



Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan (MACCA)

EU DONATES OVER 21 MILLION EUROS TO MINE ACTION IN AFGHANISTAN

31 January 2010. Kabul, Afghanistan. The European Union has committed 21,750,000 Euros to mine action in Afghanistan over the next two years through an agreement with the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS).

The funds will support a range of mine clearance, mine risk education and victim assistance projects in various provinces throughout Afghanistan, particularly in the Central and North-Eastern region. On a national level, the funds will support coordination of the entire programme towards its strategic goals and national capacity support to the Department of Mine Clearance and other ministries in response to requests by the Government.

Dr Haider Reza, Programme Director, MACCA, said:

“We are deeply appreciative of this significant contribution by the European Union to the work of mine action throughout the country. We believe that this contribution will make a significant impact by reducing the injuries and fatalities caused by mines and other explosive remnants of war in our country and pave the way for development.”

In addition to supporting ongoing projects, the funds will support the inception of two new Community Based Demining Projects in Logar and Kabul, which involves training up and providing expert oversight to members of mine-impacted communities to clear the contamination from their own villages. This means that the mine clearance projects provides employment and an economic boost to the local community, as well as creating local ownership and a platform for further development.



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