

**NORWEGIAN PEOPLE’S AID HUMANITARIAN MINE ACTION  
PROGRAMME IN ANGOLA:  
A Land Release Project –  
Quarterly Progress Report 2010  
(1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010)**



*International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action observed by NPA in Malanje*

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## 1 Introduction

The following report covers activities conducted by the NPA Mine Action Teams in Angola from 1<sup>st</sup> of April throughout 30<sup>th</sup> of June.

NPA MA Angola current capacity comprises two manual demining teams, total of 40 deminers, 2 Aardvark Mechanical Teams, 2 Casspir Mine Protected Vehicle (MVP) Teams and 2 Combined Survey/EOD teams. Total of 101 staff, including two internationals.

The demining operations were conducted in Malanje Province on three Confirmed Hazardous Areas – Kemba, Causse and Camabole and in Kwanza Sul Province at one CHA - Rio Longa 2. The Rio Longa 2 task was completed in the middle of May and Kemba task was completed on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May.

Due to collective holidays from end of May to the 10<sup>th</sup> of June demining activities were conducted on the one CHA only, Causse. The Camabole task has commenced on June 11<sup>th</sup> involving Aardvark Machine through systematic technical survey and manual deminers to follow up on the full clearance. Causse task is due to be completed by the end of July and all capacities will after completion be relocated to the Camabole task.

## 2 Coordination of Activities Conducted and Reporting Concluded

International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action on April 4<sup>th</sup> was observed in Malanje Cambachi School where more than 200 students and teachers participated in a mine risk education session given by Liaison Officer and two Deminers. Demonstration of demining techniques, presentation of AT, AP mines and UXOs were also part of the session. HIV/AIDS awareness session was also included and conducted by NPA Senior Paramedic.

The proposal for investments for equipment, vehicles and machinery for the NPA Humanitarian Mine Action Programme in Angola was submitted to USDoS on April 08<sup>th</sup>. This proposal applied for funding from the United States Department of State, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (USDoS - PM/WRA) to support replacement of obsolete equipment, vehicles and machinery. The agreed proposal was based on the two separate lots, one for replacement of equipment and vehicles and the other for the acquisition of one Mini Mine Wolf, tiller machine.

On April 14<sup>th</sup> NPA MA Deputy Programme Manager together with Liaison Officer participated in a meeting chaired by the Malanje Provincial Governor, Boa Ventura Cardoso and the Provincial vice Governor for social affairs, António Silva David, including the government staff and all demining operators in Malange. This meeting was organized by the Provincial Government. The objective of the meeting was to find strategies to accelerate the demining process of the government land reserves which is currently being carried out by FAA and INAD. NPA was requested to assist on the clearance of these tasks since the project of house construction is based on the policy of extending urban areas for the community. The government of Malanje recognized that the clearance of these areas would take a lot of time considering the traditional clearance procedures. Thus, they proposed to embrace the NPA Land



Release Concept (non technical survey), and have requested the NPA DPM to accompany the provincial Vice Governor for a meeting with General Petrof, Head of CNIDAH in this regard.

The final draft of the Dutch MFA Annual Project Report 2009 was submitted to the NPA HQ and forwarded to the Dutch MFA by end April on schedule.

The final draft of the NMFA Annual Progress Report 2009 was submitted directly to the Norwegian Embassy in April on schedule.

NPA Mine Action Operations Manager visited Ebinger Company in Germany through period of 25th to 27th May 2010. The main objectives for this visit was introduction on the new types of Ebinger metal detectors, bomb locators and magnetometers as well as for OM to conduct the basic service and maintenance training course for Metal Detector EBEX GC 421 and Large Loop, BAC detector "UPEX 740" which are in use by the MA Programme in Angola.

The other objectives were introduction of the MA Programme Angola and presentation of advantages and disadvantages of metal detectors GC 421 and UPEX 740 through power point presentation presented by OM Angola.

Operations Manager has also during this visit agreed with Ebinger Engineers that metal detectors requested in the latest USDoS Proposal "Investment for replacement of equipment, vehicles and machinery" should be the type EPEX GC 421 for two main reasons; firstly these detectors have been a proven tool in the programme for the last two years and secondly the spare parts from the broken down detectors can be utilised when required.

NPA Mine Action Angola Joint Donor Meeting (JDM) involving representatives from NPA, the U.S. Embassy (U.S. Department of State's), Norwegian Embassy (NMFA), Royal Netherland Embassy (Dutch MFA) and StatoilHydro was held at the NPA office in Luanda on the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010. The main objective of the meeting was for NPA to give an update on the programme's status to date (with comparison made to 2009 and 2010 results) as well to discuss further the land release concept and NPA's strategy in this regard.

The other objectives for the meeting were also to provide brief overview of NPA common strategy in Angola which was presented by NPA Country Director. Funding matrix status and brief financial summary of the MA Programme was presented by NPA Finance manager as well.

Advisor for the NPA mine action portfolio in Africa and Director HR & Administration from HO Oslo visited our programme throughout period of June 7<sup>th</sup> to June 13<sup>th</sup>. The main objective of the visit was to visit the Mine Action programme, discuss strategy and the future of the programme, as well as get an overview of the development programme and their activities.

During this visit several meetings were held, in Malanje with provincial Governor of Malanje and in Luanda with CNIDAH, INAD and UNDP with relevant representatives. NPA MA Programme Manger and Operations Manager attended the meeting with Statoil delegation in Sumbe on June 24<sup>th</sup>. The respective Mine Action and the

Development Programme presentations and discussions held were well received by the Statoil delegation. Statoil was represented by Juelma Giovetty and Cornelio Bento, CSR Officers assisting Vice-President Dr. Lukoki Sebastião, but unfortunately the expected Norwegian Statoil HO visitors including President Bjorn Rasmussen, were not able to attend due to visa entry issues.

NPA MA Deputy Programme Manager facilitated the training of non-technical survey specialists for CNIDAH from 21<sup>st</sup> of June through 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2010. The training took place in the province of Kwanza Sul and it was organized by CNIDAH to undertake non-technical survey in those areas that have not been revisited after LIS has been conducted. In addition to this, the objective to undertake survey is to update the national database and have an idea of the mine problem in Angola today. This will help the Government of Angola to revise its strategic plan in regard to landmines and put up new strategies that reflect new picture of Angola in terms of landmines.

The Statoil Vice-President Dr. Lukoki Sebastião was positive about future funding possibilities but couldn't make any firm commitments at this stage. He also stated that he was very impressed by NPA's activities presented at the meeting.

Statoil delegation requested at the meeting for tentative planning to commence in preparation of a possible visit to MA in Malanje later this year once their HO visitors had visa's issued. MA conveyed that this would be more than welcomed and Statoil CSR Officers will liaise further with NPA on this as required.



*Statoil Delegation at the meeting held in Sumbe with DP and MA Programmes*



### 3 Operations

Three tasks were completed during this reporting period; Kemba in Malanje Province and Rio Longa 1 and 2 in the Kwanza Sul Province. Final/completion reports were concluded by Operation Officer and the final internal QA/QC reports were concluded by Senior QA/QC Officer. All reports were sent to CNIDAH QA/QC Provincial Offices including request for the final external QA/QC.

Two tasks commenced during the reporting period, Causse on 16th of April and Camabole on 11th of June. Following the systematic Technical Survey, Aardvark flail machine opened the lanes on 40 meters distance, and these lanes were investigated by manual deminers. Two AT, two AP mines and several different types of UXOs were removed. At the moment Casspir Mine Protected Vehicle Team is conducting the final verification on the Causse task and it is expected that it will be completed by the end of July.

Camabole CHA was estimated by NPA Combined Survey/EOD Team at more than 600,000 m<sup>2</sup>. The area was military position/camp used by FAA in aim to protect UNITA units to infiltrate towards Malanje City. The mine belt was identified and 14 Anti Tank mines were removed to date at this CHA.



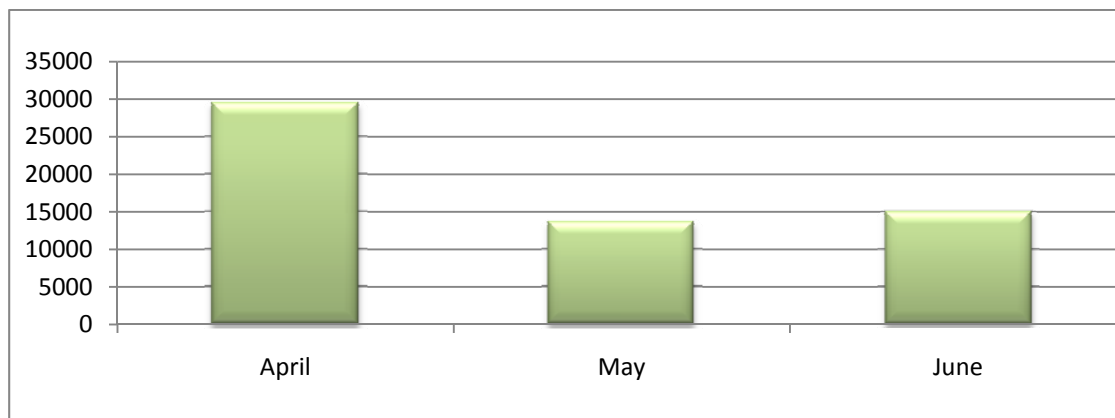
*Aardvark flail machine at Camabole tasks*



### 3.1 Manual Clearance

A total of 58,329 m<sup>2</sup> was cleared during this reporting period conducting full manual clearance. A total of 100 anti personal mines, 11 anti tank mines and 65 different types of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) were removed and destroyed by controlled demolitions conducted by the NPA Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) Team.

*(See manual productivity table below)*



### 3.2 Combined (Survey/EOD Teams)

Combined Survey/EOD teams continued to revisit areas previously identified by LIS, applying non-technical survey, limited technical survey and EOD spot tasks in the municipalities of Cazengo, Lucala and Samba Caju in Kwanza Norte Province.

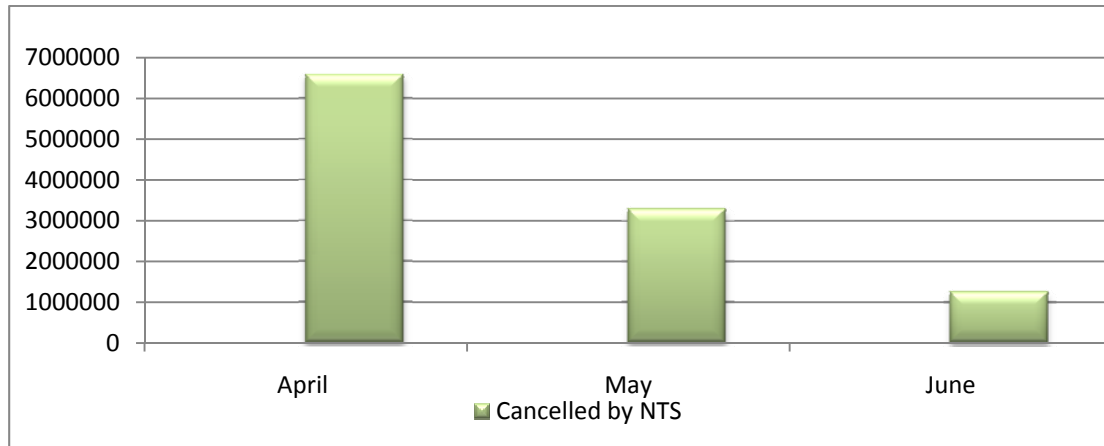
The activities were focused on revisiting suspected hazardous areas as well as informing the community about community-marking and their involvement in the decision making approach. In addition to this the combined Survey/EOD teams used the opportunity to inform the communities about mine risk education (MRE).

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of April, the one Combined Survey/EOD team conducted a demolition of 24, 000 small ammunitions, 28 mortars, 60 mm, 17 RPG-7, rockets, 4 rockets OG-7, 12 mortars, 82 mm, and 33 rifle grenades. The destroyed UXOs were collected in the commune of Gungo including UXO received from FAA and Police in Kwanza Sul province. The demolition was attended by FAA, Police and the local media.

A total of 14 spot tasks were conducted. Combined Teams have through Non-Technical Survey activities revisited 43 Suspected Hazardous Areas (SHAs) previously identified by the Angolan Land Mine Impact Survey (ALIS) of which 21 of them were confirmed. A total of 19 entire SHAs (12,824.732 m<sup>2</sup>) were discredited/cancelled.



(See Combined, Survey/EOD Teams productivity table below, NTS released/cancelled entire areas)

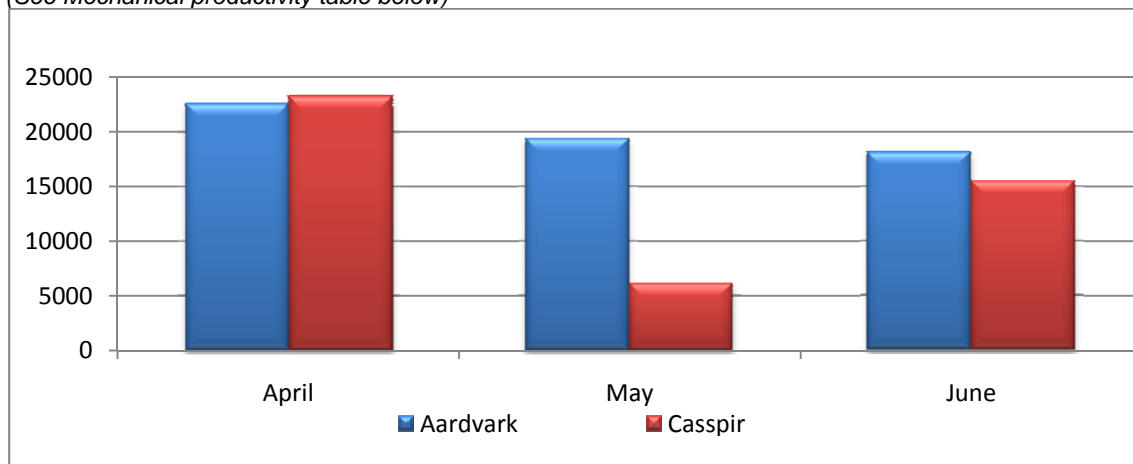


### 3.3 Mechanical Mine Clearance (MMC)

After completion of mechanical activities at Kemba task in Malanje Province the Aardvark machine was transported to the Causse task and commenced operations on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April. At the same time, Casspir MPV was deployed at Kemba task to conduct the final verification. After completion of mechanical activities at Causse task the mechanical team conducted the regular service and maintenance and machine was transported to Camabole CHA and commenced activities on 11<sup>th</sup> of June. On 13<sup>th</sup> of June the Aardvark machine detonated an AT mine at the Camabole task. After further investigation around the place where the mine was activated, by creating the buffer zones, manual deminers have removed 14 AT mines to date. The Aardvark machine was relocated to the other part of the task and continued with further investigation by conducting systematic technical survey. Soon after, the machine has reached the tranche lanes, and these lanes will be further investigated by manual deminers.

Total output from machines was 60,037 m<sup>2</sup> for Aardvark flail machine and 44,097 m<sup>2</sup> for Casspir Mine Protected Vehicle (MPV).

(See Mechanical productivity table below)





### 3.4 General overview of production in 2nd Quarter 2010

A total of 12,842.732 m<sup>2</sup> was released using different assets, Manual, Mechanical clearance in Confirmed Hazardous Areas and Non-Technical Survey activities in the Suspected Hazardous Areas

#### Operations and Survey activities

Full Clearance	59,329 m <sup>2</sup>
Technical Survey	39.413 m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>98,742 m<sup>2</sup></b>

Cancellation of entire Suspected Hazardous Areas (19)	12,824.732 m <sup>2</sup>
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<b>TOTAL Area Released</b>	<b>12,923.474 m<sup>2</sup></b>
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Anti Personnel (AP) mines removed	100
Anti Tank (AT) mines removed	11
UXO removed	65

### 3.5 Information Manegmnet Department

IM Department continued to follow up restructuring the tech base reports to the new reporting system based on LRC, developing a GIS database (linking areas revisited, areas discredited, ongoing tasks, completed tasks and previously suspended tasks), arranging all information about each specific task (including photos) and training for the Planning and Reporting Officer.

The process of compiling LIS information and the work completed by the Combined Survey/EOD Teams in the provinces of Malanje and Kwanza Norte is in progress.

### 3.6 Crosscutting issues

NPA MA has throughout current reporting period continued with community awareness about HIV/AIDS where several sessions were conducted.

The Community Liaison Officer together with Senior Paramedic visited the Catholic Church School in Tamba Village on April 29<sup>th</sup> and conducted MRE and HIV/AIDS awareness session where more than 160 children including the six teachers participated.



During May and June the MRE and HIV/AIDS awareness sessions were conducted in the Lombe, ADPP School in Cacuso Municipality and in the Caculama community where more than 80 people participated.



*HIV/AIDS awareness session conducted in the Lombe, ADPP School – Cacuso Municipality*

#### **4 Workshop, Logistics and Transport**

International procurement of Aardvark spares, including consumables as chains, hammers and related bolts and washers was concluded and such spares were added to already existing stocks at Quessua. This will allow us to continue using the machine without major problems for the next few coming months. Other procurement processes carried out during the Q2 period were related to PPE as well as some other personal and field equipment.

Daily workshop activities in order to maintain vehicles and machines were carried out on regular basis by using available resources from Quessua facilities with exception of the few field repairs as/when required, mainly due to break down of machines possible to solve on the operation sites, avoiding unnecessary movements and expenses on transporting the machine to be repaired in Quessua.

The process of cleanup and reorganizing of stores in Malanje continues. Disposal of a total of 20 vehicle equipment/assets, identified to be obsolete due to their status is almost complete and the disposal method was internal and external sale. The disposal of equipment, helps on reducing unnecessary workload on maintenance, as well as fees like taxes, insurance, etc on items no longer required and already



identified as beyond their normal lifespan. All disposals are being done only after approval from respective donors.

Contacts have been established with the suppliers of the metal detectors (PB and PBD types – no longer in use) as well as CODAN equipment (SSB type) no longer in use with the aim to get inputs on how to dispose them.

Disposal of one Aardvark machine due to obsolete technical status was carried out during the period. The way of disposal was cannibalization; the removed spares will be used for other serviceable machines as/when required.

Logistically, it has also been a big exercise to transfer the Malanje Office to another facility. Starting from relocation of personnel previously living in the house planned to be the new office until repairs on its physical structure adapting to office requirement and movement of all office equipment, furniture, V-sat, etc.

## **5 Financial Statement**

During this quarter the expenditure was made according to the approved budget, and cost cutting exercises undertaken to reduce overheads and costs have proven to be very effective. Tactical repositioning of assets and resources together with the successful use of land release concept has made this possible without diminishing productivity.

END

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