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In Remembrance: Tim Carstairs

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In Remembrance

Nazim Ismayilov

Nazim Ismayilov of the Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action (ANAMA) died 11 December 2014 at the age of 70. Ismayilov long served as ANAMA director, a position he began three years after the organization was founded in 1998.

Ismayilov was born in Baku, Azerbaijan, in 1944 and graduated from the Polytechnic Institute. As a civil engineer, he began his career working in various government agencies including the Ministry of Industry and served as the first deputy chairman of the Industrial and Construction Company. Ismayilov was also an adviser to the International Academy of Engineering.1

According to the International Eurasia Press Fund, "Under his leadership, ANAMA developed into one of the top humanitarian demining agencies in the world … Mr. Ismayilov never ceased in his devotion to this work, and it is clear that he has left [a]n eternal mark of progress and humanity on governments and civil society everywhere.”2

CISR Associate Director Dr. Suzanne Fiederlein remembers him as a gracious and helpful host when she visited Azerbaijan for a casualty-data research project in 2007. He had a strong vision for ANAMA as a professional, effective and creative organization ever willing to collaborate with other organizations to advance the eradication of landmines and unexploded ordnance as a threat to civilians’ lives and well-being. ©

~ Chloe Cunningham, CISR staff

See endnotes page 67

Tim Carstairs

Former International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and Cluster Munition Coalition colleague Tim Carstairs passed away 6 January 2015, following a long illness. The CISR family mourns Tim, a legend in the early days of ICBL who took part in its creation in October 1992. His professional contributions extend to the banning and clearance of anti-personnel landmines and victim assistance through his work with Handicap International, MAG (Mines Advisory Group), the UK Working Group on Landmines, and Geneva Call.

I had the privilege of working with Tim around the world, including in Syria in 2005 when we spoke at the opening of a new hospital in the unoccupied Golan Heights to service survivors, and when he expended his gracious time to interview for my book, Disarming States. Tim was a humanitarian advocate and aid worker who devoted his life to making our world a safer place.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Tim’s family. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. ©

~ Ken Rutherford with Luiza Pire, CISR staff