

Minutes of the Afghanistan Mine Ban Treaty Extension Request

22nd November 2011

Location:

MACCA conference room

Date and Time:

22 November 2011 from 10:30am to 12:00noon

Participants:

ANDMA, DMC, MoFA, ATC, DAFA, DDG, HT, MCPA, MDC, OMAR & MACCA Operations.

Introduction:

The aim of this meeting was to brief mine action stakeholders on the Afghanistan MBT Extension Request and share the development of work plans of the extension request and collect the participant views and recommendations.

The overall summary of the meeting are:

Opening:

- Mr. Alan Macdonald, MACCA Director welcomed the participants and talked on the importance of the meeting and developing a good extension request.

He added that the progress that has been made by mine action operators in Afghanistan over more than two decades is astonishing, but still it may take them another decade or more, the purpose of all this is to look at the solutions and develop plan as well as to explain what you have done in the last ten years. The aim is to submit a credible Afghan document to international treaty.

- Ms. Abigail Hartley, MACCA chief of staff talked on the importance of the work has been done on the extension request and mentioned that all of the chapters have been written by the Afghans, every part of the request is challenging e.g. in narrative description; we should explain how do we do QA, MRE, technical survey etc.

Presentations on Extension Request:

- Mr. Mohammad Sediq Rashid, MACCA Chief of Operations thanked the participants for attending the meeting. He explained the extension calendar and updated the floor on the progress made to date and gave details on components and steps how the Article 5 will be prepared, submitted and formally considered at the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties - Presentation circulated.
- Mr. Mohammad Wakil, MACCA Snr. Planning Officer presented the Work Plans developed by MACCA Plans section to address the questions considered in the extension request. He detailed that as the MAPA has a good database and run several surveys in the past therefore, work plans/projects would be designed and

submitted with the extension request. He also explained criteria used for developing the projects - Presentation circulated.

Points raised by the participants:

- Dr. Mohammad Daim Kakar, ANDMA General Director thanked MACCA for the work they have done so far on Article 5 and said that extension request is very important for Afghanistan. It has to be drafted carefully and with full coordination and commitment. He added that demining organizations who are operating for more than two decades could significantly contribute to this; they can share their experience and facilitate developing different parts of the Article 5, so as to submit a comprehensive and logical extension request.

He further added that the status of the commercial demining companies should be clearly determined in the request to let the donors know the technical abilities of the commercials. He also mentioned that in case of need we can refer to any GoA authorities including parliament, civil society etc, to help out the process.

- Mr. Noorullah Kaleem, member of UN department, MoFA, said that MoFA has been in the picture and will keenly contribute and follow up the process in partnership with mine action organizations and MACCA.

The way ahead:

The Work Plan will be developed by MACCA, DMC and key mine action agencies through the Extension Request Committee that will have meeting discussions on all aspects of the Work Plan. All members of the committee were urged to review the presentations and contribute to the narrative parts and the development of the work plans.

Next meeting of the Extension Request Committee was scheduled on Tuesday 29 November 2011 in MDC conference room, Kabul

Closing:

The meeting was closed at 12:00pm.

Minutes of the Afghanistan Mine Ban Treaty Extension Request

29th November 2011

Location:

MDC conference room

Date and Time:

29 November 2011 from 09:00am to 11:30am

Participants:

ATC, DAFA, DDG, HT, MCPA, MDC, OMAR & MACCA Operations.

Introduction:

The aim of this meeting was to brief mine action stakeholders on the Afghanistan MBT Extension Request and share the development of work plans of the extension request and collect the participant views and recommendations.

The overall summary of the meeting are:

Opening:

Mr. Mullah Jan MACCA Snr. Operations Manager welcomed the participants and asked them if they had any comments or feedbacks on the previous meeting minutes. No comments/feedbacks were raised.

Work Plan Progress:

Mr. Mohammad Wakil, MACCA Snr. Planning Officer presented the Work Plan and detailed the progress made so far as follows:

- Three sections of the Article 5 have been completed by MACCA and shared with IPs for their comments/acceptance. The deadline was 29 Nov. HT will provide feedback at the end of today;
- AT hazards have also been included in the extension requests and the same Ranking System has been applied for them;
- Slope10% has been removed from Ranking System.

Points raised by the participants:

MDC:

- A paragraph to be added in the narrative part of the extension to indicate running of survey activities in the future;

- It will be good to know why the implementation of extension is to be started in April 2012, while the extension will start in 2013 onwards.

DAFA:

- All land release processes e.g. reduction, cancellation to be mentioned in the narrative part of the extension request;
- The actual clearance rate of MDG, MDU & DT has to be determined by all agencies. In order to have an average rate mentioned in the extension request;
- A contingency plan needs to be developed for the conditions where a project cannot be implemented due to a potential risk i.e. security.

ATC:

- A column to be add in the excel sheet to divide projects into secure and insecure areas ; so as to know about operational accessibility;
- An increase of 5 - 10% cost calculation to cover the yearly economic inflation that may happen in the course of extension period;
- Animal victim indicators must be defined to facilitate recoding animal victims that could potentially lead to human victim.

Halo Trust:

- Equipment expense has to be considered in the financial statement of the extension request, as the extension time may exceed and there will be need to renew the equipment such as PPEs.

Narrative Contents of Extension Request:

Agencies volunteered to contribute to the narrative part of the extension as following:

- Ranking System: MACCA-Plans Section
- Productivity rate: ATC, MDC & OMAR
- Time calculation: When other parts are developed, the time will be calculated.
- Pricing: HT & DAFA
- Security: DDG & HT
- Known un-known: HT & MACCA - Plans Section
- Type of Teams i.e. manual, machine, dog: MACCA - Plans Section
- Survey & Assessment: Halo Trust & MCPA
- Other challenges: All

The deadline for the above is end of next week.

The way ahead:

The Work Plan will be developed by MACCA, DMC and key mine action agencies through the Extension Request Committee that will have meeting discussions on all aspects of the Work Plan. All members of the committee were urged to review the presentations and contribute to the narrative parts and the development of the work plans.

Next meeting of the Extension Request Committee was scheduled on Thursday 8th December 2011 in OMAR conference room, Kabul

Closing:

The meeting was closed at 11:35am.

Minutes of the Afghanistan Mine Ban Treaty Extension Request

12th December 2011

Location:

OMAR conference room

Date and Time:

12 December 2011 from 09:00am to 11:30am

Participants:

DMC, ATC, DAFA, DDG, HT, MCPA, MDC, OMAR & MACCA Operations.

Introduction:

The aim of this meeting was to decide on the average clearance rate and average monthly team cost and to update the committee on the development of Work Plans as a result of 2nd meeting held on 29 November 2011 in MDC.

The overall summary of the meeting are:

Opening:

Mr. Mullah Jan MACCA Snr. Operations Manager welcomed the participants and asked them if they had any comments or feedbacks on the previous meeting minutes. No comments/feedbacks were raised.

Work Plan Progress:

Mr. Mohammad Wakil, MACCA Snr. Planning Officer presented the 3rd version of the Work Plan and detailed the progress made so far as follows:

- The Work Plan has been updated with the stakeholders' inputs of the previous meeting;
- Chapter 4, 5 & 9 of the Article 5 narrative part have been completed and would be released on 2nd week of December by MACCA for comments/acceptance;
- Based on the decision made in the previous meeting, two more columns were added in the work plan excel sheet to indicate Security i.e. Secure/Insecure and Project Name;
- Reference to the point raised in the previous meeting with regard to advance implementation of the extension, it was clarified that:

The work plans would be submitted as part of the Extension Request and it would be clarified in the narrative that the first year of the work plan would be carried during 2012/1391 and the first year plan would be deducted from the whole duration of the Plan i.e. if the timeline as per the work plan identifies 8 years extension, it means the Extension is only for 7 years, first year would be covered under the current Ottawa obligation.

- The committee generally agreed on the average running cost of 12500USD per month, but added the inflation cost of 5-10%, living cost and equipment cost should be also considered. The equipment that the program currently has would need to be replaced in a period of time. DAFA, OMAR and HT will work on the equipment cost and inflation cost and will feed back by Wednesday 14th Dec.

Recommendations:

- The committee will identify the percentage of the reduction rate and the methods used for this purpose and to come up with an actual reduction percentage plus the actual clearance rate;
- Stakeholders to exemplify the physical clearance rate per month in various hazards of different regions this will be reflected in the narrative part of the extension;
- Halo Trust priority classification of 2607 recorded hazards to be matched with OTAWA Ranking System. MACCA will work on this.
- MACCA to calculate the average clearance rate in regional basis considering the data for the last three years;
- Survey teams to be removed from MAPA team matrix to find the actual number of DTs. MACCA will sort it out;
- DDG representative was emphasizing that the 10.000 is a high target rate unless reduction is included, but the rest of the IPs were happy with.

The deadline for the above is Wednesday 14th December 2011 to be started out.

The way ahead:

The Work Plan will be developed by MACCA, DMC and key mine action agencies through the Extension Request Committee that will have meeting discussions on all aspects of the Work Plan. All members of the committee were urged to review the presentations and contribute to the narrative parts and the development of the work plans.

It was also agreed that a meeting should be hold on 4th week of Dec with the Director of ANDMA and representative of MoFA. DMC suggests involving Mol and MoD as well. Mr. Qasim Samandari will discuss the issue with Dr. Kakar.

Next meeting of the Extension Request Committee was scheduled at 09:00am on Tuesday 20th December 2011 in ATC –Training Compound’s conference room, Kabul

Closing:

The meeting was closed at 11:20am.

Minutes of the Afghanistan Mine Ban Treaty Extension Request

20 December 2011

Location: ATC conference room

Date and Time: 20 December 2011 from 09:00 - 11:30 am

Participants: ATC, DAFA, DDG, HT, MCPA, MDC, OMAR, DMC, MACCA Operations.

Introduction:

The aim of this meeting was to finalize the average clearance rate, reduction rate, average monthly team cost, equipment cost and to update the committee on the development of Work Plans as a result of 3rd meeting held on 12 Dec 2011 in OMAR HQ.

The overall summary of the meeting are:

Opening:

Mr. Mohammad Wakil MACCA Sr. Planning Officer welcomed the participants and thanked those committee members for their feedback and calculations on costing and clearance rate.

Work Plan Progress:

Mr. Mohammad Wakil, presented the 3rd version of the Work Plan and detailed the progress made so far as follows:

- The Work Plan has been updated with the committee inputs of the previous meeting;
- 6 Sections (1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 9) of the Article 5 narrative part have been completed and sent out to all IPs.
- 3 Sections (8, 10 & 12) will be sent shortly
- Section 17 "Detailed Development of Work Plans" is underway.

Decisions Taken:

- 500 Demining Teams (10-lane structure) would be considered for the Ottawa Work Plan development calculation as the average number of deminers over the past 3 years is above 5000 deminers.
- Productivity rates were agreed as :
 - 8000 sqm/month for MF clearance and 195,000 sqm/month for BF surface search by a Manual Demining Teams of 10-lane.

- 35,000 sqm/month for MF clearance by MDG and
- 55,000 sqm/month for MF clearance by Machines.
- 10% Area Reduction is also agreed to be considered.
- 70% Manual Clearance, 20% Dog Clearance & 10% Machine utilization were accepted.

Costing:

- Costing was discussed in details and agreed with the following breakdowns:
 - 12,500 USD running cost of a 10-lane demining team per month.
 - 5% inflation cost for each year
 - 60% equipment cost (Mine detector & PPE)
 - 2% inflation cost for the new equipment purchase
 - 30% vehicle cost
 - 30% communication equipment (VHF) cost would also considered
 - Cost of explosive was also raised and it was agreed to be analyzed by MACCA Programme department and DAFA.
- Concept of the continuous non-technical survey was presented by Mr. Ziaee from MACCA, which was generally accepted by the committee. This survey would become part of the work plans.

Timeline of the Extension Request

Extension request timeline is so far calculated for 8 years including the year 1391 (2012) i.e. the extension would be asked for 7 years (1392 – 1398) excluding the year 1391 which is part of the current Ottawa obligation.

The way ahead:

- IPs will review the “Secure/in-secure” classification of each project and would provide their feedback to MACCA by Thursday. Each region was assigned for one or two IP to review the security information and provide their feedback to MACCA.
- MACCA will work on the proposed percentage of costing and its allocation per year.
- MACCA & DAFA will also work on the requirement of explosive and its cost for the extension period.
- MACCA will present the final draft to the committee in next meeting

Closing:

Next meeting of the Extension Request Committee will be held at MCPA HQ, the date and time would be set once all comments were consolidated and the Work plan is finalized.

The meeting was closed at 11:30am.

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04 January 2012

Location: MCPA HQ Conference room

Date and Time: 04 Jan 2012 from 09:00 - 11:30 am

Participants: ATC, DAFA, DDG, HT, MCPA, MDC, OMAR, DMC, MACCA Operations.

Introduction:

The aim of this meeting was to review the final printed version of the work plans and to come up with a plan for EOD Village by Village and Non-Technical Survey process.

The overall summary of the meeting are:

Opening:

Mr. Mohammad Wakil MACCA Sr. Planning Officer welcomed the participants and thanked MCPA for hosting the meeting.

Work Plans Progress:

Mr. Mohammad Wakil, presented the final version of the Work Plans and detailed the progress made so far as follows:

- The Work Plans has been updated with the committee inputs for the security, agreed clearance rate and costing.
- The costing was calculated and updated as per the decision made during the last meeting held at ATC i.e. Cost of demining equipment 60%, Vehicles cost 30% and VHF cost 30%. The costs were adjusted for the years 2 to 4.
- 1391 Plans which are part of the work plans were reviewed and projects/hazards that cannot be completed in this year are moved to Ottawa Work Plans Year 1, while still there are 88 Sqkm area planned which looks a bit ambitious.
- Final printed version of the work plans are distributed to each committee member and comments were noted.
- EOD Village by Village plan was presented by Mr. Kakar and discussed. Generally the plan was agreed,
- Non-Technical Survey plan was presented by Mr. Mateen and discussed. It was decided that the survey team plan should cover visiting all remaining hazards including 1391 planned hazards.

Decisions Taken:

- Ottawa Extension request time line & costing were generally accepted by all members and it was decided that:
 - MACCA will work and add explosive cost for the extension period.
 - MACCA will work to set the costing in an order to be in line with the target per year.
 - Non-Technical Survey & EOD VbV Plan to be further developed and incorporated in to the work plan.

The way ahead:

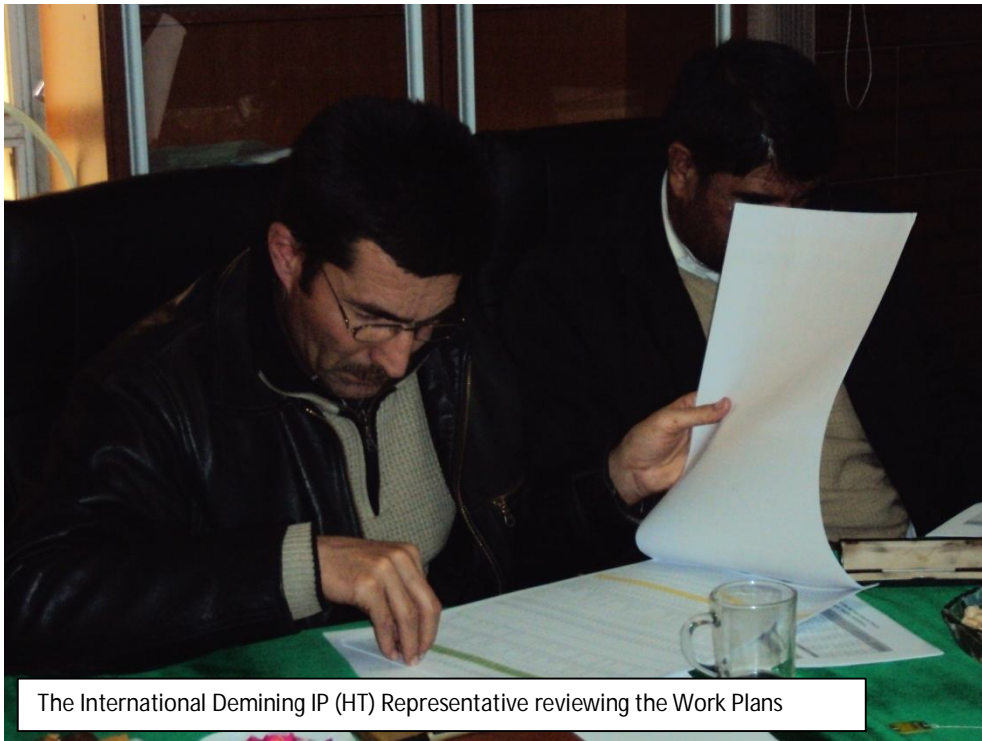
- IPs will have a final review the “Secure/in-secure” classification of each project and would provide their feedback to MACCA by Thursday 05 Jan.
- It was also raised that whether the Mine Risk Education costing has been considered or not? This issue would be communicated to MACCA CoS to discuss it with GICHD implementation unit.
- It was also decided to present the final version of the work plans to Mr. Dayem Kakar the Head of ANDMA. The presentation would be done by the Committee.

Closing:

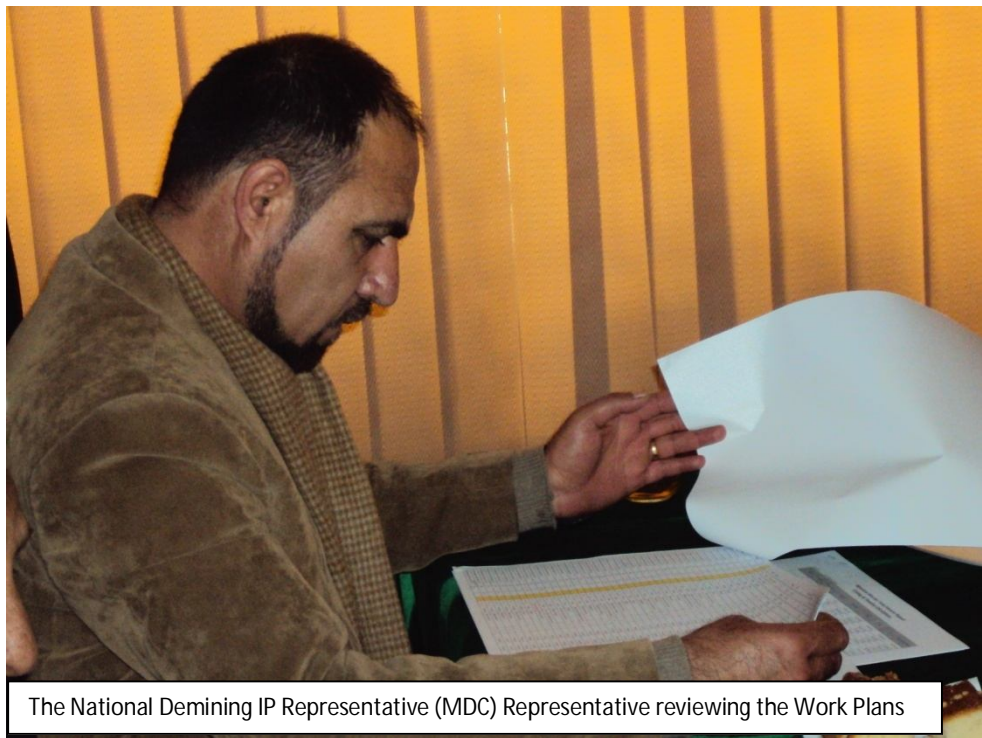
The meeting was closed by Mr. M. Wakil thanking all committee members for their active participation and providing valuable inputs for the development of the work plans over the period of the past two months.

The meeting was closed at 11:30am. Some pictures of the 5th meeting follow:





The International Demining IP (HT) Representative reviewing the Work Plans



The National Demining IP Representative (MDC) Representative reviewing the Work Plans



The Government of Afghanistan (DMC) Representative reviewing the Work Plans

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15 and 16 January 2012

Location: HALO Trust HQ and MACCA Conference room

Date and Time: 15 and 16 Jan 2012 from 02:00 - 4:00 pm

Participants: ATC, DAFA, HT, MCPA, MDC, OMAR, DDG, DMC, MACCA

The aim of this meeting was.

1. Mechanical clearance types and their applications
2. Review work plan options
3. Mechanical clearance in AT MFs

This meeting followed by a sub-committee meeting on 16th Jan at MACCA and the overall summary of the meetings are:

Opening:

Mr. Mohammad Wakil MACCA Sr. Planning Officer welcomed the participants and thanked HT for hosting the meeting.

1. Mechanical application on AT MFs:

Mr. Nesar Ahmad, HALO Trust Mechanical officer presented the HALO Trust machinery plants and mainly described the AT clearance by applications of different types of machinery, especially the use of the Gill, Ripper and raptor systems as follows:

- The raptor is able to clear 100 sqm per hour in hard ground, 200 sqm per hour in semi soft ground and 300 sqm per hour in very soft ground
- The raptors do not need manual follow up; there was only 10% follow up required in Kohsan where the ground was too sandy.
- The clearance rate of HALO Trust machines are 10,000 sqm in mix MFs and 16,000 sqm per month for AT only with the use of raptor
- The new attachment used with some of the machines for AT clearance was also describe which have almost the same productivity as the raptor.

- The only issue highlighted as a challenge for the use of the raptor is the maintenance of the machine, where the attachments are difficult to find in the country.

The briefing was welcomed by the participants and it was decided that the clearance rate of different machines suitable for AT clearance should be analyzed by Mr. Nesar and present it on the following day 16th Jan to the sub-committee at MACCA.

2. Work plans revised versions. Mr. Mohammad Wakil MACCA Planning Officer presented the three options of the work plans i.e. the options for seven, eight and nine years extension.

3. Final decision on clearance rate of mechanical application on AT MFs and different Work Plan options

The **AVERAGE** clearance rate for machinery application on AT MF agreed as follows.

- 13,000 sqm per month in AP only MFs
- 7,000 sqm per month in AP mixed with AT MFs
- 15,000 sqm per month in BF support
- 30,000 sqm per month Volvo Front End Loaders plus raptor clearance rate in AT MFs

It was also decided that the MACCA team work on the two options i.e. extension request for 8 and 9 years and send it to all committee members for final review and decision.

Closing:

The meeting was closed by Mr. M. Wakil thanking all committee members for their active participation and providing valuable inputs for the development of the work plans over the period of the past two months.

Minutes of the Afghanistan Mine Ban Treaty Extension Request

Work plan development committee meeting no. 7

Location: MACA conference room

Date and Time: 24 Jan 2012 from 09:00 - 11:30 am

Participants: ATC, DAFA, DMC, HT, MACCA, MCPA, MDC, OMAR, DDG (absent)

Introduction:

The aim of this meeting was:

- To review the final plan for non-technical survey/EOD village by village.
- To review the final version of the work plans specifically the clearance rates for demining assets and its clearance percentage.
- To review the final version of the budget per annum and the total budget the extension request.
- Mine Risk Education cost and changes in inflation cost.

The overall summary of the meeting are:

Opening:

The meeting was opened by Mr. Mohammad Wakil and welcomed the participants and emphasized on the active participation of the review committee as the work plan is scheduled to be presented on 26 January 2012 to the Director of ANDMA, MoFA representative and NGOs directors.

Work Plans Progress:

The draft plan of non-technical survey and EOD was presented, both survey and EOD search would be performed by the same cross trained teams, in order to save time and cost i.e. instead of sending teams twice to a community.

HALO Trust representative explained their teams' structure and mentioned that their survey teams are cross trained on both survey and EOD, while their EOD teams will require some survey training.

There was a miss-understanding on the process of non-technical survey (NTS). Mr. Ayubi MDC Operations Manager stated that the clearance teams are performing the NTS already. It was cleared by Mr. Wakil that the NTS which will be carried out in two years time (1391 and 1292) would visit all communities in the country and conduct the non-technical

survey of the hazards in contaminated communities, while the clearance teams perform the NTS as part of the land release process prior resuming the clearance process.

He added that the NTS teams would also survey the new hazardous areas, fill out the cancellation form if a hazard is found to be cancelled or used by local people, conduct EOD village by village if required and also visit all non-impacted communities, and fill out the survey form for non availability of hazardous areas/ERW and get the assurance/signature of the community/district Shura and authorities.

Mr. Wakil presented the final version of the work plan and explained the clearance rates and percentage of clearance by different type of demining assets in AP, AP/AT mix, AT and BF, which agreed by all committee members. Mr. Calvin HALO Trust representative mentioned that the clearance rates sit for machines are a bit higher than the HALO target rate, while the rest of the committee members reiterate that these clearance rates are achievable and these rates are the average clearance rate across the programme.

Decisions Taken:

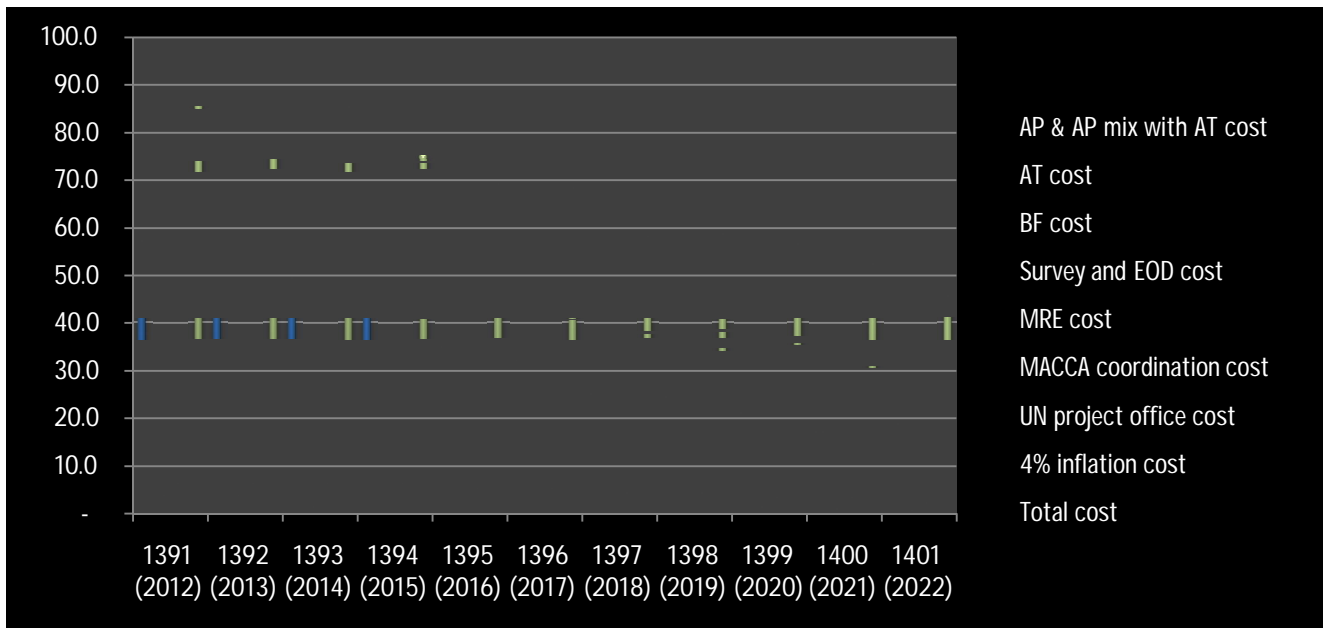
- Nine year extension request and the cost per annum and the total cost were accepted by all committee members.
- Combined survey and EOD structure and process were explained and agreed. It was also decided that these teams would only perform. a. Survey of impacted and non-impacted communities b. Spot ERW destruction, and c. Conduct EOD village by village search. These teams should not be used for the BAC tasks clearance.
- A survey and EOD capacity would be kept in each region till the end of the extension request, beside the teams planned for the two years survey/EOD search i.e. two teams per region for the first two years and increase it to three teams for seven years and then reduce to 12 teams for the whole country in the last year of the extension request.
- The cost of modification and replacement of the mechanical units used in AT MFs shall be added in the budget (i.e. \$3 mln) as the current machines might not last for the extension period.
- Inflation cost was reduced from five to four percent. As five percent accumulation at the last year of the extension period becomes 45%, which was found too high. The committee accepted the reduction to 4%.

Closing:

The meeting was closed by Mr. M. Wakil, thanking all committee members for their active participation and development of the work plans during the past three months.

The meeting was closed at 11:20am.

5. **Cost per year “graph”** : The graph below represents the cost per year detailed in the table above.



The meeting was closed with the following PPP slide .

And the response from the work plan committee members were all “Yes”.

Closing:

The meeting was closed by Mr. M. Wakil thanking all committee members for their active participation and providing valuable inputs for the development of the work plans over the period of the past three months .