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)

Summary sheet

Provisional Reporting Formats for Article 13 para 4 and Article 11 para 2.

NAME OF HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: POLAND

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 06.09.2006

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

X YES
NO
Summary sheet

(Pursuant to the decision of the Fifth Annual Conference of the States Parties to CCW Amended Protocol II as stipulated in paragraph 20 of its Final Report, CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/2)

Reporting Period: 01.10.2005 to 01.09.2006

Form A: Dissemination of information:  
[ ] X changed  
[ ] □ unchanged

Form B: Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes:  
[ ] □ changed  
[ ] X unchanged (last reporting: 2003)

Form C: Technical requirements and relevant information:  
[ ] □ changed  
[ ] X unchanged (last reporting: 2003)

Form D: Legislation:

[ ] □ changed  
[ ] X unchanged (last reporting: 2003)

Form E: International technical information exchange, co-operation on mine clearance, technical co-operation and assistance:

[ ] X changed  
[ ] □ unchanged

Form F: Other relevant matters:

[ ] □ changed  
[ ] X unchanged (last reporting: 2003)

Form G: Information to the UN-database on mine clearance:

[ ] □ changed  
[ ] X unchanged (last reporting: 2003)

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FORM A

Dissemination of information

Article 13/4/ 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 | POLAND | reporting for time | period from 01.10.2005 to 01.09.2006

Information to the Armed Forces

As in previous years all ranks soldiers within the Engineering Forces of the Polish Land Forces have received on routine basis training commensurate with their duties and responsibilities to comply with the provisions of the Amended Protocol II (AP II) to the Convention of Certain Conventional Weapons. Moreover, due attention was dedicated to the Amended Protocol II issues both during two special courses on International Humanitarian Law organised for squadron commanders and in the framework of Polish Summer School of the International Humanitarian Law held in Radziejowice.

Information to the civilian population

Unchanged (last reporting 2003).
International technical information exchange, co-operation on mine clearance, technical cooperation and assistance

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:
b) measures taken on international technical information exchange, on international cooperation on mine clearance and on technical cooperation and assistance”

Remark:
High Contracting Party: POLAND
reporting for time period from 01.10.2005 to 01.09.2006

The Polish Ministry of National Defence delegated its representatives to participate in meetings of the Standing Committee of Experts on Mine Action and the Group of Governmental Experts of the States Parties to the CCW all held in Geneva.

International co-operation on mine clearance

At the reporting period Poland contributed to alleviate the humanitarian problem caused by irresponsible use of landmines in specific regions. In particular the Polish Engineering Forces personnel were engaged in various peacekeeping and stabilising missions abroad. Additionally to their mandatory tasks, which included mine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearing of areas where the security of designated personnel and troops was threatened, they were acting in favour of local populations. The activities included among others removing and destroying of mines, other UXO and explosive remnants of war as a response to emergency, as well as providing warning and risk education to the affected communities.

Given that the posting abroad of one Polish de-miner costs approximately 17 000 € a year the total costs borne by Ministry of Defence as a result of deploying of 112 of them, who were directly involved in UXO and mine clearance operations in the reporting period, has been estimated to be about 1 290 000 €. The total that covers vaccinations, training, insurance, salary as well as board and accommodation costs but omits operational costs related to transportation means and other military equipment can be disaggregated as follows:

- 20 000 € – costs of preparation of 5 de-miners for the mission under the auspicious of UN in Syria (all other costs borne by UN Secretariat);
- under the auspicious of NATO:
  - 190 000 € – costs of posting 11 de-miners in Kosovo;
  - 290 000 € – costs of posting 28 altogether de-miners in Afghanistan within the framework of “Enduring Freedom Operation” (14 of them were deployed for every half of the year);
- under the auspicious of EU:
  - 190 000 € – costs of posting 11 de-miners in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
  - 20 000 € – costs of posting 2 de-miners in Congo;
- 880 000 € – costs of posting altogether 55 de-miners in Iraq within the framework of Stabilisation Forces (38 and 17 of them were deployed in the second half of the 2005 and in the first half of the 2006, respectively).

In the reporting period Polish personnel, acting in close co-operation with other participants of the missions, fulfilled in particular following tasks:
- identification and mitigation of threats caused by mines and UXO;
- mines and UXO clearing activities;
- removal of unexploded ordnance and abandoned munitions from affected areas and storage facilities;
- co-ordination of and support to mine-clearance operations conducted by specialised commercial companies and international non-governmental demining organisations;
- mine threat control associated with preliminary adaptation of buildings for personnel needs;
- providing warning and risk education to the affected communities.

In 2005* sub-units of Polish military engineers designated to the above mention missions identified and destroyed the following numbers of dangerous items:

- in Syria:
  - 297 pcs of anti-personnel and anti-tank mines;
  - 34 psc of unexploded ordnance;
- in Bosnia and Herzegovina:
  - 2146 pcs of anti-personnel and anti-tank mines;
  - 180 000 pcs of munitions of various types, mainly for SALW;
- in Kosovo:
  - 6 pcs of anti-personnel and anti-tank mines;
  - 11 psc of unexploded ordnance;
- in Afghanistan:
  - 183 pcs of anti-personnel and anti-tank mines;
  - 12 561 pcs of munitions of various types and unexploded ordnance;
  - area of about 25 000 m² has been checked and cleared;
- in Iraq:
  - 9163 pcs of anti-personnel and anti-tank mines;
  - 1 416 000 pcs of artillery, mortar munitions, hand grenades, anti-tank missiles, air bombs and munitions for SALW and unexploded ordnance. (The large quantity items is mainly due to the clearing of abandoned former Iraqi Army stockpiles of munitions.)

* The current reporting procedures concerning dangerous items do not allow to present data corresponding exactly to the reporting period.