PROTOCOL II ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF MINES, BOOBY-TRAPS AND OTHER DEVICES AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996
ANNEXED TO THE CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS (PROTOCOL II AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996)

Summary sheet

Summary Reporting Format for Article 13 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2, pursuant to the decision of the Fifth Annual Conference of the States Parties to CCW Amended Protocol II as stipulated in paragraph 20 of its Final Document, CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/2

HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY    HELLENIC REPUBLIC
REPORTING PERIOD    September 21, 2006 to September 20, 2007

Form A:    Dissemination of information:

Form B:    Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes:

Form C:    Technical requirements and relevant information:

Form D:    Legislation:

Form E:    International technical information exchange, co-operation on mine clearance, technical co-operation and assistance:

Form F:    Other relevant matters:

Form G:    Information to the UN-database on mine clearance:

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☒ unchanged (last reporting: September 20, 2006)

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(PROTOCOL II AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996)

Annual Report in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 4

NAME OF HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: HELLENIC REPUBLIC

DATE OF SUBMISSION:

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT: a. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS / D1 Directorate of International Organizations, tel.: +302103682262, +302103682238, fax. +302103682239 — b. HELLENIC ARMY GENERAL STAFF/ENGINEERS DIRECTORATE, tel.: +302106552865, fax: +302106553725

The information contained in this Report may be made available to other interested Parties, Organizations and the public.
Form B       Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes
Article 13 / 4 / b  “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on ...:
(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

Remark:


Mine clearance programmes

A huge mine clearance programme is still under way in vast areas of Western Macedonia and Ipiros in the North-West part of the Hellenic Republic, in “suspect areas” containing not only mines but also booby-traps, UXOs and other devices dating from World War II and the 1946-1949 era. There are no properly defined minefields in this area and no maps, the number of dangerous devices to be removed is very large and the weather conditions are adverse for the most part of the year, resulting in the very slow progress of works. It is worth mentioning that the “suspect areas” to be cleared and secured in the mountains of Grammos and Vitsi alone, measure well over 40,000 hectares. — During 2007, 492,255 m2 were cleared and secured in the above area. From 21th September 2006 until 20th September 2007, 2,484 antipersonnel mines were removed and destroyed in the area of Evros (North-East part of the Hellenic Republic), along the border with Turkey.

Rehabilitation programmes
There are no mine victims among the Hellenic population. — Few mine casualties suffered during the last years by illegal migrants who try to cross the border coming from Turkey along river Evros in the North-East part of the Hellenic Republic, are treated in the hospital of Alexandroupolis or other major hospitals in northern Hellas. (Note: All minefields along the border with Turkey in the Evros Province are clearly defined and marked, well above any standard established by Amended Protocol II and the relevant NATO STANAGs. Mine casualties among illegal migrants are suffered from time to time because they are led to the border along river Evros at night and then instructed to ignore any mine fences and markings and walk into the Hellenic territory. Some times they are even aided in cutting the wire and led into minefields!). — Hellas offers, free of charge, health treatment through its National Health System to people coming from various Balkan states, including people injured by landmines.
Information to the UN-database on mine clearance

Article 11 para 2 "The High Contracting Parties shall provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations System, especially on:
- information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance".

Remark:


Means and technologies of mine clearance

The Hellenic Army basically employs manual mine clearance. International practices and standards in mine clearance are followed.

- Canine detection is also employed in certain circumstances.
- Robot mine clearance systems (mini flail) purchase is in progress.

Lists of experts and expert agencies

For details please contact the point of contact detailed below.

National points of contact on mine clearance

Hellenic Army General Staff/Engineers Directorate, Stratopedo Papagou, Holargos, Athens, Greece 155 62.