Geneva, 6 November 2006
Item 10 of the provisional agenda
Consideration of matters arising from reports by High Contracting Parties according to paragraph 4 of Article 13 of the Amended Protocol II

THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

National annual report

Submitted in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2 of the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as Amended on 3 May 1996 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)

Reporting Formats for Article 13 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2

NAME OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY

The People’s Republic of Bangladesh

DATE OF SUBMISSION

February 2006

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT

Prime Minister’s Office
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(Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail)

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 ☒
Form A  Dissemination of information

Article 13, paragraph 4 (a)  “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

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

Remark:

High Contracting Party  The People’s Republic of Bangladesh reporting for time period from: February 2005 to January 2006

Information to the armed forces

The Armed Forces are the only Authorized Agency permitted to use mines in Bangladesh which are permitted by the OTTAWA Convention. The provisions of Amended Protocol II and its implications are being periodically disseminated to the Armed Forces through:

a. Presentations on the subject at important seminars, symposiums and conferences held under the auspices of the Bangladesh Armed Forces.

b. Officers of the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Home Affairs and Services Headquarters (Army, Navy and Air Force) interact frequently for exchange of views and information on the implementation of the provisions of Amended Protocol II.

Information to the civilian population

NGOs active in the field of International Humanitarian and Disarmament Law have helped sensitize the general public to the problem of landmines and create awareness of such international instruments, in particular the Amended Protocol II, to address this problem. Incidents of use of Improvised Explosive Devices by Terrorists (if any) are reported in the electronic and print media. At government level, Mine Risk Education (MRE) program is in progress.
Form B  Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes

Article 13, paragraph 4 (b) “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party The People’s Republic of Bangladesh reporting for time February 2005 to January 2006 period from: ____________ ____________

Mine clearance programmes

In Bangladesh the Corps of Engineers is the central agency tasked with all operational requirements concerning military use of landmines and mine clearance.

During the period under report, no mine clearance task in its classical has been undertaken by our Armed Forces. However, where miscreants/terrorists have resorted to indiscriminate use of improvised explosive devices (IED), the Sappers continued to aid Civil Authorities in defusing, clearing and destroying such devices.

Bangladesh Armed Forces (Army) has been extensively involved in UN sponsored Mine Clearance Programmes in various parts of the globe such as Kuwait, Cambodia, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Sudan and Eritrea.

Rehabilitation programmes

Since there are no such victims in our country, therefore, we do not have any active Rehabilitation Programme.
Form C  Technical requirements and relevant information

Article 13, paragraph 4 (c)  “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  The People’s Republic of Bangladesh reporting for time period from: February 2005 to January 2006

Technical requirements

Since Bangladesh does not produce any landmines, therefore, no step was needed to meet technical requirements of this Protocol.

Any other relevant information

Nil.
Form D

Legislation

Article 13, paragraph 4 (d)

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

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party

The People’s Republic of Bangladesh reporting for time period from: February 2005 to January 2006

Legislation

The Anti-personnel Mine Ban Treaty prohibiting the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines was signed by Bangladesh Government on 07 May 1998 and ratified on 01 March 2001. Bangladesh is the only country in South Asia to become a State-party of the Treaty. In August 2001, Bangladesh established a national committee to oversee implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty. Domestic legislation to implement the Mine Ban Treaty is in its final stage. As per the treaty obligations, we have already destroyed total 1,089,227 mines. Presently 15,000 mines have been retained for the purpose of training.
Form E

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

Article 13, paragraph 4 (e) “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... 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 The People’s Republic of Bangladesh reporting for time period from: February 2005 to January 2006

International technical information exchange

A large number of countries are contributing towards UN sponsored mine clearance programmes. Information/data on technical aspects of these missions, such as type of mine encountered, activation mechanism and other characteristics, method of laying, marking and recording, types of mine clearance equipment (manual, mechanical and explosive types) need to be shared. Bangladesh intends to share this information with other States Parties and invites them to do likewise. In this regard, the UN through its respective desk may collect information from Force Headquarters or any other organization working in different geographic areas of the globe and disseminate the same to different countries to keep all updated.

International cooperation on mine clearance

During the period under review, Bangladesh has contributed its forces for mine clearance in UN missions in the following countries:

a. Kuwait
b. Eritrea
c. Liberia
d. Sudan

In classical sense, though no area mine clearance operations were carried out by Bangladesh Forces in the above countries, stray incidents of mine clearance were carried out whenever such mines were encountered.
International co-operation on technical co-operation and assistance

Bangladesh is ready to contribute technical assistance and expertise to mine clearance projects/schemes and rehabilitation programmes for other States Parties. Bangladesh strongly supports technical cooperation measures in the areas of mine clearance technology (usage of equipment, training and so on) and urges capable States Parties to contribute to such measures.
Form F | Other relevant matters
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Article 13, paragraph 4 (f) | “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

(f) other relevant matters.”

**Remark:**

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<th>The People’s Republic of Bangladesh reporting for time period from:</th>
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Other relevant matters

Nil.
Form G

Information to the UN-database on mine clearance

Article 11, paragraph 2

“Each High Contracting Party undertakes to provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations System, especially information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance.”

High Contracting Party

The People’s Republic of Bangladesh

reporting for time February 2005 to January 2006

Means and technologies of mine clearance

a. Manual

By hand-held mine detectors and prodders.

b. Mechanical

Flail and trail.

c. Explosives

By detonation.

Lists of experts and experts agencies

Army Headquarters
Engineer-in-Chief Branch
Engineer Directorate
Dhaka Cantonment–1206
Bangladesh

National points of contact on mine clearance

Prime Minister’s Office
Armed Forces Division
Operations and Planning Directorate
Dhaka Cantonment

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