

## **Canadian Association for Mine and Explosive Ordnance Security**

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### Organization's mandate/goals:

CAMEO utilizes the services of former Canadian Military Engineers personnel who have been extensively experienced in land mine clearance and associated activities during their peacekeeping services. To provide a quick reaction service, CAMEO also maintains working links with the Gurkha Security Guards Trust based in the United Kingdom, which maintains a roster of former British Army Gurkha military engineers who are employed on humanitarian land mine and explosive ordnance clearance duties worldwide.

The Canadian Association for Mine and Explosive Ordnance (CAMEO) Security has as its primary mission the saving of life and limb from land mine and unexploded ordnance accidents. Many victims of such accidents are women and children who have to pass through these unmarked minefields to obtain food and fuel for their starving families; underscores the absolute urgency of this mission. This mission includes the building of a national capacity in the affected country to continue this work once CAMEO has withdrawn, and assistance in the rehabilitation of mine victims.

At the same time as it acts to remove existing land mine hazards in war-torn societies, CAMEO intends to strongly advocate a worldwide ban on the production, transfer, and use of anti-personnel land mines so that this scourge of humanity may be eliminated from the world once and for all. To accomplish the Society's Mission, CAMEO Security has registered six primary Objects of the Corporation: to engage in humanitarian mine clearance; to engage in humanitarian explosive ordnance disposal; to engage in live-firing area clearance and environmental clean up; to engage in land mine and explosive ordnance awareness training; to engage in land mine and battle area surveys; and to provide training and assistance to others in the carrying out of all of the above.

### Areas of expertise relevant to 2001 UN Conference on Small Arms:

#### Collecting and Destroying Excess Weapons and Ammunition --*Destruction and collection*

CAMEO is working in Panama to build up its capacity for explosive ordnance disposal. CAMEO's projects include training southern Sudanese villagers how to live in a mined environment, how to evacuate and treat casualties and how to recognize and safely dispose of land mines and unexploded bombs.

CAMEO personnel have conducted land mine clearance operations in Mozambique, Angola, Cambodia, Kuwait, and the former Yugoslavia, and have educated Afghani people in mine awareness. They are also fully experienced in mine survey and marking as well as mine database management, and are experts in training many different nationalities in all aspects of land mine action and explosive ordnance disposal. Because military engineers are also trained in the construction and maintenance of buildings and municipal services such as water and power, CAMEO's complement of former military engineers has the additional capacity to advise communities in war-torn societies on reconstruction and rehabilitation of services once the land mine/UXO hazard has been eliminated.