VERBAL NOTE

The Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations and other International Organizations presents its compliments to the United Nations Office at Geneva Office for Disarmament Affairs Geneva Branch and has the honour to send you the attached documents (Reporting Forms).

The Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations and other International Organizations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Office at Geneva Office for Disarmament Affairs Geneva Branch the assurance of its highest consideration.

Geneva 5 April 2012

Annexes 5
CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF CERTAIN
CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY
INJURIOUS OR HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS (CCW)
PROTOCOL ON EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR
(PROTOCOL V)

REPORTING FORMS

Pursuant to Article 10 (2) (b) of the Protocol and the
Decision of the First Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V
(As adopted by the First Conference at its second plenary meeting on 5 November 2007)

HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: FINLAND

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Date of submission: 31/3/2011

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

X 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: Finland

Reporting for time period from 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2012

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 3

The Finnish Defence Forces (FDF) conducts aerial clearing operations every year in the areas expected to have ERW's on the ground or water in Finland due to the World War II. During the reporting period the FDF has carried out more than 290 Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) cases. In these cases the FDF has destructed more than 17,000 explosive ordnances.

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

High Contracting Party: Finland

Reporting for time period from 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2012

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

All information on ERW’s on the ground and water in Finland has been recorded to Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) software from the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian De-mining (GICHD). The FDF has continued the development of Finnish Army Engineer Information System (ENGIS). In the near future, the FDF will record all dangerous area information to ENGIS system.

Any other relevant information
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: Finland

Reporting for time period from 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2012

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

ERW risk education plans for the civilian population have been made.

Any other relevant information

The Finnish Defence Forces conducts marking according to International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). The development of the marking system for a specified ERW infested area or individual ERW's is ongoing. The new material for the marking system will be procured during the year 2012.
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: Finland

Reporting for time period from 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2012

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 6

Not applicable

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

High Contracting Party: **Finland**

Reporting for time period from 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2012

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 7

Finland does not seek assistance with regard to problems posed by the ERW.

Finland is ready to support other High Contracting Parties concerning implementation of protocol V and give assistance if needed.

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

High Contracting Party: Finland

Reporting for time period from 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2012

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 8

Not applicable.

Any other relevant information

Support to humanitarian mine action 2010 - 2011

In 2010, the total budget for humanitarian mine action was 5 MEUR. Finland’s support was channeled to seven countries (Afghanistan, Cambodia, Angola, Chad, Ethiopia, Somalia and Iraq) through seven partner organizations (HALO Trust, UNMAS, GICHD, Finnish Red Cross/ICRC, FinnChurchAid, Handicap International and NPA). UNMAS and GICHD received also core support. Please see attachment 1.

The budget for 2011 was 5.3 million euro. Support was channeled to six countries after phasing out from the NPA programme in Ethiopia. Also Handicap International’s Programme in Cambodia came to an end, leaving the number of partner organizations to five. Please see attachment 2.

The Government of Finland’s HMA support is coordinated by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs’ Department for Development Policy – the Unit for Humanitarian Assistance. HMA funds come from the so-called “thematic budget line” which is separate from the humanitarian aid budget line. Funding is channeled to ODA eligible countries. It is based on multiannual Framework Agreements with the partner organizations in order to ensure predictability of funding.

Finland's support is based on a holistic approach. This includes mine detection and clearance; assistance in the care, rehabilitation as well as social and economic integration of mine victims; and the support to mine awareness projects, including Mine Risk Education. The Agencies through which Finnish support is channeled – most of them long-term partnerships – have been chosen in a way that their competencies and specialization complement one another to meet the different objectives.

Taken into account the role HMA plays in transition, as part of longer-term rehabilitation and development efforts, but also in facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid in some countries, Finnish HMA work is guided by the international principles of Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Action Plan, and the Good Humanitarian Donorship principles.

The policy foundation is set in Finland’s new Development Policy of 2012. The approach and objectives are further defined in the “Humanitarian Assistance Guidelines” dating from 2007. They Guidelines are currently under revision, but no major policy changes are expected.

Finnish HMA funding and approach reflect also broader foreign policy objectives.

Compared with the situation in 2009, an in-house review on Finnish HMA funding was carried out, the recommendations of which included a “roadmap” outlining future actions. There were no major policy
changes, but the review led to a further rationalization of the administration of the humanitarian mine action portfolio, including a move to multiannual framework agreements with the partner organizations (instead of project specific contracts) as well as focusing the funding to a smaller number of credible and experienced partners.
FORM G  Steps taken to implement Article 9 of the Protocol: Generic preventive measures

High Contracting Party: **Finland**

Reporting for time period from 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2012

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

Finland has done its utmost to fulfil the measures expressed in the technical annex of Protocol V. The existing munitions are managed and stockpiled in a manner that ensures the reliability of munitions to the fullest extent.

Any other relevant information

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

High Contracting Party: Finland

Reporting for time period from 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2012

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 11

All needed Standard Operating Instructions (SOI) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) of the FDF have been published.

In relation to the crisis management activities, the requirements have been implemented.

The requirements of ERW will also be taken into consideration in future materiel procurement. For the main part procedures relating to the procurement and storage of explosives already fulfil the requirements set. Many of the measures required by ERW are already now included in the training and activities of the Defence Forces and therefore will not cause great changes to courses of action. In fact, the voluntary measures mentioned in the technical annex of ERW improve and clarify current practices.

Any other relevant information
FORM I Other relevant matters

High Contracting Party: Finland

Reporting for time period from 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2012

Any other relevant information

Not applicable