



# **LEGAL ASPECTS OF MEDICAL CARE AS A PREREQUISITE FOR SAFE OPERATION IN HUMANITARIAN DEMINING**

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# INTRODUCTION

- **Complete and systematic demining of the entire war-affected area** - the priority task and key prerequisite for reconstruction and development as well as the safe return of the refugees to their homes
- Government of the Republic of Croatia established a public institution – The Croatian Mine Action Centre (1998)

# VALID LEGISLATION 1.

- Law on humanitarian demining (Official Gazette no. 153/05, 63/07, and 152/08)
- Article 28 “Authorized legal persons, tradesmen and Croatian Mine Action Centre during the activities of demining, search and technical survey are obliged to ensure presence of the nurse/medical technician, doctor and emergency medicine vehicle with a driver and all prescribed medical equipment in a manner that the necessary medical aid can be provided to the injured as soon as possible.

Authorized legal persons, artisans and Croatian Mine Action Centre must ensure and set up a constant and direct radio link system among the responsible persons in the mine field, the doctor and the emergency medicine vehicle.”

## VALID LEGISLATION 2.

- **Ordinance on education and state exam for humanitarian demining workers** (Official Gazette no. 42/07) - prescribes education methods, trainings, state exam procedure, template for the certificate for state exam and education programme for the humanitarian demining workers
- **Ordinance on competence assessment of the authorized legal persons and tradesmen for performing demining activities** (Official Gazette no. 53/07) - stipulates the competence assessment procedure of the authorized legal persons and artisans for performing demining activities, conditions with which the authorized legal persons and artisans for performing demining activities must comply and the manner of issuing the assessment certificate

## VALID LEGISLATION 3.

- **Ordinance on the methods of performing the humanitarian demining activities** (Official Gazette no. 53/07 and 111/07) - prescribes the methods of performing the general and technical survey, search and/or demining, auxiliary demining activities, marking of the suspected mine area and expert supervision
- **Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)** – in line with the International Humanitarian Mine Action Standard (IMAS)

# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES OF THE CROATIAN MINE ACTION CENTRE

- Standard Operating Procedures of CROMAC (SOP)
  - survey of the suspected mine areas and/or buildings
  - design of the project documentation
  - competence assessment of the authorized legal persons and tradesmen for performing humanitarian demining activities
  - safety and quality control of the search and demining activities in the Republic of Croatia

# SOP MEDICAL SUPPORT AND EVACUATION 1.

- Standard Operating Procedure regarding medicine is Medical Support and Evacuation
  - It gives specifications and instructions necessary to ensure medical aid system at technical survey operations performed by the CROMAC
  - It regulates minimal requirements for preparedness of the emergency medical aid (medical support and evacuation – MEDEVAC) including the planning which is required before the beginning of the technical survey, necessary training of the pyrotechnicians and auxiliary workers as well as the training of the medical staff

# SOP MEDICAL SUPPORT AND EVACUATION 2.

- **Subject of the SOP:**

defines operative procedures and measures for medical support and evacuation (MEDEVAC) in accordance with the Law on Humanitarian Demining, Ordinance on the methods of performing the humanitarian demining activities, acquired standards as well as the tasks and internal organizational chart of the CROMAC

- **Normative references:**

SOP is based on international standards for humanitarian demining actions (IMAS 10.20, IMAS 10.30 and IMAS 10.40), laws and by-laws which regulate countermining actions in Republic of Croatia as well as the Law on occupational safety

# SOP MEDICAL SUPPORT AND EVACUATION 3.

## ○ **General requirements:**

Medical support comprises of the following:

- Assessment of mental and physical capabilities of the demining professionals and auxiliary workers to perform demining activities before hiring them;
- regular periodic medical examinations once a year;
- first aid training for demining professionals ;
- presence of the medical doctor, nurse/medical technician and emergency medical vehicle driver at the demining site;
- fast and effective medical intervention in case of accident;
- transport of the casualties to the proper medical facilities;
- treatment and rehabilitation of the casualties

# SOP MEDICAL SUPPORT AND EVACUATION 4.

- **Evacuation of the injured:**

It is necessary to make an evacuation plan for the injured in accidents occurred in the demining or technical survey operations.

- **Equipment of the medical staff and emergency medical vehicle:**

Medical staff and emergency medical vehicle will be equipped with prescribed medical equipment in a manner that allows delivery of the necessary emergency medical care as soon as possible

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!