EF European Federation for Non-Destructive Testing
NDT

WORKING GROUP ON ANTIPERSONNEL MINES DETECTION

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Minutes of the 7th EFNDT WG5 - APMD Meeting

Centre of Technology Transfer, Zagreb, October 7, 2002

EFNDT WG5 - APMD, Croatian Society for Non-Destructive Testing & Center for Technology Transfer,
I. Lucica 5, HR - 10000 Zagreb, Croatia
Tel: +385(1)6157 129, +385(1)6168 430, Fax: +385(1)6157 129
e-mail: crsndt @fsb.hr, URL: http://www.fsb.hr/ndt/wg5-apmd

MINUTES OF THE 7th MEETING

Place: Centre of Technology Transfer, Zagreb
Time: October 7, 2002, 10:00-14:20

Agenda:

1. Introductory part:
   1.1. Opening of meeting,
   1.2. Roll call of participants,
   1.3. Review of the agenda objectives (written at the end of the Agenda)
   1.4. Adoption of the agenda and its objectives,
2. Discussion:
   2.1. Accepting the Minutes of the 6th Meeting,
   2.2. Information from the convenor – status of the project *Mine Action Academy*,
   2.3. Application of the *Mine Action Academy* for the LIFE programme,
   2.4. Collect feedback from the members and confirm buy-in,
   2.5. Presentation by Dr. Kurt Osterloh: *Technologies and Recent Developments to Inspect Suspicious Objects*,
   2.6. Presentation by Dr. Tomaz Apih: *NQR Demining*, project within the NATO *Science for Peace* programme
   2.7. Information about activities,
   2.8. Date and place for the 8th WG5 meeting,
   2.9. Any other business.

The agenda objectives:

- Review, collect and adopt the *Mine Action Academy* project proposal,
- Identify interested and included parties.

Participants in alphabetic order:

WG5 members; Davor Antonic, Tomaz Apih, Miro Dzapo, Melanija Grubic-Sutara, Vjera Krstelj (WG5 convenor), Rainer Link, Ana Lypolt, Damir Markucic, Kurt Osterloh, Ivan Steker, Josip Stepanic.
Guests of the meeting; Igor Krstelj (Centre of Technology Transfer), Stephen Lawlor (Centre of Technology Transfer)

Meeting discussion:

Ad. 1. and 2.1.

The agenda, its objectives and the Minutes of the 6th Meeting were unanimously accepted.

Ad. 2.2.-2.4.

Prof. Krstelj, WG5 Convenor, informed the members about the project *Mine Action Academy* (MAA) which was initiated two years ago. Presently, it gained approval of *National Board for Higher Education*, and strong support from other institutions and people close to demining. The MAA contributes to filling the gap between the proclaimed 2010 finishing of humanitarian demining and existing demining rate. Prof. Krstelj emphasised significant role of EFNDT in MAA establishing, as EFNDT's existing networking and developed structure of education is transferable onto MAA. In general, according to her, there are many aspects of MAA project for which the existing NDT organisation scheme is relevant and applicable. Furthermore, in NDT a risk is incorporated throughout the procedures, and the existing level system is the solution to performing high-risk work, hence should be properly represented in MAA. She remarked that intense international support induces further actions like is MAA project proposal for EC LIFE (3rd countries) programme.

Mr. Stepanic reported about preparing the MAA project proposal for EC LIFE (3rd countries) programme. Dr. I. Krstelj leads the work on proposal, and Mr. Lawlor is contributor to it.

Dr. Markucic reported about excellent acceptance the MAA project obtained during 3rd European-American Workshop on Reliability of NDE and Demining, September 10-13, 2002, Berlin. One of the consequences was A. Sieber's invitation of the MAA project representatives to Regional Conference in Geneva.

Dr. I. Krstelj reported about the successful work in describing the MAA project to interested parties at Regional Conference in Geneva. He held the presentation about the MAA with emphasis put on added value and related management topics. Basic idea of MAA is to provide the world market with

individuals capable of technical, management and other aspects needed in humanitarian demining. There will be two different types of education: short-term courses providing attendes with certificate for Mine Action Specialist and longer-term education providing the students with the degree Mine Action Engineer. Dr. I. Krstelj stated that with good management and quality assurance impressive results can be obtained and mentioned Croatian Mine Action Centre as example for that. Further work regarding MAA project will focus on finalising logistics, seeking candidates for International Advisory Board and seeking for further financial support.

Dr. Link supported the MAA project, which he considers interesting, and told that certification scheme based on standards of education in humanitarian demining be formed for MAA, so that short-term courses are aligned with the existing NDT qualification scheme. In his opinion quality control enters the MAA project and general humanitarian demining work in a variety of aspects. He connected these topics with the case of third-party certification in NDT. He told that EFNDT can provide a support for MAA project, and that representatives from other EU mine affected countries should be incorporated. Furthermore, the MAA should be compared with the related, existing programs in the world so that unnecessary similarities are removed.

Mrs. Grubic-Sutara told about the two documents with EC policy about mine affected regions. The electronic versions, provided by her, are put into *xload* directory (see Ad.2.7. for description of *xload* directory).

The WG5 members unanimously accepted the MAA project proposal and further actions regarding it. WG5 members unanimously agreed to send a letter of intention to EFNDT Board of Directors to get support for the further work on the MAA project.

Ad. 2.5. and 2.6.

Dr. Osterloh presented the overview through the existing projects focused on mine detection methods and techniques, from the technical and related broadened point of view. Since the last WG5 meeting, among the methods the radiography application made the highest progress. He stated that with increasing computer capabilities the development of integrated inspection technique looks more promising than hunting for a unique technique.

Dr. Apih presented the NATO accepted project *Nucler Quadrupole Resonance Demining*, in which international team of scientists and experts will work on research and development of a particular way of explosive content detection and confirmation.

Ad. 2.7.

Dr. Markucic reported about ongoing activities regarding the project focused on Reliability assessment, as proposed and accepted at 5th WG5 meeting. C.Müller and U.Ewert invited D.Markucic for two months visit research to BAM Berlin. Expenses have been funded by Sequa, BAM, DGZfP and University of Zagreb. Our efforts on Reliability of Mine Detection has been included in *Network of Excellence* for *Mine Action Technologies* (MAT) and connected to *Test and Evaluation and Standardisation* topics. In near future it is expected that integrated projects have to be prepared according to the settled Expression of interest for MAT. Participants agreed that WG5 will support this efforts and also agreed that ongoing progress of this activity will be described and published on the dedicated web page which is going to be hosted at official WG5 web site. According to the conclusion from the previous WG5 meeting a directory with access restricted to WG5 members was created within the WG5 web site, at www.fsb.hr/ndt/wg5-apmd/xload. Dr. Markucic proposed the explicit policy statement and suggested categorisation of on-line documents in future. Participants unanimously agreed about that and about the following three categories:

- **public** – to be published on the official web pages of WG5;
- **members** – to be uploaded in *xload* directory with access restricted only to WG5 members;
- **individual** – only information about document is published on the WG5 web site, document can be revealed by contacting the author of the document.

Ad. 2.8.

For the date and place of 8th Meeting of WG5, the members agreed for April 16, 2003, Zagreb.

At 14:20 Prof. Krstelj closed the Meeting.