

Geneva, July 2013

ISRAEL

National Annual Report

Submitted in accordance with Article 13, para.4 of the
Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines,
Booby-Traps and Other Devices
As Amended on 3 May 1996 Annexed to the CCW

**PROTOCOL 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)**

Provisional Reporting Formats for Article 13 para.2 and Article 11 para.2

NAME OF HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY

ISRAEL

DATE OF SUBMISSION

July 2013

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT

**I. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Strategic Affairs Division
Arms Control Policy Department
Jerusalem 91950, Israel
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E-mail: armscontrol@mfa.gov.il**

**II. Ministry of Defense
Politico-Military Affairs Bureau
Arms Control & Defense Exp. Policy.
Hakiryia, Tel Aviv 64734, Israel
Tel: 972-3-6977767/5
Fax: 972-3-6977713
E-mail: ashahar@mod.gov.il**

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

YES

NO

Partially, only the following forms:

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

Form**Dissemination of information****A**Article
13.4.a

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

(a) **dissemination of information on this Protocol to their armed forces and to the civilian population;**"

Remark:

High Contracting Party **ISRAEL** reporting for time period from **1.1.2012-31.12.2012**

Information to the Armed Forces

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Engineering Corps (EC) implements APII and takes measures in order to further ensure that the relevant military authorities in the IDF are aware of the provisions of the Protocol and their implications.

The IDF's EC instructions and standard operating procedures are reviewed regularly in order to verify their compatibility with the provisions of APII. Any contravention of such instructions may result in an IDF investigation and possible disciplinary or penal procedures, as appropriate.

The IDF maintains a set of detailed regulations and instructions regarding the management of archive, recording minefields and mined areas. During the past year the IDF's EC continued the program of a GPS measuring of minefields, as well as preservation of minefields history (including digital records).

Furthermore, efforts were extended towards the legal education and preparation of commanders, officers and soldiers by the IDF School of Military Law, which is responsible for the dissemination of the laws of war within the IDF. The CCW Convention, and APII therein, are integral parts of the curriculum. Lectures concerning this issue are provided on a regular basis to IDF's personnel attending courses and to the engineering courses, including the officers (cadets) course, the company commander's course and the IDF Command Academy.

Personnel of the MoD that is responsible for Defense Export Controls were briefed by the POC of the APII on the provisions of the CCW, including the APII restrictions and the moratorium on exports of the APLs.

Information to the civilian population

Information regarding Israel's status and obligations vis-à-vis CCW in general and APII in particular is publicly available since Israel's ratification of the Protocol.

Additionally, organizers of field trips such as those conducted by schools, youth movements, company employees and private citizens are obligated to coordinate their route with the relevant IDF Area Command. Upon such coordination, field trip organizers are briefed as to the location of mine fields situated in the area, or suspected areas that are treated as mined until cleared and verified, and are given the appropriate mine awareness instructions. It should be emphasized that land maps, which are issued by the Israeli Mapping Center (IMC), and which are commercially available, contain clear markings regarding the topographic location of minefields.

In order to prevent any accidental entry into potentially dangerous areas, warning signs in three languages (Hebrew, Arabic and English), are clearly positioned on the perimeters of minefields. Further information regarding minefield locations is provided by local municipalities to the general population upon land rights and use inquiries.

The MoD, via its website on the Internet and in writing, provided Israeli Defense Industry and other arms manufacturers and exporters with the relevant instructions of APII, especially the restrictions on the production of mines as indicated in the Technical Annex and the prohibitions undertaken in the unilateral moratorium on any exports, sales or transfers of APLs.

The INMAA (Israeli National Mine Action Authority) - responsible for the civilian demining operations in Israel - manages a "minefield information bank" that is open for public queries concerning the plans and programs of demining, as well as for measures taken to enhance public awareness of safety and security, in order to minimize mine-related risks.

INMAA has an active MRE (Mine Risk Education) plan associated with the Ministry of Education and the National Parks and Reserves Authority. Awareness campaign video clips, in Hebrew and Arabic created by the Government Publications Bureau, have been broadcasted in the media (TV, Radio and the Internet), as well as at specific school workshops.

Form **Mine clearance and rehabilitation programs**

B
Article "The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository ...on
13.4.b

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programs;"

Remark:

High Contracting Party ISRAEL reporting for time period from 1.1.2012-31.12.2012

Mine clearance program

Israel reserves the right to take the necessary measures and precautions required to maintain its national security, including with regard to matters relating to this report, especially in light of recent regional instability and the pertaining security risks.

The IDF's EC continued to implement its annual program of demining, monitoring and maintaining protection of minefields and suspected areas, in accordance with the relevant APII provisions, embodied in the military regulations. In this regard, **extended monitoring**, fences and markings of the minefields were maintained throughout the year by special EC units dedicated to this mission.

During winter time, special attention is given to minefields which are located in proximity to farms, residential areas, hiker routes, etc.

During the past year the IDF conducted hundreds of inspections of the fencing and marking of minefields. The IDF has also made significant progress in clearing additional minefields and releasing areas of land for civilian use.

The IDF's EC also continued its activities in promoting the project of improving the capabilities of precisely recording minefields (GPS&GIS) and building an accurate archive of manually-emplaced minefields. Upon request from relevant civilian municipalities and establishments, updated information was made available to them, as appropriate.

During the past year, several Israeli companies continued to export humanitarian demining protection gears, such as inflammable sapper sandals, minefield clearing equipment and instruments for aerial measures to detect mines and mined areas.

The Government of Israel enacted a Minefield Clearance Law (MCL 5771-2011 approved on March 2011 by the Israeli Parliament) and established a National Mine Action Authority. The INMAA is responsible for planning, coordinating, supervising and executing civilian mine clearance operations. The INMAA defines demining policies and priorities and implements them in coordination with other relevant governmental ministries, the IDF and local authorities. The INMAA formulated directives for its activities and recruited skilled and qualified personnel. The Authority mapped existing minefields and set priorities, thus creating a work plan for mine clearance in coordination with the relevant agencies. The INMAA is now conducting demining operations for clearing and releasing the land to the civilians as was preplanned and approved by an Advisory Board based on the decision made by the IDF to declare that these areas are no longer of a military necessity. The INMAA demining and clearance projects are carried out and facilitated by specially authorized civilian contractors.

The INMAA has established rules and regulations concerning insurance, clearance methods and quality control procedures. The Israeli National Mine Action Standards were recently published for the 4th time on INMAA's website.

As defined in the MCL 5771-2011, the INMAA has put forward a strict working regime in the demining area to monitor, inter alia, activities of the mine clearance contractor, the QA/QC contractor and the INMAA site supervisor.

During 2012 the INMAA managed to clear an area of 1,200,000 sq. meters in the southern part of the country, which contained more than 22,000 AP mines. This was part of two projects in action in the southern part of the Dead Sea & Arava Plain, which are still in progress.

Rehabilitation programs

Israel has vast experience in the field of rehabilitation, with over 2000 traumatic amputations within the IDF and several dozens of civilian victims of landmines, UXOs, improvised explosives and other devices, caused inter alia by terrorist attacks. Israel's medical services developed advanced surgical capabilities in managing amputations and in rehabilitating people who lost their limbs or had multi system injuries. They are now well trained and equipped to deal with the unfortunate effects of landmines.

Major Israeli hospitals and rehabilitation centers responsible for facilitating comprehensive rehabilitation programs are: "Tel-Hashomer" ("Sheba"), "Reut" and "Loewenstein" in Tel-Aviv; "Rambam" and "Bnei Zion" in Haifa.

Additionally, Israel has 6 laboratories specializing in the building of prosthetic devices, 10 laboratories specializing in the building of orthotics, more than a dozen orthopedic shoemakers and many physiotherapists in the field of orthopedic rehabilitation.

These health care providers render assistance not only to Israeli citizens but also to many people from neighboring countries and the Mediterranean region as a whole.

Form C
Article
13.4.c

Technical requirements and relevant information

"The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

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

Remark:

High Contracting Party ISRAEL reporting for time period from 1.1.2012-31.12.2012

Technical requirements

Compliance with the technical requirements of APII was verified prior and throughout Israel's ratification process. After the ratification, and in order to guarantee Israel's continued compliance, technical inspections are routinely conducted by the EC. As mentioned above, this includes inspection and maintenance of fences and markings of the mined areas. It was conducted, as appropriate, also in the course of this year.

Israel uses several kinds of machinery equipment in its mine clearance projects. They include, where appropriate – screening & crushing systems, bucket loaders, excavators, sifters, flail/tiller machines, etc. Some of these are made in Israel while others are brought from abroad by the contractors.

All the machines used for mine clearance are tested and approved by the INMAA during the initial preparation period of the project. The INMAA bases these tests on the standards set in CEN (European Committee for Standardization) Workshop Agreements.

Any other relevant information

The MoD carefully supervises the Israeli defense industry's R&D programs to prevent development that does not meet the requirements of APII. The Israeli Export Control Authority implemented and verified compliance with the moratorium on transfers of APLs. In this regard Israel took action to extend the moratorium of any export, sale or transfer until July 2014 and made it public via relevant websites. In due time, the competent authorities will initiate an internal review process with a view to prolong the moratorium on APLs.

Form Legislation

D

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

13.4.d

(d) **legislation related to this Protocol;**"

Remark:

High Contracting Party ISRAEL reporting for time period from 1.1.2012-31.12.2012

Legislation

In March 2011, the Israeli Parliament, the Knesset, unanimously enacted the Minefield Clearance Law, 5771-2011 (published in the Official Gazette of the Government of Israel 2285, 28 March 2011). The purpose of the law is to lay down a statutory framework for the clearance of minefields not essential to Israel's national security, as soon as possible. In order to achieve this objective, the Minefield Clearance Law establishes the Israeli National Mine Action Authority (INMAA) within the Ministry of Defense, and sets forth its authorities and responsibilities. INMAA is tasked with setting a national demining plan, which will be consistent with Israel's international obligations and based on IDF demining procedures and instructions, as compatible as possible with the International Mine Action Standards endorsed by the UN Inter-Agency Coordination Group.

The Law provides for the formulation of multi-year and annual national mine action plans and sets forth the establishment of a professional Advisory Board composed of representatives of the relevant ministries, governmental and municipal authorities, as well as a representative of the mine victims' community. Additional issues provided for within the Law include: the coordination and cooperation between INMAA and the IDF; provisions for the employment of private contractors in mine clearance operations; earmarking of specific government budget for such activities; and the establishment of a National Minefield Clearance Fund which will receive, manage and allocate donations.

There are also IDF regulations and orders concerning marking, fencing and monitoring as well as demining and disposing of mines, booby-traps and other devices.

Moreover, the Israeli Defense Export Control Act of 2007 criminalizes, inter alia, any unauthorized export. This Act serves as Israel's statutory framework for the implementation of its obligations under the CCW regarding restrictions and prohibitions on transfer. In addition, the moratorium on export, sale or transfer of any APL continues to remain in force.

Form
E
Article
13.4.e

International technical information exchange, cooperation on mine clearance, technical cooperation and assistance

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

(e) measures taken on international technical information exchange, on international cooperation on mine clearance, and on technical cooperation and assistance;"

Remark:

High Contracting Party ISRAEL reporting for time period from 1.1.2012-31.12.2012

International cooperation on mine clearance

Israel continues to consider the issue of international cooperation in the areas of mine clearance, mine awareness and mine victim rehabilitation to be of a major importance. These initiatives contribute to the global efforts aimed at the alleviation of the humanitarian problems associated with mines.

There is ongoing cooperation and coordination with neighboring countries in support of the demining activities along the mutual borders, as feasible and appropriate.

Israel continues its cooperation and coordination with UNIFIL and UNMAS including the transfer of equipment and information regarding UXO clearance.

The INMAA collaborates its activities mainly with the GICHD. During 2012 the INMAA's staff participated in various workshops and meetings which took place in Israel and in Europe. The INMAA is in contact with mine action authorities in other countries, studying and sharing knowledge in mine clearance on many different topics, mostly technical.

Technical cooperation and assistance

Israeli companies have achieved technical expertise in the field of mine clearance and they contribute to the international mine clearing efforts.

**Form
F**

Article
13.4.f

Other relevant matters

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

(e) **other relevant matters.**"

Remark:

High Contracting Party ISRAEL reporting for time period from 1.1.2012-31.12.2012

Other relevant matters

In 1994 Israel unilaterally declared a moratorium on any export, sale or transfer of all types of anti-personnel mines. The moratorium was declared in recognition of the grave humanitarian consequences associated with anti-personnel mines and the need, in this respect, for self imposed state restraint. Since its initiation, the moratorium has been extended for additional three-year periods, **most recently in 2011 (in force until July 2014)**. The MoD's Export Control Directorate strictly implements and verifies compliance with the moratorium.

Unfortunately, there are still ongoing covert activities conducted by terrorist groups against Israel, supported by certain States that assist these groups in smuggling and accumulating weapons and explosives, mainly through underground tunnels and via sea lanes. Israel is cooperating with its neighboring countries, as well as with other countries in the Mediterranean and beyond, to prevent this illicit trafficking and to dispose of the seized arms, as well as to detect and destroy the underground tunnels.

Form G
Article 11
para 2

Information to the UN-database on mine clearance

"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:

High Contracting Party **ISRAEL** reporting for time period from **1.1.2012-31.12.2012**

Means and technologies of mine clearance

An updated list of the leading Israeli companies and their demining capabilities and equipment, as they appear on the internet:

MINE CLEARANCE CONTRACTORS

<u>QUADRO Projects & Technologies LTD.</u> 22 Saharov St. New Industrial Zone Rishon Lezion 75707, Israel Tel: 972-3-9413010 Fax: 972-3-9410743 E-mail: quadro@quadro.co.il Website: www.quadro.co.il	<u>EITAN LIDOR PROJECTS LTD</u> M.B. 236 Givat Halevona 35 Modiin-Macabeem-Reut 71799, Israel Tel: 972-8-9263788 Fax: 972-8-9264062 E-mail: amitl@e-lidor.com Website: www.e-lidor.com	<u>GOREN-KIDON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LTD</u> P.O.Box 428, 13 Remez St. Ness Ziona 74098, Israel Tel: 972-8-9302016 Fax: 972-8-9302017 E-mail: office@goren-kidon.com Website: www.goren-kidon.com	<u>MAAVARIM CIVIL ENGINEERING LTD.</u> P.O.Box 349 Kidron 70795, Israel Tel: 972-8-8690636 972-54-4903200 Fax: 972-8-8690658 E-mail: info@maavarim.co.il Website: www.maavarim.co.il
<u>GEOMINE LTD</u> 7 Shenkar St. Gav Yam 4 Herzlyia Pituach 46725, Israel Tel: 972-72-7200850 Fax: 972-72-7200851 E-mail: avi@geomineisr.com Website: www.geomineisr.com	<u>IMAG</u> P.O. Box 48017 7 Ha-ta'asiya St., Rosh Ha'ayin, Israel Tel: 972-3-9015044/5 Fax: 972-3-9015046 E-mail: eyal@ieod.co.il	<u>NETIVEY HAMIFRATZ LTD</u> P.O.Box 138, Haotzma 1, Tirat Hacarmel, Israel Tel: 972-4-8580888 Fax: 972-48580778 E-mail: itamar@netivey.co.il Website: http://netivey.co.il	<u>Israel Military Industries (Ltd) (IMI)</u> P.O.Box 1044 Ramat Hasharon 47100, Israel Tel: 972-3-5485745 Fax: 972-3-5485365 E-mail: ilo@imi-israel.com Website: www.imi-israel.com

External QA/QC CONTRACTORS

<u>ZEEV LEVNON PROJECTS AND SUPERVISING LTD</u> P.O.Box 49277, 26 Alexander Yanay St., Petah Tikva, Israel E-mail: adi@moked-matara.co.il
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Lists of experts and expert agencies

The following list includes experts in rehabilitation programs:

SHEBA Medical Center, Rehab. Department: DR. Itzhak Sivner, Tel: 972-3-5303701, Fax: 972-3-5303788.

LOEWENSTEIN Rehab. Center: Dr. Iuly Treger, Vice President of the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine, Tel: 972-9-7709090, Fax: 972-9-7709937.

RAMBAM Medical Center: Prof. Doron Orman, Tel: 972-4-85421298, Fax: 972-4-8542997.

BNEI ZION Medical Center: Dr. Ketty Goldenberg, Tel: 972-4-8359814, Fax: 972-4-8359270.

MoD Rehab. Bureau: Dr. Ido Katz, Tel: 972-3-6975068, Fax: 972-3-6975962.