

Form B**Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes**

Article 13 / 4 / b

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository....on:

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party Cyprus reporting for time 01-01-2013 to 31-12-2013
period from _____

Mine clearance programmes

During the past year, the final minefield of the National Guard was cleared, by the National's Guard Engineers and a total number of 1130 A/P mines were destroyed. In total, by the 1st of July 2013, the Republic of Cyprus had effectively removed and destroyed 4.318 antipersonnel mines from 18 National Guard minefields. In conclusion, all the obligations of Cyprus deriving from the Ottawa Convention, in the areas under the effective control of the Republic were successfully met by the 1st of July 2013. In addition to the mine clearance operations carried out by the National Guard, another programme was successfully completed on the 20th of January 2011, which concerned the clearance of minefields located in the Buffer Zone. This program was initially funded by the European Union, in collaboration with the United Nations, and was named “Partnership for the Future”.

However, one minefield laid by the Turkish occupational forces in the Buffer Zone, in the vicinity of the village Deryneia, still remains to be cleared.

The only other mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Cyprus are located in the areas north of the buffer zone, which are occupied by the Turkish Armed Forces. As it is reported on the request submitted by Cyprus for an extension of the deadline to fulfill its obligation under Article 5.1 (a request which was finally granted by the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties), 21 minefields laid by Turkey's occupation forces are known not yet to be cleared of anti-personnel mines. These are overwhelmingly situated adjacent to the buffer zone. Precise information on their size, on their composition (whether they include mines other than anti-personnel mines) and on how much land can be safely treated as arable when mines have been cleared are unknown. Furthermore, before and during the invasion of 1974, the National Guard laid down 28 minefields north of Nicosia towards the Pentadaktylos mountain range, which are today located in the Turkish-occupied areas. The latter minefields included 1006 anti-personnel mines, but the Republic of Cyprus is not aware of the current condition of these minefields and whether they have been cleared by the Turkish Armed Forces or not.

So far as the Government of Cyprus is aware, there has been no progress in clearance of mined areas under the control of the Turkish Armed Forces. Mine clearance in the occupied part of the Republic involves the legal responsibility of Turkey as a State Party to the Ottawa Convention and to the CCW and its Protocols.

Rehabilitation programmes

The Republic of Cyprus has already adopted the relevant legislation and laws, regarding the provisions required for the allocation of indemnities to mine victims.

Form C

Technical requirements and relevant information

Article 13 / 4 / c

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository....on:

(c) steps taken to meet technical requirements of this Protocol and any other relevant information pertaining thereto;

Remark:

High Contracting Party **Cyprus** reporting for time 01-01-2013 to 31-12-2013
period from _____

Technical requirements

The Republic of Cyprus has taken all the necessary steps to comply with the protocol’s technical requirements. For this purpose, all minefields within the areas under the effective control of the Republic of Cyprus have been adequately signposted and fenced.

Any other relevant information

Form F**Other relevant matters**

Article 13 / 4 / f

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository....on:

(f) other relevant matters.

Remark:

High Contracting Party

Cyprusreporting for time
period from

01-1-2013

to

31-12-2013

Other relevant matters

NIL

Form G**Information to the UN-Database on mine clearance**

Article 13 / 4 / g

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository.... on:

(g) Information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance;

High Contracting Party **Cyprus** reporting for time 01-01-2013 to 31-12-2013
period from _____

The National Guard strives to keep informed on international practices and standards, equipment and methodologies, in regards to modern mine clearance operations and technologies.

Lists of experts and expert agencies

For details please contact the point of contact listed below.

National points of contact on mine clearance

For further details and information please contact:

email: othellos4@cytanet.com.cy

Cyprus, 00357 - 22417070, Fax: 00357 - 22429392.