HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: Republic of AUSTRIA

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This information can be available to other interested parties and relevant organizations

☑ YES
☐ NO

☐ Partially, only the following forms:

A ☐  B ☐  C ☐  D ☐  E ☐  F ☐  G ☐  H ☐  I ☐
**FORM A:** Steps taken to implement Article 3 of the Protocol: Clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: Republic of AUSTRIA

Reporting for time period from: 01.01.2019 to 31.12.2019

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 3:

Austria is a non-mine-affected country (including mines, booby traps and other devices). Nevertheless UXO and APM discoveries, left from previous wars, do occur. According to the 2. Stability Act (2. StabG 2012, Federal Law Gazette I No. 35/2012 of 24.04.2012), the tasks of demining services (Entminungsdienst - EMD) are conducted under the Ministry of Defence and Sports (now Ministry of Defence). The legal basis are regulated in § 42, para. 5 and 6, Weapons Act 1996 (WaffG) Federal Law Gazette I Nr. 86/2000. The demining service is an independent department within the Ministry of Defence. This service was transferred from the Ministry of the Interior to the Ministry of Defence and Sports (now Ministry of Defence) on January 1, 2013. A report on the discovered war material of all kinds and all levels of dangerousness is published annually. In the reporting period, following types of ERW (regarding to internationally notifiable types of ammunition) were found and destroyed:

- 83 cluster bombs
- 3 anti-personnel mines

Any other relevant information:
FORM B: Steps taken to implement Article 4 of the Protocol: Recording, retaining and transmission of information

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Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 4 and the Technical Annex:

Not applicable.

Any other relevant information:

Ammunition and explosive ordnance for military exercise and training only will be used in permanent military training areas, temporarily marked and secured areas or in other marked and secured areas including live-firing ranges. These areas are by a permanent, standardized information record on the use of ammunition and explosive ordnance to be used at these sites. Generally, Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), if it occurs, will be destroyed immediately or marked first and destroyed later on.
FORM C: Steps taken to implement Article 5 of the Protocol: Other precautions for the protection of the civilian population, individual civilians and civilian objects from the risks and effects of explosive remnants of war

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Reporting for time period from: 01 01 2019 to 31 12 2019

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 5 and the Technical Annex:

Not applicable.

Any other relevant information:
FORM D: Steps taken to implement Article 6 of the Protocol: Provisions for the protection of humanitarian missions and organizations from the effects of explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: Republic of AUSTRIA

Reporting for time period from: 01 01 2019 to 31 12 2019

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 6:

Not applicable.

Any other relevant information:
FORM E: Steps taken to implement Article 7 and Article 8 of the Protocol: Assistance with respect to existing explosive remnants of war and cooperation and assistance

High Contracting Party: Republic of AUSTRIA

Reporting for time period from: 01 01 2019 to 31 12 2019

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 7 and Article 8:
Austria does not seek assistance with respect to existing ERW. The Austrian Armed Forces (AAF) act in a wide field of co-operation with other national and international organizations (governmental, including other Armed Forces, and non-governmental), to provide assistance in reducing the number of Explosive Remands of War (ERW) and attend or conduct trainings, exercises and courses. On demand or upon request the AAF can provide a minimum of one Explosive Ordnance Disposal Platoon (EOD Platoon) ready to be deployed for missions abroad on a sixty day early warning base (high readiness). Additionally the AAF can assist with highly trained Instructors for Mine Risk and Mine Awareness Trainings nation- and worldwide.

Any other relevant information:
The Austrian Armed Forces (AAF) are very well experienced in providing Mine Risk Education (MRE) and other similar training programs, countering the threat of Explosive Remands of War (ERW), for civilians and/or local organizations in post conflict scenarios.

FORM E(a): Steps taken by States which have ERW victims to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2): Victim Assistance

High Contracting Party: Republic of AUSTRIA

Reporting for time period from: 01 01 2019 to 31 12 2019

Steps taken to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2):
Not Applicable.
Other relevant information, guided by the Plan of Action on Victim Assistance:
FORM F: Steps taken to implement Article 9 of the Protocol: Generic preventive measures

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Reporting for time period from: 01 01 2019 to 31 12 2019

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 9 and the Technical Annex:

To assure the safety of all personnel within the AAF and according to AAF rules and regulations, it is not allowed to manipulate/handle ammunition and/or Explosive Ordnance without receiving proper/theoretical and/or practical instructions and training. The AAF uses state of the art storage facilities and employs appropriate stockpile management measures as well as certain surveillance procedures. The AAF have implemented the rules and regulations of the “Accord européen relative au transport international des marchandises Dangereuses par Route, (ADR)” and the International Air Transport Association/ Dangerous Goods Regulations (IATA/ DGR).

Any other relevant information:
FORM G: Steps taken to implement Article 11 of the Protocol: Compliance

High Contracting Party: Republic of AUSTRIA

Reporting for time period from: 01 01 2019 to 31 12 2019

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 11:

All necessary instructions, curricula or other required and relevant regulations are provided by the therefore responsible departments/divisions/sections within the Ministry of Defence.

Any other relevant information:
FORM H: Other relevant matters

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Reporting for time period from: 01 01 2019 to 31 12 2019

Any other relevant information:

Since January 2008, Austrian national law has banned the production, transfer and use of cluster munitions. Furthermore, Austria is a party to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, which entered into force on 1 August 2010, introducing a comprehensive ban of cluster munitions for the States parties to the convention. Following the ratification of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, Austria had all stocks of relevant ammunition destroyed by November 2010. Any further reporting on this subject will be performed within the applicable scheme.