



UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL ADVOCATE DANIEL CRAIG CALLS FOR MINE ACTION TO BE PRIORITISED AT WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT

23 May 2016. Today at the first ever World Humanitarian Summit, United Nations Global Advocate for the Elimination of Mines and Explosive Hazards, Mr. Daniel Craig, called on world leaders to support the United Nations Agenda for humanity and address the threat of landmines and explosive hazards:

“War continues to rage in far too many countries. It is imperative not to forget that unprecedented amount of unexploded ordnance, mines and IEDs will continue to litter urban and rural areas long after any peace is brokered.” Mr. Craig reminded the audience of some 6,000 representing UN Member States, affected communities, civil society, leaders from the private sector and United Nations officials.

During the Opening Ceremony, Mr. Craig spoke after Col. Adeeb Ateeq, a Syrian landmine survivor and founder of the Syrian Centre for Awareness and Demining, which trains small teams of volunteers in mine clearance and risk education. Mr. Craig emphasized the centrality of mine action work, which involves activities such as the clearance of landmines and other explosive hazards and educating communities on how to reduce the risks they face, for effective humanitarian response.

The Director of the United Nations Mine Action Service, Agnes Marcaillou, said “We applaud Mr Craig’s commitment to advocating on behalf of the victims and potential victims of landmines and other explosive hazards. The vision of the United Nations is a world free from the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war – at the World Humanitarian Summit, we are calling for others to join us in making this a reality.”

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has called for the first ever World Humanitarian Summit to engage world leaders and mobilize political will to advance global action on some of the greatest challenges of our time. The Summit aims to set in motion a course to change the way the humanitarian system prepares for and responds to humanitarian crises.



UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed Daniel Craig as the United Nations Global Advocate for the Elimination of Mines and Explosive Hazards to mobilize the world's attention and press for increased funding of this essential work.

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Important Links:

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon:

<http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/watch/ban-ki-moon-united-nations-secretary-general-opening-of-the-world-humanitarian-summit-23-24-may-2016-istanbul-turkey/4907237162001>

Colonel Adeeb Ateeq Opening:

<http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/watch/adeeb-ateeq-opening-of-the-world-humanitarian-summit-23-24-may-2016-istanbul-turkey/4907190693001>

Daniel Craig Plenary:

<http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/watch/daniel-craig-un-advocate-world-humanitarian-summit-istanbul-2016-member-states-and-stakeholders-announcements/4907451083001>