

Agreement

between

The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society (AzRCS)

and

The Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action (ANAMA)

on

Collection of data on mine/ERW incidents and victims, including mine survivors needs in Azerbaijan

Background information

The problem of mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) in Azerbaijan is a direct result of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict. The Landmine Impact Survey conducted in 2002/03 revealed that 514,000 people in 643 communities are being affected by mines/ERW. Following the Mine Victim Needs Assessment Survey conducted by the ANAMA in 2004, incident data on 1883 mine/ERW survivors has been retroactively collected and entered into Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) database managed by ANAMA. Systematic collection and analysis of incident and victim data is essential for planning mine action activities. Targeted mine risk education and mine risk reduction activities are based on the analysis of the incident data. The AzRCS, through the established structure of local branches, is in favorable position to be involved in the collection of mine/ERW incident data and act as a liaison between the affected communities and ANAMA. Since 2005, with the support from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the AzRCS started to build its capacity in mine action in order to contribute to the efforts of the ANAMA in alleviation of the impact of mines and ERW.

The Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action - established on July 18, 1998 by the Presidential decree, is working under the State Commission for Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of war affected territories. ANAMA is responsible for national planning, prioritization, training, standards and quality management, coordination of all mine action activities in Azerbaijan and resource mobilization. As an executing agency its mission states that "The ANAMA will promote, plan and implement a safe, effective and efficient national mine action programme in Azerbaijan in order to remove the threat of landmines and explosive devices".

The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society - established in 1920, based on the Geneva Conventions I-IV and their Additional Protocols and the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The AzRCS is a national, neutral, impartial institution, recognized by the Azerbaijani authorities with the Red Crescent Law, approved by the Parliament in May 2007. The AzRCS's mission is to alleviate the suffering of the most vulnerable population and it carries out its humanitarian response activities in line with the Fundamental Principles of the International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Terms of agreement

The ***Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action and the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society*** conclude this Agreement in order to coordinate and support each other in providing assistance to the mine/ERW affected population in Azerbaijan.

Whereas according to its mandate ANAMA bears the overall responsibility for mine action activities in the Republic of Azerbaijan, the AzRCS as a recognized humanitarian actor is strongly committed as well to alleviate the impact of mines/ERW on people. Retaining its institutional independence and always being guided by the International Movement's Fundamental Principles, the AzRCS will make its competences and skills acquired available and through its unique national network of local branches collect the data on mine/ERW incidents and victims, mine survivors' needs in support of National Mine Action Strategic Plan.

A - Roles and responsibilities

1) *Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action*

ANAMA will support the AzRCS through the provision of appropriate training, operational coordination, guidance and leadership in conducting relevant mine action activities in Azerbaijan.

Within approved and funded project(s) ANAMA will provide training to the network of the AzRCS local branches involved in collecting the mine/ERW incident and victim data based on the forms for IMSMA database managed by ANAMA.

ANAMA will provide the IMSMA forms to the AzRCS for the collection of mine/ERW incident and victim data, along with the mine survivors needs assessment.

ANAMA will enter into the IMSMA database the mine/ERW incident data collected by the eligible AzRCS local branches, collated, checked for quality and reliability by AzRCS HQ.

ANAMA will make available the data related to mine/ERW incidents and victims, including mine survivors' needs upon requests of the AzRCS for operational planning and implementation of the humanitarian activities in the mine/ERW affected areas.

ANAMA will also advocate and support the AzRCS's fundraising efforts for implementing the activities as agreed in this Agreement.

2) *Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society*

The AzRCS will submit the request for operational accreditation¹ to ANAMA and comply to the National Mine Action Standards. The AzRCS will disseminate the Standards to its eligible local branches and HQ staffs responsible for planning of humanitarian activities.

¹ **Operational accreditation** – a procedure by which an organization is formally recognized as competent and able to plan, manage and operationally conduct activities as agreed in this Agreement effectively and efficiently.

The AzRCS assumes the long term importance in collection of mine/ERW incident and victim data and will pay due attention to raise funds ensuring sustainable activities in this direction.

The AzRCS through its HQ office will forward directly to ANAMA on a monthly basis all the data collected on the IMSMA forms and checked for quality and reliability.

The AzRCS will collect, update, compile and forward the mine/ERW incident and victim data as per ANAMA instructions and criteria in order to enable entering of collected data in IMSMA database.

B – Coordination mechanism

Coordination meetings between both partners are conducted on a bi-monthly basis in Baku, where the results of the activities are reported, the up-coming plans shared and problems encountered constructively discussed with the aim to solution-finding.

For each coordination meeting the minutes will be established, where decisions, jointly taken are stated. The minutes of the meeting are to be prepared not later than 5 days after the meeting took place, signed by both parties and shared.

C - External reporting

External reports, for donors or the authorities produced by either the ANAMA or the AzRCS should be in conformity with the ANAMA Principles and the Fundamental Principles of the International Movement of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, with their purpose to serve the people and promote the development.

If a report developed by either the ANAMA or the AzRCS contains information which could potentially jeopardize the image of the other organization, the latter should be consulted through the provision of a copy of the draft document prior to its publication.

Both, ANAMA and AzRCS will be recognized for their work in relation to collection of mine/ERW incident and victim data in the activity reports, promotional documents or other publications aimed at attracting donors.

D - Termination of agreement

The Agreement enters into a force for one-year period from the date of signing from both sides.

At the end of this period, the agreement will be reviewed to decide on the renewal or termination of the Agreement.

The Agreement can be terminated, if according to either of the two organizations, any of the Agreement's terms is not respected.

Any wish to terminate this agreement prematurely is done in writing and enters into immediate force.

The present Agreement consists of two originals in Azerbaijani and two originals in English. Both Azerbaijani and English originals are authentic.

Copies of this agreement have no legal validity.

The agreement is consisted of four pages.

Date: 18 December 2007

For ANAMA

Mr. Nazim Ismayilov
Director



For AzRCS

Mr. Novruz Asllanov
President

