

# BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

**ARTICLE 4 DEADLINE: 1 MARCH 2021**  
(UNCLEAR WHETHER ON TRACK TO MEET DEADLINE)

<b>PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE</b>	2016	2015
Problem understood	8	8
Target date for completion of cluster munition clearance	3	4
Targeted clearance	6	6
Efficient clearance	6	6
National funding of programme	7	7
Timely clearance	4	6
Land release system in place	5	5
National mine action standards	6	6
Reporting on progress	5	5
Improving performance	6	6
<b>PERFORMANCE SCORE: AVERAGE</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.9</b>

## PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY

New mine action standards relating to cluster munition remnants (CMR) have now been introduced, alongside the corresponding standards relating to mines which were adopted in 2015. Although Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is currently working on a new National Mine Action Strategy for 2018–25, with support from the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian demining (GICHD), which addresses all contamination, including CMR, it has yet to elaborate a plan and timeframe for completion of CMR clearance. Only a very small area contaminated with CMR was cleared in 2016, putting into doubt the compliance of BiH with its Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) clearance obligations.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- BiH should accelerate clearance of CMR to fulfil its CCM Article 4 obligations in advance of its treaty deadline.
- BiH should develop a plan to release areas confirmed or suspected to contain CMR.
- In both its CCM reporting and its strategic planning, the Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre (BHMIC) should clearly separate out contamination resulting from the use of individual submunitions fired from modified rifles from contamination resulting from the ordinary use of cluster munitions. The former do not fall within the definition of a cluster munition covered by the CCM, and as such the treaty clearance obligations do not apply to this contamination.
- The BiH Armed Forces and the Federal Administration of Civil Protection should be provided with the necessary demining equipment, in a timely manner, to ensure that their respective demining capacities can be fully and efficiently deployed.
- BiH should implement the recommendations of both the 2015 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Mine Action Governance and Management Assessment, and the 2016 performance audit report of the Audit Office of the Institutions of BiH.<sup>1</sup> In particular, BiH should continue reforming and strengthening the governance and management of the mine action programme.
- BHMIC should report more accurately and consistently on land release data (disaggregated by product (cancelled, reduced and cleared), activity (non-technical survey, technical survey, and clearance), and classification (suspected hazardous area (SHA) and confirmed hazardous area (CHA), in a manner consistent with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS).

## CONTAMINATION

As at the end of 2016, BiH reported 23 areas covering a total of 1.12km<sup>2</sup> confirmed to contain CMR, while a further 207 areas over 7.30km<sup>2</sup> were suspected to contain CMR (see Table 1).<sup>2</sup> This compares to reported contamination, as at the end of 2015, of 25 CHAs covering 0.85km<sup>2</sup> and 294 SHAs over an estimated 7.3km<sup>2</sup>.<sup>3</sup>

**Table 1: CMR contamination at of end 2016<sup>4</sup>**

Canton	CHAs	CHA (km <sup>2</sup> )	SHAs	SHA (km <sup>2</sup> )
Unsko-Sanski	4	0.25	29	0.21
Tuzlanski	3	0.09	31	0.84
Zenicko-Dobojski	4	0.14	46	2.31
Srednje-Bosanski	4	0.20	35	1.78
Zapadno-Hercegovacki	0	0	11	0.22
Sarajevo	2	0.07	9	0.38
Canton 10	4	0.25	24	0.43
<b>Total Federation BiH</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>6.17</b>
<b>Total Republika Srpska</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1.13</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1.12</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>7.30</b>

The contamination figures in Table 1 differ slightly from those in BiH's latest CCM Article 7 transparency report, which claimed 7.31km<sup>2</sup> was the total of all contamination. No reference is made in BiH's Article 7 report to the 1.12km<sup>2</sup> of confirmed area reported separately to Mine Action Review.<sup>5</sup>

Of the total suspected CMR contamination, 2.7km<sup>2</sup> is the result of individually launched KB-1 submunitions fired from modified AK-47 rifles.<sup>6</sup> When used in this way, individual KB-1 submunitions are not defined as a cluster munition under the CCM.<sup>7</sup> Therefore, strictly speaking this 2.7km<sup>2</sup> of contamination is not subject to the clearance obligations under Article 4 of the CCM.<sup>8</sup> BHMIC plans to undertake a survey to more accurately delineate areas containing the contamination from the improvised use of individual submunitions, and will then produce an analysis of the findings.<sup>9</sup>

A total of 4.3km<sup>2</sup> of contamination, including the 2.7km<sup>2</sup> of improvised submunition contamination, is in areas which also contain mines.<sup>10</sup>

The difference in total CMR contamination between the end of 2015 and end of 2016, both in terms of the number of CHA and SHA, and the overall area of contamination, cannot be explained or reconciled by area released by technical survey and clearance or the amount of land confirmed as CMR contaminated. No satisfactory explanation has been provided for the disparity in data between reporting periods.

CMR contamination dates back to the conflicts of 1992–95 related to the break-up of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.<sup>11</sup> A survey and initial general assessment of cluster munition contamination was jointly conducted by BHMAC and Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) in 2011. This estimated the total area suspected to contain CMR at almost 12.2km<sup>2</sup>, scattered across 140 areas. This estimate was subsequently revised upwards to 14.6km<sup>2</sup> following the start of land release operations in 2012.<sup>12</sup> Of this, around 5km<sup>2</sup> was deemed as contaminated and marked for clearance.<sup>13</sup>

According to BHMAC, since technical survey and clearance operations began in 2012, and through the end of 2016, 5km<sup>2</sup> of area was reduced or cleared, with 2,195 submunitions and 92 other explosive remnants of war (ERW) destroyed.<sup>14</sup>

CMR contamination in BiH is a small humanitarian risk but has a greater impact on development, impeding access to natural resources and posing an obstacle to rehabilitation and building of infrastructure.<sup>15</sup> Sixty communities have been identified as affected with submunitions, of which thirty-one are also affected by mines.<sup>16</sup> In August 2016, a boy was injured by a KB-1 submunition while tending livestock in Sehovina, Mostar.<sup>17</sup> Prior to this, the last recorded submunition casualty was in 2009.<sup>18</sup>

## Other Explosive Remnants of War and Landmines

BiH is also contaminated by other unexploded ordnance (UXO) and anti-personnel mines.

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## PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

The Demining Commission, under the BiH Ministry of Civil Affairs, supervises the state-wide BHMAC and represents BiH in its relations with the international community on mine-related issues.<sup>19</sup> The Demining Commission is composed of representatives from three ministries (Ministry of Civil Affairs, Ministry of Security, and Ministry of Defence) elected from the three constituent "peoples" of BiH and representing BiH's three majority ethnic groups (Bosniaks, Croats, and Serbs).<sup>20</sup> Three new Demining Commission members were appointed on 23 July 2015.<sup>21</sup> Whereas the Minister for Civil Affairs remains ultimately responsible for mine action, the Demining Commission represents the strategic body responsible for setting mine action policy, and it proposes the appointment of BHMAC senior staff, for approval by the Council of Ministers.<sup>22</sup> One problem posed by the structure of the Demining Commission is that each of the three represented ministries has separate portfolios in their respective ministries; and their work on the Demining Commission is only part-time in addition to their other responsibilities.<sup>23</sup>

BHMAC, established by a 2002 Decree of the Council of Ministers, is responsible for regulating mine action and implementing BiH's demining plan, including accreditation of all mine action organisations.<sup>24</sup> BHMAC operates from its headquarters in Sarajevo, and two main offices in Sarajevo and Banja Luka, and eight regional offices (Banja Luka, Bihac Brčko, Mostar, Pale, Sarajevo, Travnik, and Tuzla).<sup>25</sup>

A November 2016 national audit report on the efficiency of the demining system in BiH concluded that "The institutions of BiH have not undertaken all activities required to ensure efficiency of the demining system. A conclusion can be drawn that BiH is not committed to dealing seriously with the demining problem, which

jeopardises the implementation of the BiH strategic goals and the fulfilment of international commitments assumed. The demining process has neither been analysed nor improved systematically in the past 15 years".<sup>26</sup> This mirrors some of the strong criticism of BHMAC's governance and management prior to 2015, (see "Clearing the Mines 2015" report on BiH). However, reforms are now being implemented, under the leadership of a new acting director of BHMAC, who was appointed on 22 September 2015 by the Council of Ministers.<sup>27</sup> The Demining Commission has drafted an Action Plan to address the recommendations of the 2016 audit report, which, as at May 2017, had been sent for approval by the Council of Ministers.<sup>28</sup>

In its 2015 revision of the National Mine Action Strategy for 2009–19, BHMAC stated that one of its goals was to "organize regular meetings for Board of Donors in order to present the results and to ensure and increase trust and support of donors".<sup>29</sup> After a 10-year hiatus, Board of Donor meetings resumed in September 2015,<sup>30</sup> and a second meeting took place in March 2016.<sup>31</sup> As the Board of Donors is one of the few platforms where international actors meet formally under law, international donors in BiH have welcomed the resumption of the meetings, which provide a forum for improved coordination and communication with the national authorities.<sup>32</sup>

In May 2016, moves were made to reinstate expert working groups (EWGs), which used to meet until 2009, helping to address issues such as quality control.<sup>33</sup> According to BHMAC, the EWGs, which were re-established in October 2016, will meet as often as needed.<sup>34</sup> The BiH Armed Forces think the EWG would benefit from regular, quarterly meetings.<sup>35</sup> As at June 2017, UNDP reported that it was planning to organise EWGs in coordination with BHMAC.<sup>36</sup>

## Strategic Planning

The BiH Mine Action Strategy for 2009–19 guides mine action in BiH, but the original document does not mention CMR clearance. BHMAC conducted the first of three planned revisions of the strategy in 2012–13.<sup>37</sup> Although the 2012 revision did refer to CMR clearance,<sup>38</sup> the revised strategy was not formally adopted by the Council of Ministers, highlighting the lack of political attention to mine action in BiH.<sup>39</sup> The second revision of the strategy in 2015,<sup>40</sup> conducted in consultation with the Demining Commission and UNDP,<sup>41</sup> did include strategic and operational goals regarding CMR clearance. The second revision was endorsed by the Demining Commission in BiH in March 2016, but was not adopted by the Council of Ministers.<sup>42</sup>

The third revision of the strategy was due to be concluded by the end of 2017, and in 2016, BHMAC, in consultation with the GICHD, started the revision process. However, instead of revising the existing Mine Action Strategy 2009–19 (revision II, with proposed amendments), BiH, with support from the GICHD, is producing a new mine action strategy for the period through to projected completion of mine and CMR clearance (2018–2025).<sup>43</sup> As part of this process, an initial workshop was held in November 2016, followed by a second workshop on “Bosnia and Herzegovina National Mine Action Strategy Working Group Sessions”, organised by BHMAC and the GICHD, with the participation of relevant government ministries, clearance operators, and other stakeholders, took place in Sarajevo in February 2017.<sup>44</sup>

The new strategy, which was due for completion by the end of 2017, will contain a plan and timeframe for the completion of CMR clearance, as well as for mine clearance, which represents by far the biggest challenge in BiH.<sup>45</sup> Donors are hoping that the strategy will contain clear, realistic indicators and milestones, and incorporate up-to-date land release methodologies.<sup>46</sup> BHMAC has reported that it intends to factor at least two revisions into its new mine action strategy, to help monitor progress and ensure it remains valid.<sup>47</sup>

## Legislation

A new draft demining law, which was first submitted to parliament in 2010, has still to be approved as at May 2017. It has not even received approval from the Council of Ministers,<sup>48</sup> after which it must be sent for parliamentary approval. The last attempt to amend the law took place in the second half of 2015 and the draft Bill failed to attract the support of the Council of Ministers,<sup>49</sup> which concluded that instead of adopting a new law the existing law on demining should be amended.<sup>50</sup> BHMAC is following the recommendation to amend the existing law, but as such is restricted to the number of changes it can include, as amendments are not permitted to exceed 40% of an original Act or else a new law is needed.<sup>51</sup> In August 2016, the 68th session of the Council of Ministers of BiH issued a “Decision of the establishment of working group for the design of changes on the Demining law in BH”.<sup>52</sup> In December 2016, the Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH opened a short 16-day public consultation process on Draft of Law on Amendments to the Law on Demining in BiH in accordance with the rules for consultations in drafting legal regulations in institutions of BiH.<sup>53</sup> As at June 2017, the public consultation had been completed.<sup>54</sup>

## Standards

In 2016, the Demining Commission formally adopted the three chapters of the national mine action standards (NMAS) on land release, non-technical survey, and technical survey.<sup>55</sup> The Demining Commission then subsequently adopted new standards for CMRs, at the beginning of 2017.<sup>56</sup> The previous year, BHMAC adopted a new standing operating procedure (SOP) for non-technical survey of areas suspected to contain CMR, based on NPA’s own SOPs.<sup>57</sup>

In 2016, in collaboration with the GICHD and UNDP, BHMAC held a workshop on “standards and SOP revisions”.<sup>58</sup> In order to further optimise efficiency and effectiveness, and ensure that the standards and SOPs allow for the optimal release of land through survey, including by technical survey, BHMAC created four working groups in 2016, for amendments and annexes for all chapters of the national mine action standards and SOPs, including those relating to survey and clearance of CMR.<sup>59</sup> The working groups expected to complete their work by the end of September 2017, after which recommendations will be sent to the demining commission for adoption.<sup>60</sup>

Successful results from a 2014 pilot project using special detection dogs (SDDs) for technical survey and clearance of CMR-contaminated areas, implemented by NPA,<sup>61</sup> led to BHMAC updating the relevant NMAS to include the use of dogs in targeted technical survey of CMR.<sup>62</sup> However, as at May 2017, the corresponding SOPs had not yet been approved.<sup>63</sup>

## Operators

At the end of 2016, 26 organisations were accredited for mine action in BiH, comprising four government organisations (Armed Forces of BiH, Federal Administration of Civil Protection, Civil Protection Administration of Republic of Srpska, and Brčko District Civil Protection), the Red Cross Society BiH, nine commercial companies (eight national and one international), and twelve non-governmental organisations (NGOs) (ten national and two international).<sup>64</sup> Overall demining capacity totalled 1,200 persons in accredited organisations, comprising 900 deminers and 300 others (including team leaders, site leader, operational officers, quality assurance (QA) officers, and dog trainers).<sup>65</sup>

During 2016, four organisations conducted CMR technical survey and/or clearance: the BiH Armed Forces, the Federal Administration of Civil Protection, and NGOs NPA and PRO VITA.<sup>66</sup>

Four of thirty-four of the BiH Armed Forces’ ten-strong demining teams (eight deminers, plus a team leader and a medic) are specialised for CMR clearance. However, as at May 2017, only two were deployed, due to a shortage of metal detectors for CMR detection.<sup>67</sup> The general view is that the BiH Armed Forces and Civil Protection are both good partners, and have effective capacities, but have suffered from logistical challenges and equipment deficits, which prevent them from working at full capacity.<sup>68</sup> For example, both the Federal Administration of Civil Protection and the BiH lack detectors for CMR clearance,<sup>69</sup> and the BiH Forces require ongoing support from external partners, such as NPA, to secure personal

protective equipment, batteries for detectors, and fuel for demining machinery, since the Army's own complex procurement system often cannot deliver such items in sufficient time.<sup>70</sup>

Furthermore, both entities suffer recruitment challenges, but of a differing nature. Deminers in the BiH Armed Forces are forced to stop demining at the age of 38 (this upper limit, until recently, had been 35). This results in experienced deminers being forced to retire and a high turnover of deminers.<sup>71</sup> The Federal Administration of Civil Protection on the other hand, is unable to employ new deminers, as this is a Federal Government decision. Therefore, the capacity of the Federal Administration of Civil Protection has been reduced as pensioned deminers or those absent due to sickness have not been replaced.<sup>72</sup>

NPA had an operational capacity of one six-strong CMR team for seven months in 2016.<sup>73</sup> While SDDs were successfully piloted by NPA for targeted technical survey

for CMR in 2014, as noted above the corresponding SOPs were still awaiting approval.<sup>74</sup>

In total, the four organisations undertaking CMR operations comprised 174 operational staff and 61 searchers. In addition, BHMAL, conducted non-technical survey with the support of one NPA team seconded to BHMAL.<sup>75</sup> This represented a similar overall capacity to 2015.<sup>76</sup>

In addition, Mines Advisory Group (MAG) received operational accreditation in April 2017, and began demining in May 2017, but was engaged in landmine survey and clearance only.<sup>77</sup>

## Quality Management

BHMAL'S two main offices in Banja Luka and Sarajevo coordinate the activities of regional offices in planning, survey, and quality control/QA. QA inspectors are based in the regional offices.<sup>78</sup>

## LAND RELEASE

In 2016, a total of 0.1km<sup>2</sup> of CMR-contaminated area was released by clearance while 0.76km<sup>2</sup> was reduced by technical survey. No area was reported by BHMAL as cancelled by non-technical survey.<sup>79</sup> This represents a decrease compared to 2015, when 0.23km<sup>2</sup> was fully cleared, 0.76km<sup>2</sup> was reduced by technical survey, and 0.47km<sup>2</sup> was cancelled by non-technical survey.<sup>80</sup>

## Survey in 2016

In 2016, non-technical survey of areas suspected to contain CMR was conducted by BHMAL and an NPA team seconded to BHMAL regional offices. In addition, BHMAL, the BiH Armed Forces, and NGOs NPA and Pro Vita, all conducted technical survey.<sup>81</sup>

During survey operations 0.76km<sup>2</sup> was reduced by technical survey, all within the Federation BiH.<sup>82</sup> Sixteen SHAs were confirmed as contaminated, totalling 0.47km<sup>2</sup> (see Table 2).<sup>83</sup>

**Table 2: CMR survey in 2016<sup>84</sup>**

Operator	Areas confirmed	Confirmed area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Area reduced by TS (m <sup>2</sup> )
BHMAL*	16	470,000	0
BiH Armed Forces	0	0	192,604
NPA	0	0	520,728
Pro Vita	0	0	48,931
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>470,000</b>	<b>762,263</b>

\* Includes survey support from NPA TS = Technical survey

## Clearance in 2016

In 2016, four operators cleared a total of 0.1km<sup>2</sup> containing CMR, destroying 632 submunitions and 26 other items of UXO, all in the Federation BiH (see Table 3).<sup>85</sup>

**Table 3: Clearance of CMR-contaminated area in 2016<sup>86</sup>**

Operator	Areas cleared	Area cleared (m <sup>2</sup> )	Submunitions destroyed	Other UXO destroyed
Armed Forces BiH	6	51,126	333	5
Federal Administration of Civil Protection	4	7,618	150	18
NPA	4	0	149	3
Pro Vita	1	42,059	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100,803</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>26</b>

## ARTICLE 4 COMPLIANCE

Under Article 4 of the CCM, BiH is required to destroy all CMR in areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than 1 March 2021. It is unclear whether BiH is on track to meet this deadline.

The 2012 Mine Action Strategy Revision had expected that BiH would “completely eliminate” all CMR-contaminated areas by 2015.<sup>87</sup> In the second Mine Action Strategy Revision, conducted in 2015 and adopted by the Demining Commission in March 2016, this target was pushed back to the end of 2017.<sup>88</sup> However, based on the status of current CMR survey and clearance operations, BiH no longer expects to meet its Article 4 obligations by the end of 2017, as it had previously stated at the CCM First Review Conference in September 2015 and forecast in its second Mine Action Strategy Review.<sup>89</sup>

While BHMACH has stated that it does not expect any obstacles in meeting its Article 4 deadline of 1 March 2021,<sup>90</sup> the fact that less than 1km<sup>2</sup> of CMR-contaminated land has been cleared in the last five years (see Table 4), is cause for concern. It is now not certain that BiH will indeed meet its Article 4 deadline.

BHMACH is funded by the common institutions of BiH and other institutions at state level.<sup>91</sup> BiH national state funding also supports survey and clearance of CMR. Operations of the BiH Armed Forces are supported by the budget of the common and entity institutions of BiH, while the Government of the Federation of BiH (FBiH) finances the operations of Federal Administration of Civil Protection.<sup>92</sup> According to BHMACH, small-scale investments in equipment and training could significantly increase the capabilities of both the Federal Administration of Civil Protection and the Armed Forces.<sup>93</sup>

Funding in 2017 was expected to remain at the same level as 2016.<sup>94</sup> In 2016, just under BAM34.7 million (approx. US\$19.3 million) was allocated to mine action operations in BiH.<sup>95</sup> Of this, BAM19 million (approx. US\$10.9 million) came from national sources while almost BAM14.8 million (approx. US\$8.5 million) was from international donors.<sup>96</sup> However, funding for the implementation of the Mine Action Strategy 2009–2019 is significantly less than originally planned,<sup>97</sup> which in 2016 was only 53% of the BAM63.6 million (approx. US\$36.5 million) planned originally.<sup>98</sup> The Ministry of Civil Affairs, the Demining Commission, and BHMACH have highlighted the limited funds for demining and have requested funds from the national budget.<sup>99</sup>

NPA reported that it had secured funds for CMR clearance for seven months in 2017, but would risk having to reallocate teams to mine clearance operations if continued donor funding for CMR were not secured.<sup>100</sup>

**Table 4: Five-year summary of CMR clearance<sup>101</sup>**

Year	Area cleared (km <sup>2</sup> )
2016	0.10
2015	0.23
2014	0.26
2013	0.24
2012	0.16
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.99</b>

- 1 UNDP, Draft Mine Action Governance and Management Assessment for BiH, 13 May 2015; and Audit Office of the Institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, "Performance Audit Report. Efficiency of the Demining System in Bosnia and Herzegovina", No. 01-02-03-10-16-1-1101/16, October 2016, p. 22.
- 2 Email from Goran Zdrle, Senior Officer for Analysis and Reporting, Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Center (BHMAC), 17 May 2017.
- 3 Email from Tarik Serak, Head, Department for Mine Action Management, BHMAC, 26 May 2016. BiH's CCM Article 7 Report (for 2015) reported the 7.3km<sup>2</sup> of suspected contamination, but not the 0.85km<sup>2</sup> of confirmed contamination BHMAC has reported to Mine Action Review.
- 4 Emails from Goran Zdrle, BHMAC, 17 May and 6 June 2017.
- 5 Ibid.; and CCM Article 7 Report (for 2015), Form F.
- 6 Interview with Braco Pandurevic, Head of Operations, NPA BiH, Sarajevo, 9 May 2017; and BHMAC, "Analysis of implementation of mine action strategy of Bosnia and Herzegovina (2009-2019) and draft amendments", adopted by the Demining Commission on 28 March 2016, p. 9.
- 7 According to Article 2(2) of the CCM, "'Cluster munition' means a **conventional munition** that is designed to disperse or release **explosive submunitions** each weighing less than 20 kilograms, and includes those explosive submunitions" [emphasis added].
- 8 The definition of a cluster munition in Article 2 of the CCM refers to "a conventional munition that is designed to disperse or release explosive submunitions".
- 9 Interview with Saša Obradovic, Director of BHMAC, Sarajevo, 10 May 2017.
- 10 Email from Goran Zdrle, BHMAC, 6 June 2017. There is a slight discrepancy with the 3.44km<sup>2</sup> (2.7km<sup>2</sup> of improvised submunition contamination, plus an additional 0.74km<sup>2</sup> of conventional cluster munition contamination) in areas which also contain mine contamination, as reported in the BHMAC "Analysis of implementation of mine action strategy of Bosnia and Herzegovina (2009-2019) and draft amendments", adopted by the Demining Commission on 28 March 2016, p. 9.
- 11 BHMAC, "Mine Action Report in BiH for 2015 approved by the BH Ministry Council", 16 May 2016, at: <http://www.bhmac.org/en/stream.daenet?sta=3&pid=937&kat=19>.
- 12 Statements of BiH, First CCM Review Conference, Dubrovnik, 9 September 2015; and High-level Segment, First CCM Review Conference, 7 September 2015.
- 13 Statement of BiH, High-level Segment, First CCM Review Conference, Dubrovnik, 7 September 2015.
- 14 BHMAC, "Report on Mine Action in BiH for 2016", February 2017, p. 15.
- 15 Email from Darvin Lisica, Programme Manager BiH, NPA, 5 May 2016.
- 16 Email from Goran Zdrle, BHMAC, 17 May 2017.
- 17 Ibid.; CCM Article 7 Report (for 2015), Form J; and BHMAC, "Report on Mine Action in BiH for 2016", February 2017, p. 6.
- 18 Statement of BiH, High-level Segment, First CCM Review Conference, Dubrovnik, 7 September 2015.
- 19 BHMAC Organisational chart, at: [http://www.bhmac.org/?page\\_id=704&lang=en](http://www.bhmac.org/?page_id=704&lang=en), accessed 28 May 2017.
- 20 The principle of organising BiH state-level bodies along ethnic lines came under scrutiny following the 2009 judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the *Sejdić and Finci* case that the rights of two Bosnians of Roma and Jewish descent had been violated by being denied the opportunity to run for high-level elected office because they were not of the major ethnic groups. European Court of Human Rights, *Sejdić and Finci v. Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Judgment, 22 December 2009; UNDP, Draft Mine Action Governance and Management Assessment for BiH, 13 May 2015, p. 22; and email from Suad Baljak, Mine Action Officer, UNDP, 15 June 2017.
- 21 BHMAC, "The appointment of new members of Demining Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina", News item, 24 July 2015; and "Official gazette of BH", number 67/15 – Decision of establishment of demining commission of BH by Counsel of Ministers of BH, 30 July 2015.
- 22 UNDP, Draft Mine Action Governance and Management Assessment for BiH, 13 May 2015, p. 22.
- 23 Ibid.; and Audit Office of the Institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, "Performance Audit Report. Efficiency of the Demining System in Bosnia and Herzegovina", No. 01-02-03-10-16-1-1101/16, October 2016, p. 22.
- 24 Bosnia and Herzegovina Official Gazette, Sarajevo, 17 March 2002.
- 25 BHMAC Organisational chart.
- 26 Audit Office of the Institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, "Performance Audit Report. Efficiency of the Demining System in Bosnia and Herzegovina".
- 27 Council of Ministers of BiH, "The conclusions of the 24th session of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina", 22 September 2015.
- 28 Interview with Saša Obradovic, BHMAC, Sarajevo, 10 May 2017.
- 29 BHMAC, "Analysis of implementation of mine action strategy of Bosnia and Herzegovina (2009-2019) and draft amendments", adopted by the Demining Commission on 28 March 2016, p. 17.
- 30 Audit Office of the Institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, "Performance Audit Report. Efficiency of the Demining System in Bosnia and Herzegovina", pp. 24 and 31.
- 31 Interview with Tarik Serak, Head of Operations, BHMAC, 10 May 2017, Sarajevo; emails from Fotini Antonopoulou, representative of the European Union to BiH, 19 June 2017; and Suad Baljak, UNDP, 15 June 2017; and "Mine Action Board of Donors Meeting", 31 March 2016, UNDP in BiH, at: [http://www.ba.undp.org/content/bosnia\\_and\\_herzegovina/en/home/presscenter/articles/2016/03/31/sastanak-odbora-donatora-za-protuminske-akcije.html](http://www.ba.undp.org/content/bosnia_and_herzegovina/en/home/presscenter/articles/2016/03/31/sastanak-odbora-donatora-za-protuminske-akcije.html).
- 32 Interviews with Haris Lokvancic, Advisor on Political Affairs, Programme Officer – Human Security/Justice, Swiss Embassy, Sarajevo, 9 May 2017; Fotini Antonopoulou, European Union delegation, Sarajevo, 10 May 2017, and Lt.-Col. Martin Herrmann, Defence Attaché to Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, German Embassy, Sarajevo, 10 May 2017.
- 33 Audit Office of the Institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, "Performance Audit Report. Efficiency of the Demining System in Bosnia and Herzegovina", p. 28.
- 34 Interview with Tarik Serak, BHMAC, 10 May 2017, Sarajevo.
- 35 Interview with Blažen Kovač, Ministry of Defence, Chair of the Demining Commission, Sarajevo, 10 May 2017.
- 36 Email from Suad Baljak, UNDP, 15 June 2017.
- 37 Statement of BiH, Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Thirteenth Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 5 December 2013, p. 2.
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