



TMAC takes part at NATO Trust Fund Workshop in Washington, DC



On 22-23 February, 2007 TMAC National Program Manager, Mr. Jonmahmad Rajabov, and UNDP Chief Technical Advisor, Mr. William Lawrence attended the Working Group Meeting of Trust Fund Workshop, NATO's Cooperation for Peace Program.

The conference, organized jointly by the US State Department and NATO, was attended by representatives from more than 42 countries as well as representatives of leading international organizations. In the course of this two-day workshop, the issues of increased cooperation between the alliance member-states as well as cooperation for Peace Program and stockpile destruction of anti-personnel landmines and light weapons were discussed.

TMAC delegation made a passionate presentation of major problems the program currently faces and discussed ways by which these challenges could be overcome by the support of the international community. In this regard, TMAC representatives held a roundtable with NATO and OSCE officials as well as representatives from Switzerland and Canada and made a plea for financial donor support.

One of the main priorities for TMAC in the 2007 demining season has been the purchase of, at least one, heavy mechanical demining machinery. This plea was highlighted together with the construction of an assumed lodging facility for deminers housed at the engineering battalion of the Ministry of Defence. TMAC remains hopeful that the promise of support echoed during the workshop will translate into firm donor commitment and translate into tangible progress towards mine clearance in Tajikistan.

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