The Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations Office and to the other international organisations in Geneva presents its compliments to the CCW Implementation Support Unit, Office for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch), and has the honour to submit Switzerland's 2012 Annual Report according to article 10 paragraph 2(b) of "Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War", annexed to the 1980 "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".

The Permanent Mission of Switzerland thanks the Secretary General for circulating this annual report to all High Contracting Parties.

The Permanent Mission of Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 31 March 2013
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1 Pursuant to the relevant decision of the First Conference of the High Contracting Parties to CCW Protocol V, this cover page could be used as a complement to submitting the detailed reporting forms adopted at the First Conference of the High Contracting Parties to CCW Protocol V in case there is no substantial change in the ERW situation, as a result of a conflict or of the measures undertaken in compliance with the provisions of Protocol V, and when the information to be provided in some of the forms in an annual report is the same as it would be in past reports.
- 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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DATE OF SUBMISSION:    31.03.2013

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 ☐   H ☐   I ☐

CONVENTION ON CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS
2/12
- PROTOCOL V -

FORM A: Steps taken to implement Article 3 of the Protocol: Clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: SWITZERLAND


Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 3:

N/A
Switzerland is not an ERW affected country

Any other relevant information:

N/A
FORM B: Steps taken to implement Article 4 of the Protocol: Recording, retaining and transmission of information

High Contracting Party: SWITZERLAND


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

N/A
Switzerland is not an ERW affected country.

Any other relevant information:

N/A
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: SWITZERLAND


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

N/A
Switzerland is not an ERW affected country.

Any other relevant information:

N/A
- PROTOCOL V -

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: SWITZERLAND


Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 6:

N/A
Switzerland is not an ERW affected country.

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

High Contracting Party:  SWITZERLAND


Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 7:

(Assistance with respect to existing explosive remnants or war is part of Switzerland’s contribution to international cooperation and assistance. Please refer to Form F for further information.)

Any other relevant information:

N/A
Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 8:

[Based on the Annual Report of Switzerland for the CCW Convention and its annexed Protocols for the year 2012]

The Swiss policy on Mine Action addresses the negative impact of anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war (ERW). The Mine Action Strategy of the Swiss Confederation for the period 2012-2015 outlines the relevant aspects of Switzerland’s contribution to mine action and the disposal of explosive remnants of war and cluster munitions.

On this basis, Switzerland provides assistance to mine / cluster munitions / ERW affected countries in terms of funds, material and personnel.

In 2012, the Swiss Government spent about CHF 17 millions on projects related to mine action in general (see also annual reports on CCW Protocol V).

- The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) supports clearing-projects, projects integrating mine action into development, risk warning campaigns and victim assistance projects mainly with financial contributions in priority countries such as: Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Laos, Libya, Sudan or Somaliland for about CHF 5.9 millions.

- In addition, the Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (DDPS) is providing experts for Mine Action Programmes by the UN on a voluntary basis. Switzerland supports UN-Mine Action programmes with specialists in the fields of logistics, finance, administration and information management as well as with EOD specialists. During the reporting period January 2012 to December 2012, Swiss Mine Action specialists were deployed to programs in, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Laos, Somaliland/Puntland, South Sudan, UNOPS and UNMAS HQ in New York and Western Sahara. During the reporting period, CHF 2.3 millions have been spent for the assignment of personnel. The DDPS further developed and updated its specific training courses for future experts to be sent to international Mine Action Programs.

- Furthermore, the Swiss Government offered EOD systems. This offer includes not only the material but also training and support (follow-up deliveries may take place upon request). During the reporting period January to December 2012, the EOD System was delivered to
the Republic of Congo in order to support the UN with the disposal of ERW after the explosion of ammunition depot in Brazzaville in March 2012. Among the material provided by the DDPS to international Mine Action Programs, SM EOD-Systems are the most prominent items.

- Finally, the FDFA provides a substantial annual funding to the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD); in the reporting period, the FDFA contributed about CHF 8.9 millions. The Centre acts as a facilitator, research body and think tank in the field of Mine Action, and which has also been mandated by the State Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty to assist in the implementation of the said convention via a Implementation Support Unit created in 2002.

Since 2000 Switzerland has been offering international training courses on the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) via the channels of the Partnership for Peace Program (PpP). With the revision of the courses in 2009 Switzerland offers annually a series of courses in different fields of mine action. In the reporting period, three courses were offered by the Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (DDPS) at the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) with the following titles: Humanitarian Mine Action and the Role of the Military; Information Management in Military and Humanitarian Operations; Quality Management in Mine Action Programmes. The courses took place in October 2012 in Geneva.

Any other relevant information:

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

High Contracting Party: SWITZERLAND


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

N/A

Any other relevant information:

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

High Contracting Party: SWITZERLAND


Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 11:

N/A

Any other relevant information:

N/A
FORM I: Other relevant matters

High Contracting Party: SWITZERLAND


Any other relevant information:

In the context of explosive remnants of war, including explosive remnants of cluster munitions, Switzerland has signed and ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions. The instruments of ratification were deposited on 17 July 2012; the Convention entered into force for Switzerland on 1 January 2013.

The ratification is reflected in the necessary amendments of the Federal Act on War Material (articles 8a, 8b and 8c as well as articles 35a and 35b) (see: http://www.admin.ch/ch/f/rs/514_51/index.html)