- PROTOCOL V -

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

(As adopted by the First Conference at its second plenary meeting on 5 November 2007)

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**HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY:** THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

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**NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT (Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry of Interior - Civil Protection Directorate</th>
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Ministry of Interior – Directorate for Civil protection Web site: https://civilna-zastita.gov.hr/
CROMAC Web site: www.hcr.hr
CROMAC Mine information System portal: https://misportal.hcr.hr
CROMAC - CTRO Web site: www.ctro.hr

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**DATE OF SUBMISSION:** 31/03/2019

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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

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CONVENTION ON CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS
**FORM A**: Steps taken to implement Article 3 of the Protocol: Clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war

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**High Contracting Party**: REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

**Reporting for time period from**: 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018

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**Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 3:**

Through 92 preliminary demining projects, ERW threat has been removed from an area that amounts to 48.8 km² while additional 7.2 km² was reduced through Technical and Non-technical survey activities. All these activities resulted in the total decrease of the Suspected hazardous area in the Republic of Croatia in the amount of 56 km² (+185.416 m² demined territory by MoD). Suspected hazardous area in the Republic of Croatia on December 31, 2018 totalled 355.5 km² (excluding the MoD areas).

In 2018 the largest share in demined areas were the areas planned for different economic activities like forest area and especially agricultural land which the local and regional governments have stated as their priority, crucial for the revitalization of agricultural production and other activities where demining is a precondition. This means that at the end of 2018, 4.0% of the MSAs were categorized as agricultural areas, 95.7% as forest areas and the remaining 0.3% as the other areas (swamp, rocky etc. soils). All of this clearly displays the efforts of the Republic of Croatia to resolve SHA on agricultural soil, after which and in even parallel, forest, nature 2000 and protected areas areas will be prioritized. The remaining forest areas hinder not only nature protection activities but also serious aspects of economic development as well.

**Table 2: Number of mines and UXO destroyed in the period 01/01/2018 – 31/12/2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Anti-personnel Mines</th>
<th>Anti-vehicle Mines</th>
<th>UXO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>968 (+ 127 by MoD and MoI)</td>
<td>11 (+ 42 by MoD and MoI)</td>
<td>1409 (+458,997 by MoD and MoI)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Any other relevant information:**

During the implementation of quality control and quality assurance measures, CROMAC quality control supervisors and QC/QA staff, have found that in 7 mine clearance operations/projects polygons the performed activities have not met the prescribed quality requirements so the repetition of the demining activities in an area of 8.115 m² has been ordered. Moreover, during the implementation of the final quality control and quality assurance, in 13 cases, the Commission for the final QC has established that demining activities have not been performed in accordance with the regulations and it was ordered to repeat the activities in these areas amounting to 320,483 m² in size.

Mine clearance capacities include a complete equipment of 40 demining companies that were authorized by Croatian Ministry of Interior to perform demining activities in 2018. All the employees that work in mine clearance are wearing PPE or protective equipment that consists of flak jacket with apron protection for groins and helmets with visors. For special cases of UXO demolition, companies use ballistic suits. Following equipment is in usage for humanitarian demining activities: metal detectors, demining machines of all types (medium, light and heavy), excavators, machines for vegetation clearing and mine detection dogs. In Croatia, mine clearance actions are mostly performed as a combination of mechanical demining, manual detection and mine detection dogs. Aside from the Act on Mine Action, there are several Regulatory bylaws which prescribe the entire methodology of demining activities. In addition, frequent use of demining machines puts Croatia among the leading states with mechanical mine clearance, but the usage of MDDs is also present and widely used.

Certain amount of the Croatian military facilities including barracks, air bases, training areas, radar stations and storage sites are still partially contaminated with land mines, cluster munitions remnants and other UXO's. The Pioneer battalion of the Engineering regiment is responsible for clearance of all mentioned military facilities.

In the course of 2018, an area of 185.416 m² was searched and cleared, 16 AP mines were found and destroyed with 12 pieces of UXOs eliminated as well. AV landmines were not discovered during the process. MoI collected 111 pieces of AP and 42 pieces of AV landmines and 458,985 pieces of UXO's. This amount was destroyed as well.
Steps taken to implement Article 4 of the Protocol: Recording, retaining and transmission of information

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 4 and the Technical Annex:
At the beginning of 2018, 59 towns and municipalities in 9 out of 21 counties were affected by mine problem. Total mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia at the beginning of the 2018 amounted to 411,5 km2, with approx. 39,000 mines and UXOs that still have to be found and destroyed.

On December 31, 2018 the total suspected hazardous area was marked with 13,544 mine warning signs that are one of the basic elements of the Mine Information System (MIS) which is available on the web page of the MIS and also shown on the maps given to the local authorities, police administration and individuals that have requested maps on SHA situation.

Annual Mine Action Plan is based on priorities and requests of counties that are compliant to their development programs, programs of reconstruction and return of displaced people, needs and requests of public companies and other demining beneficiaries, defined mined and mine suspected area and financial means secured. The Plan is approved by Croatian Government and adopted by the Croatian Parliament.


Any other relevant information:
The new National Mine Action Strategy in the Republic of Croatia was approved by Croatian Parliament in mid-September 2009 and it consists of all relevant information on mine action since 1991, current status of mine suspected area (size, positioning, structure and impact on society and economy), a description of available capacities for mine action execution and basic goals to be achieved in the period 2009 to 2019, with an established method and preconditions for their realization.

At the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties (17MSP) to the APMBC, Republic of Croatia was officially approved of the extension deadline regarding the Article 5 of the Ottawa Convention (previously set at March, 2019). The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Croatia for an extension of its deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 March 2026. In granting the request, the Meeting acknowledged that Croatia had declared that it would finalise all operations and verification by 31 December 2025 and hence fulfil its Article 5 obligations in line with the aspiration of the States Parties in the Maputo + 15 Declaration.
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: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018

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

Different Mine risk education activities, marking of Mine suspected area (15% increase of marked areas per sqm in comparison with the previous reporting year), possibility of getting an insight into mine situation throughout submission of MSA maps as well as using CROMAC web portal had a positive effect on the prevention of mine incidents, but also required additional activities of informing the public and media of different mine action aspects. In addition, during 2018 CROMAC has further developed a Web Application named MINE.info which can be downloaded onto smartphones (both android and iOs based) and accessed for free. The application includes information on the location of suspected and confirmed hazardous areas on the Croatian territory and can track the user’s distance to the closest contaminated area. If a user happens to be in a mined area, the relevant police department can be notified immediately by selecting the “SOS Call”-option, which will automatically transmit the geo-data on the location of the caller to the police. The application also contains the option to report suspected explosive devices to the police by uploading photos and a short description of the encountered device. Further, the app contains a list of the most common ERW to be found in Croatia. For each item, there is a photo, the name and a brief narrative of the objects, as well as the most common locations where particular explosive remnants could be encountered. The application offers a user-friendly and educational tool to inform the Croatian population about the potential dangers of mines/ERW.

In 2018, the Croatian Mine Action Centre coordinated a large number of activities related to informing about mine danger. Through 95 lectures and presentations, more than 20.977 citizens were educated in 2018. Majority of them were kindergarten and elementary school kids. Special education was given to the members of Hunting associations, Croatian mountain rescue service, hikers, farmers and tourists. Education was provided in the Capital of Zagreb and 15 other counties concluding the mentioned throughout the 62 Municipalities.

The largest number of activities related to the education about dangers of mines and UXO were done in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the relevant police departments through the "Less Arms, less tragedy" campaign where throughout 83 organized lectures more than 18.352 people were educated. The cooperation was also achieved with city and municipal governments and other non-governmental organizations and associations.

All actions and activities in Mine Action in Croatia and worldwide were presented on web pages of CROMAC and Government Office for Mine Action.

Central ceremony for the April 4, International day of Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action was held in the town of Osijek in co-organisation of CROMAC, Ministry of Interior, Croatian Red Cross, Association "Croatia Helps", State Protection and Rescue Directorate and other Mine Action stakeholders who presented their contribution to mine action (promo leaflets, showcasing ERW, books, sitting volleyball demonstration, MRE of children, etc.).

Alongside with other Mine action activities, the most important product of education in this context is that in 2018, there were no mine incidents / accidents or related causalities in the Republic of Croatia.

Any other relevant information:

The Republic of Croatia has well-developed legal framework relating to the persons with disabilities in realizing their legitimate rights and status. The status and various forms of rights are being realized through over 200 different laws and by-laws. There are 4 basic forms of mine victim assistance the ministries, different institutions, non-governmental sector, a number of organizations and individual initiatives take part in medical care, physical rehabilitation, psychological help and social reintegration and professional and economic rehabilitation.
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: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 6:

Every humanitarian mission or organization that is coming to Croatia with goal to help or to get involved in demining action in Croatia can get all relevant information in Croatian Mine Action Center. CROMAC will provide information about ERW, mine suspected area, priorities and all other topics that could be point of interest of those organizations. That is one of the CROMAC’s main tasks.

CROMAC tasks are as follows:
- Collecting and processing data about the SHA and database management,
- Planning of demining operations and organizing public tenders for awarding demining operations,
- SHA marking,
- Drafting of demining and technical survey projects,
- Quality assurance and quality control over demining operations,
- Issuance of demining certificates,
- Co-ordination of MRE activities,
- International co-operation.

Any other relevant information:

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

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<td>01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018</td>
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<tr>
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**Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 7:**

- During January, 2018, at the CROMAC headquarters, a visit was organized for the Ukrainian delegation.

- Between the late February and early March 2018, the CROMAC delegation visited the Republic of Iraq, Baghdad.

- During April, in Dubrovnik-Neretva County, in Slano, the 15th International Symposium "Mine Action 2018" was held in organization of the Croatian Mine Action Center, CROMAC-Center for Testing, Development and Training, ltd. and the Government Office for Mine Action. At the mentioned Symposium, some 170 participants from 31 countries of the world were exchanging knowledge about Mine Action topics.

- At the end of May, the CROMAC and CROMAC-CTRO delegation visited the Republic of Colombia regarding the continuance of cooperation in the field of Mine action and Technical assistance.

- During July, a regional meeting of the Mine action centers was held in Brčko (BIH).

- In the late August, the Croatian Mine Action Center has had a visit from the representatives of the Swedish Armed Forces (SWEDEC), Center for Demining and Destruction of Explosive Devices (EOD).

- In September, the Croatian Mine Action Center hosted a delegation of the EUFOR BiH Command centre.

- During December, delegation of the Croatian Mine Action Center has visited Tajikistan Mine Action Centre.

**Any other relevant information:**

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

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High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018

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Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 8:

During April, the team of scientists working on the NATO SPS project "The biological method for the detection of explosives" have been conducting research activities at the CROMAC-CTRO Benkovac Polygon.

During May, a team of researchers from the University of Manchester have conducted benchmark testing of dual purpose devices - a multi frequency metal detectors and GPRs. They carried out measurements with various objects, including anti-personnel mines in different types of soil. This research is funded by the charity "Find a Better Way". This research has continued during September when the emphasis was to test real-time algorithms for classification and to collect data for the further analysis.

During September 2018, on the Benkovac polygon, activities were conducted on the previously mentioned NATO SPS project which tests the possibilities of explosives detection method by bees. A team of researchers from the University of St. Andrews and from CROMAC-CTRO conducted the passive method sampling, and a team from the University of Zagreb conducted drone surey in the same area.

During the early October, 2018, the Croatian Mine Action Center hosted representatives of the International Center for Humanitarian Demining from Geneva (GICHD), since the Republic of Croatia was selected as a good example for the implementation of a research project entitled "National Capacities and Residual Contamination in Croatia". The project is led by the International Center for Humanitarian Demining from Geneva (GICHD), supported by the US Office of Weapon removal and Abatement (WRA), with the intent of providing in-system research and processes that are active or planned to manage residual contamination of ERW. On this occasion, the Croatian Mine Action Center provided comprehensive support to the project and organized meetings with all the relevant stakeholders of the Mine action System of the Republic of Croatia.

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Any other relevant information:

CROMAC and CTRO can offer the following forms of assistance to the international mine action community:

- Establishment of the National mine action centre,
- Legal, sub legal and normative regulations,
- Establishment of mine information system and geo-information system,
- Planning system – production of National strategies, annual and operative activity plans,
- Education of executors of humanitarian demining operations (deminers, auxiliary workers and management) and mine risk education,
- General survey, definition of suspected hazardous area and education of survey teams,
- Protective equipment and demining machines produced in the Republic of Croatia,
- Capacities and know-how of the Croatian demining companies,
- Capacities for testing demining machines, equipment and devices as well as new technologies of mine and UXO detection.
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FORM F(a): Steps taken by States which have ERW victims to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2): Victim Assistance

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018

Steps taken to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2):

The Republic of Croatia has developed public health care structure that includes clinics, clinical centres, specialized polyclinics, hospitals and rehabilitation centres. All persons being involved in the incidents are entitled to health protection and acquisition of orthopaedic aids to the amount covered by the Croatian Health Insurance Institute. These rights are regulated by a number of laws, rules and regulations. Relevant state administration authorities were involved in solving the problems of mine victims relating to medical rehabilitation. In accordance with the Act on Mine Action, mine victims assistance-related initiatives were conducted with the Government Office for Mine Action’s coordinative role and in co-operation with relevant ministries, institutions and NGOs.

The Government Office for Mine Action and the CROMAC continued to provide advisory support to mine victims and their families and to collect data on mine victims and their needs during the process of non-technical survey. Swiss-Croatian Cooperation Program through "Demining and Socio-economic Integration" project and correlated socio-economic component has a goal of establishing functional mine victims’ data base which will serve as a basis for developing further and strengthened policy actions for mine victims. The “Questionnaire on Mine Victims” has been finalized and will be used to conduct the survey among mine survivors and/or their family members. The interviews of mine victims, which will then be used to fill in the database, are foreseen to begin in the first half of 2019.

The Republic of Croatia has highly developed legal framework relating to the persons with disabilities in realizing their legitimate rights and status. The status and various forms of rights are being realized through over 200 different laws and by-laws. There are 4 basic forms of mine victim assistance in which ministries, institutions, non-governmental sector, a number of organizations and individual initiatives take part in, such as medical care, physical rehabilitation, psychological help and social reintegration and professional and economic rehabilitation.

County institutes for emergency health care are available in all 21 counties which in turn provide even level of assistance in case of urgency. The time of response of emergency health teams (ambulances) in case of urgency (such as mine incident) has been improved and is now up to 10 min in urban areas and up to 20 min in rural areas (in 80% of situations). In cases of severe injuries or difficult medical conditions of any kind that require urgent transport of patient to a more equipped medical facility, helicopters of the Croatian Armed Forces are available and usually deployed. This in turn dramatically increases the level of survivability in such cases.

Psychosocial interdisciplinary centers are available in all 21 counties with four being regional centers for psychological services that provide psychotherapeutic services, with the main center in the capital Zagreb.

House of Croatian Veterans is accommodation / rehabilitation institution that can permanently or temporarily reside Homeland War veterans, returnees from the peacekeeping missions, injured deminers and members of their families, civilian war victims, as well as other persons in need (including mine/UXO victims and survivors), depending on their health status and socio-economic situation (for the time being, one center is operational and running with others in plan to opened).

Other relevant information, guided by the Plan of Action on Victim Assistance:

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

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018

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

Correspondingly to MRE activities performed throughout the 2018, the Republic of Croatia has, as previously described, performed the following measures in affected territories, to reduce the risks posed by explosive remnants of war:
- survey and assess the threat posed by explosive remnants of war;
- assess and prioritize needs and practicability in terms of marking and clearance, removal or destruction;
- mark and clear, remove or destroy explosive remnants of war;
- take steps to mobilize resources to carry out these activities (in 2018 state budget has had the biggest financing share with 62% of the realized funds for demining in total (EU funds 36.8%, donations 0.74%).

Any other relevant information:

N/A
Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 11:

a.) Munitions manufacturing management

Production of all types of arms and military equipment in the Republic of Croatia is regulated by the law on the Production, Overhaul and Trade in Arms and Military Equipment, adopted on 25 March 2002 (Official Gazette 33/2002). The law regulates safety and protection of methods of producing and refitting arms and military equipments.

b.) Munitions management

In order to ensure the best possible long-term reliability of explosive ordnance, Republic Croatia applies best practices and operating procedures with respect to its storage, transport, field storage and handling in accordance with the following:

- Explosive ordnance is stored in 26 secured facilities that are well-guarded and protected against fires and thunders.
- Explosive ordnance is stored and sorted in accordance with its condition. Out of date and faulty explosive ordnance is sorted out and stored separately. For explosive ordnance warehousing, tracking and testing procedures have been put in place in order to maintain its reliability.
- All facilities are made of concrete and with insulation in order to maintain temperatures under 5°C and humidity under not more than 75%. Personnel working and handling explosive ordnance must be well pyrotechnically educated and certified in order to perform their duties.

Storage and handling, transport, supply and maintenance, laboratory testing and observing Life Cycle Management of explosive ordnance in Armed Forces is regulated by Ministry of Defence and General Staff of Armed Forces of Republic of Croatia with:

- Directive on storage protection and handling of explosive ordnance, MoD Zagreb dated 1998
- Decree on transport of explosive ordnance, MoD dated 2006
- Directive on chemical balance of gunpowder dated 2000
- Directive on explosive ordnance quality control in MoD and AF dated 2005
- Directive on maintaining of explosive ordnance in AF dated 2004
- Directive on record keeping of out of date and faulty explosive ordnance dated 2005
- Directive on managing with the existing quantities of explosive ordnance in AF dated 1997

Currently in the Croatian Armed Forces, process of implementation of NATO norms and standards in the area of explosive ordnance safekeeping is going on. Explosive ordnance experts from the Croatian Armed Forces are currently involved in work of NATO Committee AC/326 “CNAD Ammunition Safety group” responsible for development and improvement of norms and standards in the area of safe storage, transport and use of explosive ordnance.

Decision of the Defence Minister for the planning period to year 2018 defined:

- Types and quantities of usable explosive ordnance, their storage and maintenance;
- Types and quantities of usable and perspective classical rocket ammo that could be used for live-firing, quality control, life cycle oversight and its extension;
- Types and quantities of explosive ordnance that are not longer usable and needs to be removed by delaboration and destruction

c.) Training

Training:

One of the main fields of expertise of CROMAC-CTDT is training. Training courses are conducted in accordance with IMAS and Testing and Evaluation Protocols. In 2018, the following training course was conducted for international partners:

In the mid October CROMAC-CTRO provided training for the employees of the Russian company EMERCOM DEMINING in the field of Management in Mine Action.
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Any other relevant information:

| N/A |
FORM I: Other relevant matters

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