



KRG, Japan Embassy and UNMAS Celebrate Certification Ceremony for Mine Action Officials



Erbil, 10 November 2016 – The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) held a certification ceremony for fifteen senior officials from the Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA), following their completion of a risk education and victim assistance management course funded by the Government of Japan to respond to humanitarian mine action in Iraq.

The three-week-long capacity enhancement training course was developed in line with International Mine Action Standards to manage the risk education and victim assistance programme. The course covered both knowledge and practical skills to plan and organize the programme, and coordinate with various mine action partners to effectively manage and deliver the programme. It is anticipated that the IKMMA further contribute to respond to humanitarian mine action programme.

Mr. Sarbast Amin Naser, Training Section Head, IKMAA, expected “the participants to reflect the knowledge in their work.”

Mr. Pierre Lemelin, Senior Programme Manager, UNMAS Iraq, said that “Japan has been a consistent supporter of mine action globally.” He appreciated Japan’s commitment to reducing the impact of explosive hazards in Iraq.

Mr. Fumio Iwai, Ambassador of Japan to Iraq, expressed his appreciation for ongoing efforts by the IKMAA in order to mitigate the threat of UXOs, mines and IEDs and his expectation for the participating officials to utilize what they learned in the course to promote awareness of the threat around them.



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