

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 4 and Article 11 para 2.

NAME OF HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY **AUSTRIA**

DATE OF SUBMISSION **18 JUNE 2008**

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This information can be made available to all interested parties and entities:



YES



NO



Partially only the following forms:

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

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	Austria	reporting for time period from	1 Jan. 2007	to	31 Dec. 07
		_____	_____		_____

Information to the armed forces

The information submitted in the previous report 1st January - 31 December 2005 remains valid. Austria considers that there is no further need for specific implementation measures flowing from the contents of the amended Protocol II with regard to anti-personnel mines and booby-traps due to the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction and of the Federal Law on the Ban of Anti-Personnel Mines ("Bundesgesetzblatt (BGBl) I Nr. 13/1997"). The destruction of stockpiles of anti-personnel mines was completed in 1995 and the use of booby traps was prohibited by Federal Act (see also remarks made under Form D).

All existing regulations with regard to the provisions of amended Protocol II had been corrected by the end of 1999 on a provisional basis. Instruction and training of soldiers is going on and encompasses active personnel as well as non-active personnel when activated temporarily for routine military activities. A period of 2 to 4 years is one of the particular features of the militia-system in place in Austria to bring the training to a close.

Information to the civilian population

There are no changes to the previous reports concerning the period 27th January 1999 to 31st December 2005. Since amended Protocol II has been transformed into Austrian law the content has been published and is therefore available to the civilian population.

Form B**Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes**

Article 13 / 4 / b „The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;“

Remark:

High Contracting
Party

Austria

reporting for
time period
from

1 Jan 2007 to **31 Dec. 07**

Mine clearance programmes

As indicated previously, Austria is a non-mine-affected country (including mines, booby traps and other devices). Nevertheless discoveries from UXO and APL left from previous wars do occur. In the reporting period, 14 APM left from World War II were discovered and destroyed.

Rehabilitation programmes

During the reported time period no person in Austria became a victim of mines, booby-traps or other devices. Despite that fact Austria has been developing and establishing a variety of acts and principles to ensure social security and, depending on particular situations, full rehabilitation.

Form C**Technical requirements and relevant information**

Article 13 / 4 / c „The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository ... on:

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

Remark:

High Contracting
Party

Austria

reporting for **1 Jan. 2007** to **31 Dec. 07**
time period from _____

Technical requirements

The response given by Austria in its previous reports covering the period 27th January 1999 to 31st December 2005 remains valid for this reporting period. The Austrian Armed Forces do not possess mines, booby-traps and other devices which are not in compliance with the technical provisions of this Protocol or which would be in contradiction with the obligations from other international treaties. The Austrian Armed Forces will not use improvised explosive devices which are not in compliance with the technical provisions of this Protocol. The Austrian Armed Forces are prepared to record and mark locations of any weapons covered by this Protocol in accordance with the respective provisions.

Any other relevant information

Austria did not claim for deferment of compliance with respect to Art.2.c. and 3.c. of the Technical Annex.

There are no indications of Austrian companies producing weapons, which are not in compliance with the provisions of amended Protocol II or which would violate other treaty obligations entered by Austria.

Form D**Legislation**

Article 13 / 4 / d „The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;

Remark:

High Contracting Party **Austria** reporting for **1 Jan 2007** to **31 Dec 07**
time period from _____

Legislation

No changes to the previous reports: Amended Protocol II is an integral part of the Austrian Law. The Protocol entered into force on 27 January 1999 and was published under the reference number „Bundesgesetzblatt (BGBl) III Nr. 17/1999“

In addition, the following legal instruments are applicable in Austria with regard to the use of certain weapons: Federal Law on the Ban of Anti-Personnel Mines ("Bundesgesetzblatt I Nr. 13/1997"), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Production, Stockpiling and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, the Geneva Conventions and their respective Protocols.

Form E**International technical information exchange, cooperation on mine clearance, technical cooperation and assistance**

Article 13 / 4 / e „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

Austria

reporting for
time period from

1 Jan 2007 to **31 Dec 07**

International technical information exchange
NIL

International cooperation on mine clearance

Austria is providing assistance to mine action activities through bilateral and multilateral programs and as a Member State of the European Union is supporting mine action activities of the European Union.

On a bilateral basis Austria has contributed during the reporting period to mine clearance, mine awareness and mine victims assistance programs/activities of international agencies and organisations or NGO's in the following countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ethiopia, Mozambique, South Sudan and Uganda. Austria has also contributed to the programs and activities of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and to the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD).

Technical cooperation and assistance

Austria has continued to provide during this reporting period mine/UXO clearance teams in the framework of UNDOF and KFOR.

Training programmes on mines and UXO's are offered by Austrian military personnel on the Golan Heights (UNDOF) and in Kosovo (KFOR).

Form F

Other relevant matters

Article 13 / 4 / f „The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
Depositary ... on:

(f) other relevant matters.

Remark:

High Contracting Party **Austria** reporting for **1 Jan 2007** to **31 Dec. 07**
_____ time period from _____

Other relevant matters

Nil

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

Article 11 para 2 „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

High Contracting
Party

A

reporting for **1 Jan. 2007** to **31 Dec.07**
time period from _____

Means and technologies of mine clearance

No changes for this reporting period 1st January to 31st December 2007.

Lists of experts and expert agencies

As it was previously reported, in Austria governmental experts for humanitarian demining operations as well as for military mine clearance activities are usually members of the Austrian armed forces. About 75 persons are trained in accordance with international practices and standards for such operations. The deployment of such experts is decided strictly on a case by case basis in accordance with the rules regulating the operation of members of the Austrian armed forces abroad in accordance with Austrian constitutional and legal requirements. Operation teams can be composed up to 4 persons. The following equipment is used for mine clearance: Schiebel AN-19/2, VALLON 1612B, MD 8, Minelab F1A1, Minex.FD2.

There are several commercial companies in Austria which offer services for demining and UXO-clearance operations.

National points of contact on mine clearance

Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs
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Federal Ministry of Defence
email: milpol2@bmlv.gv.at

Federal Ministry of the Interior:
email: BMI-II-BK-6.3@bmi.gv.at