersonnel mines. Ethiopia, Indonesia, and Kuwait completed stockpile destruction in 2008–2009. While 86 States Parties have completed destruction of their stockpiled mines, three states—Belarus, Greece, and Turkey—missed their stockpile destruction deadlines in 2008 and remained in serious violation of the treaty as of November 2009.

Since 1999, clearance operations have saved millions of lives through the removal of more than 2.2 million emplaced antipersonnel mines, 250,000 antivehicle mines, and 17 million ERW from an area twice the size of London (3,200km²) in over 90 countries and areas. In 2008, mine action programs cleared an area the size of Brussels (160km²), the highest annual clearance total ever recorded by Landmine Monitor. In 2009, Tunisia became the 11th State Party to complete its clearance obligations under the treaty. Even states that have not yet joined, such as Lebanon, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, have been carrying out significant mine clearance operations.



Landmine Monitor is a program of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, 1997 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, and also provides research and monitoring for the Cluster Munition Coalition.

However, ensuring States Parties fulfill their treaty-mandated mine clearance obligations is proving to be a formidable challenge. According to Stuart Casey-Maslen of Norwegian People's Aid, Landmine Monitor's Mine Action Editor, "Fifteen states with mine clearance treaty deadlines in 2009 were granted extensions of up to 10 years to complete clearance, though some, such as the United Kingdom and Venezuela, exerted little effort to meet their original deadlines." The extension requests of four more States Parties with deadlines in 2009 and 2010 will be considered at the treaty's Second Review Conference.

Although casualty rates have decreased steadily over the past decade, the total number of casualties is still far too high. From 1999–2008 Landmine Monitor identified 73,576 casualties in 119 countries/areas. Data collection is poor in many countries so the actual number of casualties is likely far higher. "The Mine Ban Treaty has led to lives and limbs saved over the past decade," said Jacqueline Hansen, Landmine Monitor's Program Manager, "in the next decade more countries must meet their clearance obligations and efforts to educate affected communities about mine hazards should be sustained to ensure no more people are killed or injured by these indiscriminate weapons."

"Victim assistance has made the least progress of the major mine action sectors over the last decade, with both funding and the provision of assistance falling short of what is needed," said Stan Brabant of Handicap International, a Landmine Monitor Editorial Board member. "Progress in the most affected states has been variable, with some countries actively engaged, and others hardly at all. Hundreds of thousands of people need more and better assistance, and they need it now."

International support for mine action totaled US\$517.8 million in 2008. Funds came from 23 countries and the European Commission (EC). The top five donors were the EC, the US, Japan, Canada, and Norway, while the top five recipients were Afghanistan, Sudan, Iraq, Lebanon, and Cambodia. More than \$4 billion has been allocated to mine action since 1999.

Landmine Monitor is the research and monitoring program of the Nobel Peace Prize-winning International Campaign to Ban Landmines. Each year since 1999 Landmine Monitor has reported on the humanitarian consequences of landmines, cluster munitions, and other ERW and scrutinized implementation of and compliance with the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty. *Landmine Monitor Report 2009* reports on ban policy, demining, casualties, risk education, victim assistance and support for mine action in every country in the world and eight other areas not internationally recognized as states. It also includes a special ten-year review of progress since the entry into force of the Mine Ban Treaty in 1999.

This report is being released in advance of the Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty, the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World, to be held in Colombia from 29 November–4 December.

Landmine Monitor is coordinated by an Editorial Board drawn from five organizations: Mines Action Canada, Handicap International, Human Rights Watch, Landmine Action, and Norwegian People's Aid. It constitutes a sustainable and systematic way for NGOs to monitor and report on the implementation of humanitarian and disarmament treaties.

Landmine Monitor Report 2009 and related documents are available at 01:00 GMT at www.lm.icbl.org/lm/2009 on 12 November.

For more information or to schedule an interview contact:

- Ms. Jacqueline Hansen, Landmine Monitor Program Manager, Geneva (GMT+1), Mobile +41-78-606-94-68 or +1-613-851-5436, email jackie@icbl.org
- Ms. Amelie Chayer, ICBL Communications Officer, Geneva (GMT+1), Mobile +41-78-728-53-20 or +33-6-89-55-12-81, email amelie@icbl.org

QUICK FACTS

	1999–2009	2008–2009
Use	Government use of antipersonnel mines has greatly decreased over the last decade. In 1999, Landmine Monitor recorded probable use of antipersonnel mines by 15 states, compared to just two since 2007: Myanmar and Russia.	Only two states have used antipersonnel mines in 2008–2009: Myanmar and Russia.
	Use by non-state armed groups (NSAGs) has also decreased; at least 59 NSAGs across 13 countries have committed to halt use of antipersonnel mines in the last 10 years.	NSAGs used antipersonnel mines in at least seven countries, two fewer than the previous year.
Universalization	One hundred and fifty-six states—more than three-quarters of the world's states—are party to the Mine Ban Treaty. A total of 39 countries, including China, India, Pakistan, Russia, and the United States, have still to join. Two of these are signatories: the Marshall Islands and Poland.	In December 2008, 94 states signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions, which comprehensively bans the use, production, stockpiling, and transfer of cluster munitions, and requires clearance of contaminated areas and assistance to victims and affected communities. As of 15 October 2009, 23 states had ratified the convention, which required 30 ratifications to trigger entry into force.
Production and trade	At least 38 former producers of antipersonnel mines have stopped, leaving only 13 states as actual or potential producers. For the past decade, global trade in antipersonnel mines has consisted solely of a low-level of illicit and unacknowledged transfers.	As few as three countries may have been producing antipersonnel mines in 2008: India, Myanmar, and Pakistan. Landmine Monitor has identified 10 other producing countries, but it is not known if they were actively manufacturing mines in the past year.
Stockpile destruction	The only confirmed serious violations of the treaty occurred in 2008, when three states missed stockpile destruction deadlines.	Belarus, Greece, and Turkey missed their stockpile destruction deadlines of 1 March 2008, and all three remained in serious violation of the treaty as of September 2009.
	Eighty-six States Parties have completed the destruction of their stockpiles, and four more are in the process. Together, they have destroyed about 44 million antipersonnel mines.	Three countries completed stockpile destruction: Indonesia (November 2008), Ethiopia (April 2009), and Kuwait (declared in July 2009).
Clearance of mined areas (Article 5)	Eleven states have cleared all known mined areas from their territory: Bulgaria, Costa Rica, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Honduras, FYR Macedonia, Malawi, Suriname, Swaziland, and Tunisia. As of August 2009, more than 70 states were believed to be mine-affected.	In May 2009, Tunisia became the eleventh State Party to formally declare completion of clearance obligations under the treaty. Mine-affected states are required to clear all antipersonnel mines from mined areas under their jurisdiction or control within 10 years of becoming party to the Mine Ban Treaty. The first deadlines expired on 1 March 2009, but 15 States Parties with 2009 deadlines failed to meet them and were granted extensions: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, Croatia, Denmark, Ecuador, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Thailand, the United Kingdom, Venezuela, Yemen, and Zimbabwe. All of the requests (which ranged from one to 10 years, the maximum period permitted for any extension period) were granted by the Ninth Meeting of States Parties in Geneva in November 2008. In 2009, four more States Parties (Argentina, Cambodia, Tajikistan, and Uganda) formally requested extensions for periods ranging from three to 10 years.
	Since 1999, at least 1,100km ² of mined areas and a further 2,100km ² of battle areas, an area twice the size of London, have been cleared in more than 90	In 2008, mine action programs cleared almost 160km ² of mined areas—the size of Brussels—the highest total ever recorded by Landmine Monitor.

	states and other areas. Operations have resulted in the destruction of more than 2.2 million emplaced antipersonnel mines, 250,000 antivehicle mines, and 17 million explosive remnants of war (ERW).	
Risk Education	Mine and ERW risk education (RE) has evolved significantly in the last decade. Many programs have shifted from a purely message-based approach to more engaged efforts to bring about broader behavior change and risk reduction.	In 2008, RE was provided in 57 states and areas, compared to 61 states and areas in 2007. RE activities increased significantly in Yemen and Somaliland, and also increased to some degree in 10 other states. In Palestine, RE decreased in 2008 but rose sharply in response to conflict in Gaza in December 2008–January 2009. In 2008 in at least 26 states and areas, RE programs were still being implemented without comprehensive needs assessments.
Casualties	Despite data collection challenges, Landmine Monitor has identified at least 73,576 casualties of landmines, ERW, and victim-activated improvised explosive devices in 119 states and areas in the past 10 years. Clearance, supported by RE, has resulted in a significant reduction in casualties.	There were at least 5,197 casualties caused by mines, ERW, and victim-activated IEDs in 2008, which continued a downward trend of the last few years.
Victim Assistance	<p>Over the past decade, victim assistance has made the least progress of all the major sectors of mine action, with funding and action falling far short of what was needed. Most efforts remained focused on medical care and physical rehabilitation, often only when supported by international organizations and funding, rather than on promoting economic self-reliance for survivors, their families, and communities.</p> <p>At the First Review Conference of the treaty, States Parties agreed that 23 States Parties with significant numbers of survivors should make special efforts to meet their needs. Throughout 2005–2009, progress among the now VA26 States Parties has been variable. Progress was most visible in coordination, rather than in implementation of actual services. Progress on activities was often unrelated to the plans the 26 countries set for themselves.</p>	In 2008–2009, there was a continued lack of psychosocial support and economic reintegration for survivors even where there were improvements to national healthcare, physical rehabilitation, or disability laws/policies. Pakistan and Sri Lanka saw deterioration of services nationwide or in certain areas because of conflict and natural disasters. The period also saw the closure of several national NGOs/disabled people’s organizations, continued capacity problems for others, and persistent funding challenges. Other trends included the continuing handover of physical rehabilitation programs to national management and a continued increase of survivor associations and/or their capacities.
Support for Mine Action	Total international support for mine action for 1992–2008 was US\$4.27 billion.	For 2008 Landmine Monitor identified a total of US\$626 million in funding for mine action worldwide, combining international and national funding. International funding in 2008 was provided by 23 states and the European Commission and was channeled to at least 54 recipient states and other areas. The top five recipients of mine action funding in 2008 were, in descending order: Afghanistan, Sudan, Iraq, Lebanon, and Cambodia.

SAMPLE ARTICLE

ANTI-LANDMINE TREATY WORKING, LIVES AND LIMBS SAVED

Progress has been made but more work remains to eradicate landmines.

A report released by Landmine Monitor at the United Nations shows that since the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty entered into force ten years ago, significant progress has been made in eradicating antipersonnel mines, but much work remains.

Global use, production, and trade of antipersonnel mines have dramatically reduced. Some 3,200km² of land has been cleared of mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), and new casualties each year declined significantly to 5,197 recorded casualties in 2008.

However, serious challenges remain, with more than 70 states still mine-affected, and assistance to mine survivors falling short of what is needed.

Eighty percent of the world's states are party to the Mine Ban Treaty. Thirty-nine countries—including China, India, Pakistan, Russia, and the United States—have yet to join the treaty. In recent years, Myanmar and Russia are the only states using antipersonnel mines.

Thirty-eight countries have formally halted mine production, but 13 countries continue to be listed as mine producers. No trade between states has been confirmed since 1999.

Eighty-six States Parties have destroyed 44 million stockpiled antipersonnel mines. But three states—Belarus, Greece, and Turkey—missed their stockpile destruction deadlines in 2008 and remain in serious violation of the treaty.

Since 1999, more than 2.2 million emplaced antipersonnel mines, 250,000 antivehicle mines, and 17 million ERW have been removed from an area twice the size of London (3,200km²). In 2008, mine action programs cleared an area the size of Brussels (160km²). In 2009, Tunisia became the 11th State Party to complete its clearance obligations under the treaty.

However, ensuring States Parties fulfill their treaty-mandated mine clearance obligations is proving difficult, and according to Stuart Casey-Maslen of Landmine Monitor, "Fifteen states with mine clearance treaty deadlines in 2009 were granted extensions of up to 10 years to complete clearance, though some, such as the United Kingdom and Venezuela, exerted little effort to meet their original deadlines."

Although casualty rates have decreased steadily over the past decade, from 1999–2008 Landmine Monitor identified 73,576 casualties in 119 countries and areas.

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International support for mine action totaled US\$517.8 million in 2008. More than \$4 billion has been allocated to mine action since 1999.

The 1997 Mine Ban Treaty prohibits the use, production, and trade of antipersonnel landmines. *Landmine Monitor Report 2009* is the 11th annual report by the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, co-laureate of the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize.