

**REPORTING FORMS
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 10, PARAGRAPH 2 (b) OF THE PROTOCOL AND
THE DECISION OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE HIGH
CONTRACTING PARTIES TO PROTOCOL V**

HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: Republic of Lithuania

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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

Introduction

By the Law on the Ratification of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the 1980 United Nations 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 (Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette) No 122-4458, 2004, http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=237061) the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania has ratified Protocol V, which came into force for the Republic of Lithuania on 12 November 2006.

Although majority of the provisions of Protocol V apply to explosive remnants of war, which result from conflicts after its entry into force, certain provisions give opportunity for the states also to resolve the existing problems related to explosive remnants of war and Lithuania has applied them.

The First and the Second World Wars which took place in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania have resulted in the pollution of part of the territory with explosive remnants of war. That carries a potential danger to people, hinders the socio-economic development, organisation of protection of the environment and culture and is detrimental to state, social and private activities in the territories, including the territorial waters of the Republic of Lithuania, polluted by explosive remnants of war.

Pollution of the former Soviet military bases with unexploded ordnances, weapons and other substances used for military operations, as well as the level and the spread of pollution over the territory of the Republic of Lithuania have not been examined in detail and may constitute a potential danger to people and the activities they perform.

During the period from 1990 to 2006 13 persons were killed and 6 persons were injured because of the explosive ordnances that were either left by the Soviet army or remained from the First and the Second World Wars. Over 200,000 explosive charges have been destroyed since 1990.

In 2007 the Programme for the Clearance and Prevention of Explosive Remnants of War (hereinafter – Programme) and the Plan of Implementing Measures for the Programme (hereinafter – Plan of Implementing Measures) for the years 2007-2018 was approved by the Resolution No 446 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania. Its principal objective is to ensure that ERWs are found, their potential threat to people prevented and adverse effects to private and public activities minimised. The tasks to be carried out for the attainment of this objective include: examination and evaluation of the threat, drafting and amending relevant legislation, carrying out of clearance and cooperation with international community.

On 29 January 2008 by the Order No V-88 of the Minister of National Defence was approved Implementation Framework of this Programme.

Full text of the Programme and the Plan of Implementing measures is available on-line:

In English, http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=312266;

Lithuanian, http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=297014&p_query=&p_tr2=.

Full text of the Implementation Framework is available on-line:

Lithuanian, http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=314358&p_query=&p_tr2=

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 Lithuania

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 3

Note: According to Article 1, paragraph 4 of the Protocol, Article 3 only applies to Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) other than existing ERW as defined in Article 2, paragraph 5 of the Protocol. ERWs found in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania result from First and Second World Wars as well as pollution of former Soviet military bases, i.e. they existed before entry into force of the Protocol. Therefore all steps taken by the Republic of Lithuania with regard to clearance, removal or destruction of ERW should be regarded as a voluntary measure, which does not result from any obligation under the Protocol.

With regard to clearance, removal and destruction of ERW in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, the Plan of Implementing Measures foresees marking and clearing of ERW polluted territories once the relevant information is collected, compiled and assessed.

According to the Plan of Implementing Measures, the following legislation was adopted in 2008:

- Safety Rules for the Territories Polluted with Explosive Remnants of War in Which Mine-clearance Is Carried Out, approved on 30 April 2008 by the joint Order No 5-V-222/1-140/466 of the Commander of Armed Forces, the Commissioner General of Police and the Director of Fire and Rescue Department;
- Description of the Procedures of Neutralisation of Explosive Charges, approved on 3 June 2008 by the Order No V-496 of the Minister of National Defence
- *(full text in Lithuanian is available on-line:*
[http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=321802&p_query=&ptr2=\);](http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=321802&p_query=&ptr2=);)
- Guidelines on Neutralisation of Standard Explosive Ordnances and for Carrying Out Simulations of Explosions, approved on 13 May 2008 by the Order No V-525 of the Commander of Armed Forces;
- Guidelines on Submission of Information About the Danger of the Territories Polluted with Explosive Remnants of War to the Civilian Population, approved on 14 October 2008 by the Order No V-974 of the Minister of National Defence;
- Methodology for the definition of the risk categories of the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war, approved on 14 October 2008 by the Order No V-974 of the Minister of National Defence;
- Annual plan for clearance works in the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war; approved on 19 December 2008 by the Order No V-1513 of the Commander of Armed Forces.

During the year 2008 the following steps were also taken in order to duly prepare for clearance activities:

- information on territories polluted with ERW has been collected and assessed from historical sources, archives, local authorities and population;
- data base on ERW and UXO issues was created;
- digital and ordinary maps on territories polluted with ERW and UXO were developed;
- website www.sprogmenys.lt (in Lithuanian) was activated.

Engineering Battalion of the Armed Forces is responsible for conducting demining operations. EOD platoon consisting of 22 professional soldiers was established in order to perform clearance activities according to the Plan of Implementing Measures.

Marking and clearance activities started on 1 July 2008. Till the end of 2008 EOD platoon checked and cleaned about 18 ha of polluted territories and found over 1500 pieces of different UXO.

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

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

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

Note: According to Article 1, paragraph 4 of the Protocol, Article 4 only applies to Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) other than existing ERW as defined in Article 2, paragraph 5 of the Protocol. ERWs found in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania result from First and Second World Wars as well as pollution of former Soviet military bases, i.e. they existed before entry into force of the Protocol. Therefore all steps taken by the Republic of Lithuania with regard to recording, retaining and transmission of information in ERW should be regarded as a voluntary measure, which does not result from any obligation under the Protocol.

The Plan of Implementing Measures foresees following measures with regard to examination and evaluation of threat posed by ERW in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania:

- County governors, municipalities, Fire and Rescue Department regularly inform the Ministry of National Defence about the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war, as well as about the incidents related to explosive remnants of war, killed or injured persons and the damage caused. During the year 2008 no killed or injured persons and incidents related to ERW were recorded;
- The Ministry of National Defence regularly collects, analyses, document and archives received information and archive materials on territories polluted with explosive remnants of war. A data base on ERW and UXO issues was created where all received information is placed;
- On the basis of information collected, the Ministry of National Defence compiles and regularly updates digital and ordinary maps of territories polluted with explosive remnants of war.

- **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

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

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

Note: According to Article 1, paragraph 4 of the Protocol, Article 5 only applies to Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) other than existing ERW as defined in Article 2, paragraph 5 of the Protocol. ERWs found in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania result from First and Second World Wars as well as pollution of former Soviet military bases, i.e. they existed before entry into force of the Protocol. Therefore all steps taken by the Republic of Lithuania with regard to precautions for the protection of the civilians and civilian objects from the risks and effects of ERW should be regarded as a voluntary measure, which does not result from any obligation under the Protocol.

The following measures with regard to protection of civilian population from threats posed by ERW in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania were taken (according to the Plan of Implementing Measures):

- Guidelines on Submission of Information About the Danger of the Territories Polluted with Explosive Remnants of War to the Civilian Population, approved on 14 October 2008 by the Order No V-974 of the Minister of National Defence, where such measures as marking of the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war with warning signs as well as other measures of general prevention that would help to avoid or minimise the danger posed by such a territory were laid down;
- Safety Rules for the Territories Polluted with Explosive Remnants of War in Which Mine-clearance Is Carried Out, approved on 30 April 2008 by the joint Order No 5-V-222/1-140/466 of the Commander of Armed Forces, the Commissioner General of Police and the Director of Fire and Rescue Department.
- A website www.sprogmenys.lt (in Lithuanian) was created, where useful information on ERW and UXO related issues is placed.

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 Lithuania

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 6

There are no humanitarian missions and organisations operating in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania.

FORM E Steps taken to implement Article 7 of the Protocol: Assistance with respect to existing explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 7

According to the Plan of Implementing Measures the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of National Defence constantly cooperate with foreign states, international organisations, also with non-governmental organisations and foundations in order to minimise the risks posed by explosive remnants of war. In particular, this would be achieved through the following measures:

- Taking part in the exchange of scientific and technological knowledge necessary to pursue the clearance of explosive remnants of war;
- Exchanging the experience of experts;
- Submitting, on a voluntary basis, information to the databases of the mines-related activities belonging to the United Nations system, especially information related to the tools and technologies for the clearance of explosive remnants of war;
- Submitting reports on the results of the implementation of the Programme for the Clearance and Prevention of Explosive Remnants of War to international organisations.

International assistance

Although Lithuania has emerged as a donor state only around 2004, a substantial part of our international assistance was channelled to projects related to international mine action, including activities related to reduction of harm caused by ERWs.

Lithuanian contributions to international disarmament projects include:

Activity, funding and/or in-kind contributions	Implementing organisation or agency	Date	Contribution
De-mining and UXO clearance, province of Ghowr, Afghanistan	Lithuanian led Provincial Reconstruction Team	2008	In kind
Feasibility Study to provide explosive remnants of war (ERW) clearance support to Georgia	NATO / NAMSA	December 2008	1/3 of the cost 23 000 LTL (6667 EUR)

FORM F Steps taken to implement Article 8 of the Protocol: Co-operation and assistance

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 8

Note: According to Article 1, paragraph 4 of the Protocol, Article 8 only applies to Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) other than existing ERW as defined in Article 2, paragraph 5 of the Protocol. ERWs found in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania result from First and Second World Wars as well as pollution of former Soviet military bases, i.e. they existed before entry into force of the Protocol. Therefore all steps taken by the Republic of Lithuania with regard to co-operation and assistance with respect to ERW other than existing ERW should be regarded as a voluntary measure, which does not result from any obligation under the Protocol.

For information on Lithuania's participation in international cooperation and assistance to diminish the risk posed by ERWs, please see Form E.

FORM G Steps taken to implement Article 9 of the Protocol: Generic preventive measures

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

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

(a) Munitions manufacturing management and future production

Manufacturers must obtain a license to engage in manufacture of arms, ammunition, their major parts and accessories of arms from the Weaponry fund Lithuania under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

Currently there is only one manufacturer of conventional weapons in Lithuania – GGG small arms ammunition plant, established in 2000, which specializes in the production of cartridges cal. 5,56x45 GP21 (SS109) and cal. 7,62x51 GP11 (M80).

All stages of manufacturing are controlled and scrutinised. Ammunition is produced on a basis of NATO technology, control and testing documentation. In 2002 the enterprise implemented an integrated quality system according to ISO 9001:2000 standard. Testing of ammunition is conducted according to NATO testing and control procedures, which ensure reliability of ammunition in a variety of weather conditions. Import and export of ammunition is conducted strictly under export control legislation in force in the Republic of Lithuania. Every consignment of ammunition must receive a separate export license.

(b) Munitions management

Lithuanian Armed Forces apply best practice norms and operating procedures in the area of munitions and explosive ordnance management. The following legislation is currently in force:

- Order of the Minister of National Defence No.260 of 25 April 1994 on Regulations of Accounting, Stockpiling and Issuing of Arms and Ammunition in the National Defence System (amendments of 26 March 2009). The Order defines accounting, stockpiling, issuing and documentation of arms and munitions in the national defence system.
- Order of the Minister of National Defence No. 188 of 5 March 1993 on Storage, Transportation and Destruction of Explosives and Explosive Devices. The Order sets the requirements and procedures for packing, storage, transport and destruction of explosive ordnance in the national defence system.
- Law on the Control of Explosives (No IX-1315 of 28 January 2003, last amended in 2005).

(c) Training

All personnel involved in the handling, transporting and use of explosive ordnance are obliged to undergo relevant work safety training.

(d) Transfer

Import, export and transit of military equipment are subject to legislation on control of strategic goods. For detailed information on Export control system of the Republic of Lithuania please see Annual Report on Implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms

and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (report for 2007 is available at <http://disarmament.un.org/cab/bms3/1National%20Reports%202008.html>).

FORM H Steps taken to implement Article 11 of the Protocol:
Compliance

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 11

Seminars and workshops on International Humanitarian Law and other international rules governing armed conflicts, including Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War, are regularly organised for the instructors and officers of the Lithuanian Armed Forces.

During pre-mission training these topics are also introduced to the militaries selected for international peace operations and missions. Currently, a number of training programmes on this subject are included into curriculum of the Military Academy and Non-commissioned Officers School.

Together with other relevant information of International Humanitarian Law, texts of the Protocol are available at the libraries of military establishments.

The Commission on the Implementation of International Humanitarian Law, an advisory body to the Minister of National Defence established in 2001, coordinates dissemination of information on International Humanitarian Law and related topics.

Among other activities the Commission also organises national and international seminars, courses and workshops on international humanitarian law and related topics for military officers and public servants. The national Red Cross Society also participates in providing information and organising courses on international humanitarian law to the general public.

The text of the Protocol could be accessed in Lithuanian both in the Official Gazette and the Parliament website:

http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=234959&p_query=&p_tr2=

FORM I Other relevant matters

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

Any other relevant information

In 2008 Lithuania (Ambassador Edvardas Borisovas, Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the UNOG in Geneva) was working in the capacity of President-designate of the Second Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention of Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) which took place on 10-11 November 2008. In this capacity Lithuania (Ambassador Edvardas Borisovas, Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the UNOG in Geneva) was guided by the decisions taken at the First Conference, in particular, in 2008 to hold an informal expert meeting on five most relevant implementation issues – reporting templates and information exchange mechanism, clearance, cooperation and assistance, generic preventive measures and victim assistance. The President-designate Ambassador Edvardas Borisovas, Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the UNOG in Geneva has undertaken efforts on universalization and facilitation of the work of five Coordinators.

The Second Conference of the High Contracting Parties appointed Lithuania (Renata Ališauskienė, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of Lithuania to the UNOG in Geneva) to coordinate Clearance issue at the 2009 Experts meeting.

In 2008 Lithuania (Ambassador Edvardas Borisovas, Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the UNOG in Geneva) was coordinating the CCW Sponsorship Programme. Under the coordinatorship of Lithuania the Programme became operational, first approach on criteria of sponsorship has been developed, the group of donors broadened, briefings and a questionnaire for the beneficiary delegates established.

Lithuania believes that implementation of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War is closely related to other instruments and mechanisms, which are referred to in the UNGA IV Committee resolution on Assistance to Mine Action, thus attaches great importance to global coherence in action.