

PROTOCOL II ON PROHIBITION 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)

Annual report in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 4

NAME OF HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: **BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

DATE OF SUBMISSION: **April 2009**

NATIONAL POINT OF CONTACT **Ministry of Civil Affairs of BH / The Demining Commission of BH**
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The information contained in this Report may be made available to other interested Parties, Organizations and the public.

Form A Dissemination of information

Article 13/4/a "The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository... On...

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

Remark:

High Contracting Party : **Bosnia and Herzegovina**
2008 to December 2008

Reporting for time period from January

Information to the armed forces

Standing Committee for Military Affairs introduced this Protocol to the Ministers of Defence of Federation of BH and Republic of Srpska. Both Ministers of Defence distributed the information on Protocol II to the all levels of Armed forces. Chiefs of units informed their superiors on the realization process.

Armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina participate in demining process in BH and destroyed all their stocks in accordance with Article 7 of the Ottawa Convention.

Army demining teams participate in humanitarian demining activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina in accordance with the demining plan and funds provided, and for these activities armed forces are accredited by the BHMAC.

Information to the civilian population

Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified Amended Protocol II and it is published on all mine action related internet sites, containing BH reports and is therefore, in the public domain.

Form B **Mine clearance and rehabilitation programs**

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

b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programs

Remark:

High Contracting Party: Bosnia and Herzegovina Reporting for time period from January 2008 to
 December 2008

Mine actions programmes:

Mine Action programme exists in Bosnia and Herzegovina since 1996. Mine clearance per year in square metres depends mostly on funds and resources available.

Threat is widespread mostly along the confrontation lines of former warring sides. Mine Action represent the re- establishment of safe environment in areas contaminated with mines and UXO, aiming to ensure safe environment and the economic development. Mine Action is a activities with mines five main components:

1. Mine risk education
2. Humanitarian demining operations that include clearance of mines and UXO, all levels of survey, Quality Assurance and mapping
3. Landmine Victim Assistance
4. AP mines stockpiles destruction
5. Advocacy

BHMAC is conducting Quality Assurance in demining testing of metal detectors, MDD teams and ground preparation machines for clearance and technical survey, Risk Area Permanent Marking and all levels of survey.

Various training courses of demining structure are conducted regularly, as well as mine risk education activities coordinated by the BHMAC.

Rehabilitation programmes

In the reported period, BHMAC held 10 (ten) coordination meetings with governmental and nongovernmental sector in order to draft Sub-strategy for Mine Victims Assistance. In the scope of mentioned meeting following subjects were elaborated:

- Drafting of Sub-strategy for Mine Victims Assistance;
- Revision of mine victims database;
- Analysis of planned budget for mine victims assistance according to Strategy 2009-2019;
- Establishment of data gathering system upon revision of mine victims database;
- Legislative specific for mine victims' assistance, adoption of the Law on professional rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as harmonization of legislation on level of Bosnia and Herzegovina and stimulation opportunities for employment of mine victims;
- Review of ongoing projects concerning mine victims, definition of term „mine victims” and determination of BH representative for LMVA structure in the world;
- Possibility of prequalification for mine victims, specific aspects of medical and socio-economic assistance to mine victims, and opportunities to stimulate education of mine victims and members of their families;
- Definition of social status for category of „mine victims” in Bosnia and Herzegovina, coordination and communication, collective appearance and lobbying in Bosnia and Herzegovina system of mine victims assistance;
- Role of NGO in structure of mine victims' assistance, as well as of international organisations.

During 2008, Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre together with 5 (five) competent ministries and 5 (five) NGOs drafted Sub-strategy for mine victims' assistance.

In reviewed period, Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre signed Memorandums of Understanding and data exchange with 4 (four) Ministries competent for activities in the field of mine victims' assistance, as well as with 22 (twenty two) nongovernmental organization. Currently ongoing is procedure of signature with Ministry of Health of Federation B&H.

In the reported period BHMACH organised six-day working visit of Indian delegation "JAIPUR foot" in order to establish level of cooperation in project "Assistance of Indian Government in ortho-prosthetic accessories to landmine/UXO victims".

Besides that in the reported period, BHMACH held presentation as training of associates of Mercy Corps in mine action project and took participation in presentation of project "Support to socioeconomic reintegration of mine survivors through opening of new working places in communities with significant rate of minority return". Representative of BHMACH as member of B&H delegation took participation on 9th ICBL Meeting, whereon informative system for mine victims' assistance in Bosnia and Herzegovina was presented.

In scope of national database revision's activities, BHMACH revised and registered in database 5.185 files with personal data of mine victims. Due to fact that project was not completed in scheduled time (November 2008) donor approved reallocation of funds for continuation of project until March 2009 when is finalization of the project expected. In order to intensify activities BHMACH shall have meetings with implementing organisation and subcontracting NGO.

Form C Technical requirements and relevant information

Article 13/4/c "The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... On ...

(b) steps taken to meet technical requirements of this Protocol and any other relevant information's pertaining thereto:

Remark:

High Contracting Party: Bosnia and Herzegovina
2008 to December 2008

Reporting for time period from January

Technical requirements

Bosnia and Herzegovina has taken all steps necessary to meet technical requirements of the Protocol. All mines booby traps and other devices in the inventory of BH armed forces comply fully with technical provisions of Amended Protocol II.

Any other relevant information

NONE

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: Bosnia and Herzegovina
to December 2008

Reporting for time period from January 2008

Legislation:

Bosnia and Herzegovina Criminal Law has been annexed to accommodate ban of all the activities prohibited under the Convention.

Criminal Law of Bosnia and Herzegovina enter into force on 1st March 2003;

Chapter XVI: Criminal acts against integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina – Article 165;

Chapter XVII: Criminal acts against humanitarian and values protected under international law – Articles 193 and 193 a;

**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
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: Bosnia and Herzegovina
to December 2008

Reporting for time period from January 2008

International technical information exchange

In cooperation with many international and national organizations, Bosnia and Herzegovina is participating in exchange of experiences and technologies, training capacities as well as

development of better and advanced methods of mine clearance and other mine action, performing tests and evaluations.

International cooperation on mine clearance

Bosnia and Herzegovina is continuously developing the cooperation at international, regional and bilateral level aiming to develop demining capacities, as well as the exchange of knowledge, experiences and personnel. Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre is developing the cooperation with MAC centers in the region of SE Europe as well as other associations and through the exchange of experiences further contribute to demining process.

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: Bosnia and Herzegovina Reporting for time period from January 2008 to December 2008

Other relevant matters:

Bosnia and Herzegovina does not manufacture, import or export mines. Mine Action in Bosnia and Herzegovina is mostly funded by the international community, with the increasing support of local authorities.