

- Ukraine** - Ready to begin partial destruction of its APM stockpiles, with the first stocks to be destroyed by the end of 1997.
- ICBL** - Work with governments to establish a base line of mine-related information against which to measure the accuracy of data provided on entry into force.

MINE CLEARANCE

Participants in the Ottawa Conference recognized the importance of removing anti-personnel mines already in the ground. Signatories to the Convention agreed to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under their control not later than 10 years after entry into force and, where possible, to assist others in mine clearance and related activities.

- Australia** - Continuation of multi-year demining programs.
- The Australian Defence Science and Technology Organization will spend AUS \$4 million over the next five years on research into improved mine detection and neutralisation.
- Austria** - Creation of a new Mine Information Centre of the Austrian Armed Forces for the dissemination of know-how on demining.
- Increase assistance to demining, mine awareness and victim-rehabilitation programs, and increase the number of Armed Forces instructors for international demining operations.
- Belgium** - Increased contribution to the UN Voluntary Fund and to the ICRC; continuation of research into high technology demining solutions, including a continued contribution to the pilot project "Airborne Minefield Detection in Angola." Additional contributions will amount to more than BF 63 million, bringing the annual global contribution to more than BF 100 million.
- China** - Second massive demining campaign in the border regions of Yunnan province. (November 97- December 99)
- EU** - US \$40 million in 1998 for demining (European Commission); plus up to ECU 4.5 million in other contributions to international and regional organizations; plus ECU 15 million for development of appropriate technologies for humanitarian demining (European Commission).
- Convening an *End User Forum* on demining in January 1998, probably at the Joint Research Centre (JRC) in Ispra, Italy.
- Convening an International Symposium and Exhibition on demining technology at the JRC in Ispra on September 29, 1998.
- Finland** - Initiating a two-year mine clearance program, in cooperation with the Cambodian Mine Action Centre. A Finnish mine-clearing group will be deployed; total cost, FM 9.2 million.