



Briefing on the occasion of the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action

Saving Lives through Humanitarian Mine Action in Azerbaijan

Friday, 4 April 2025, 15:00-17:00, Conference Room 8, UNHQ

CONCEPT NOTE

BACKGROUND

Azerbaijan faces significant challenges due to landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), which affect more than 13% of the country's territory. Since November 2020, 388 people have become victims of landmines and ERWs (70 killed, 318 wounded). The total number of mine victims in Azerbaijan since 1991 has reached 3467 persons. There is a pressing need for an adequate level of practical support from the international community and enhanced partnership through technical, material and financial means, as well as innovative solutions for Azerbaijan's humanitarian demining efforts. The biennial UNGA resolution "Assistance in Mine Action" (78/70) and UNSC resolution 2365 (2017) call upon Member States and relevant UN entities to provide assistance for mine-affected countries. Likewise, the United Nations Mine Action Strategy (2024) and the United Nations Policy on Victim Assistance in Mine Action (2016) reaffirm such assistance as critical and lifesaving.

OBJECTIVE

On the occasion of the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations, in cooperation with the Center of Analysis of International Relations (AIR Center), will hold a briefing entitled "Saving Lives through Humanitarian Mine Action in Azerbaijan" on 4 April 2025. The event will highlight vital aspects of mine action in Azerbaijan, particularly those related to the humanitarian demining works, and the necessity of international assistance and innovative solutions in addressing this challenge. The discussion will explore the importance of humanitarian mine action to address the threat and risks of mines and ERWs to safety, health and lives of the civilian population, exposing the negative impact of landmine contamination on the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals.

AGENDA

- **Opening segment:**
 - Opening remarks: H.E. Ambassador Tofiq Musayev, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations.
 - Presentation of short videos on mine action in Azerbaijan.
- **Keynote speaker:**
 - Ambassador Mr. Farid Shafiyev, Chairman of the Center of Analysis of International Relations.
- **Discussants:**
 - Ms. Rita Gunaryati Lubis, Deputy Director of the United Nations Mine Action Service.
 - Mr. Anar Mutallimov, Head of the Department of Military and Political Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
 - Mr. Devanand Ramiah, Head of the Crisis Readiness, Response and Recovery Team, Crisis Bureau of the United Nations Development Programme.
 - Ms. Elise Becker, Executive Director of the Marshall Legacy Institute.
- **Remarks from the floor**
- **Closing segment**

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- [RSVP](#) to confirm your attendance and intention to take the floor.
- The briefing will be held in English, no simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

An exhibition dedicated to the humanitarian mine action in Azerbaijan organized by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations is on display **from 24 March until 4 April 2025** in the General Assembly Building - 1B Neck area (next to the Vienna Café).