pursuant to the Decision of the Third CCW Review Conference on the establishment of a Compliance mechanism applicable to the Convention, as contained in its Final Declaration, Annex II, Paragraph 5 (CCW/CONF.III/11, Part II)

NAME OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: POLAND

PARTY TO:
☒ Protocol I (Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments)
☒ Protocol II (Protocol on Mines Booby-Traps and Other Devices)
☒ Amended Protocol II (amended Protocol on Mines Booby-Traps and Other Devices)
☒ Protocol III (Protocol on Incendiary Weapons)
☒ Protocol IV (Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons)
☒ Protocol V (Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War)

ACCEDED TO:
☒ The amendment to Article 1 of the Convention

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 30/03/2017
(dd/mm/yyyy)

(NOTE: the recommended deadline for submission of the national reports was fixed by the 2007 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties at 1 October of each calendar year)

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT1 (Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail):

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Security Policy Department
Al. Szucha 23
00-580 Warsaw, Poland
tel: +48 (22) 523 84 65
fax: +48 (22) 523 87 49

This information can be available to other interested parties and relevant organizations

☒ NO
☐ Partially, only the following forms:  A ☐  B ☐  C ☐  D ☐  E ☐

NOTE: unless otherwise indicated all reports will be made public.

Note: Pursuant to paragraph 5 of the above Decision the High Contracting Parties have agreed "to provide information to the Secretary-General in advance of the Meeting, which will be circulated by the Secretary-General to all the High Contracting Parties, on any of the following matters:

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1 Please indicate individually for the CCW and each Protocol (if different).
(a) Dissemination of information on the Convention and its annexed Protocols to their armed forces and to the civilian population;

(b) Steps taken to meet the relevant technical requirements of the Convention and its annexed Protocols and any other relevant information pertaining thereto;

(c) Legislation related to the Convention and its annexed Protocols;

(d) Measures taken on technical co-operation and assistance; and

(e) Other relevant matters.”

Each of the items listed above are provided as separate individual forms to be filled out by each High Contracting Party accordingly.
SUMMARY SHEET

Reporting period: from 01/01/2016 to 31/12/2016

Form A: Dissemination of information: ☒ changed
☐ unchanged
(last reporting year: )

Form B: Technical requirements and relevant information: ☐ changed
☒ unchanged
(last reporting year: 2012)

Form C: Legislation:
☐ changed
☒ unchanged
(last reporting year: 2012)

Form D: Technical cooperation and assistance:
☒ changed
☐ unchanged
(last reporting year: )

Form E: Other relevant matters:
☐ changed
☒ unchanged
(last reporting year: 2008)

NOTE: This Summary Sheet may be used only after the High Contracting Party has submitted its first national report pursuant to the Decision of the Third CCW Review Conference. Only the reporting forms which are indicated as „changed“ have to be submitted thereafter together with the Cover page and the Summary Sheet.
FORM A: Dissemination of information

Paragraph 5 of the Decision on Compliance:

"The High Contracting Parties will provide information [...] on:

(a) Dissemination of information on the Convention and its annexed Protocols to their armed forces and to the civilian population;"

High Contracting Party: POLAND

Reporting period: from \[01/01/2016\] to \[31/12/2016\]

☒ additional information of dissemination of information on CCW Amended Protocol II to armed forces and civilian population is contained in the National Annual Report provided in accordance with paragraph 4(a) of Article 13 of Amended Protocol II for the year: 2016

☒ additional information on dissemination of information on CCW Protocol V is contained in the National Report provided pursuant to paragraph 2 (b) of Article 10 of Protocol V for the year: [Blank]

Information to the armed forces, including the extent to which the CCW and its Protocols are part of military manuals and the training curriculum of its armed forces:

All soldiers of the Polish Armed Forces are instructed and trained in the International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict including the rules set by the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its annexed Protocols. The relevant information is disseminated to them in the framework of:
- military and postgraduate studies, operational-tactical studies, operational-strategic studies and qualification courses dedicated for candidates for professional officers, officers, military commanders and legal advisers organized by Military Universities, Academies and Officer's Schools;
- training, special and qualification courses for officers, non-commissioned officers, privates and civilian personnel realized in training centers of all armed services;
- the routine process of improving professional qualifications of military personnel conducted by superiors and legal advisers in all military units;
- military exercises which require taking into account specific rules of the International Humanitarian Law norms and regulations;

Training in international law of armed conflicts and protection of cultural heritage is an important element of the preparation process of personnel for the peacekeeping and stabilization missions. All mission members are obliged to attend such training before deployment.

In 2016 Polish Air Force Academy (PAFA) and Polish Naval Academy (PNA) organized international science conferences related to the International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict (including CCW and annexed Protocols). They were addressed to civilians and military personnel. Additionally PNA published the "International Humanitarian Law" yearbook.

Information to the civilian population, including information on any programs, courses or documentation to disseminate the CCW to non-military audiences:

Civilian students received relevant information concerning the International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict (including CCW and annexed Protocols) during optional or obligatory courses organized by Polish Military Universities, Academies and Officer's Schools.

The Center for the Dissemination of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) under the auspices of the Main Board of the Polish Red Cross (PRC), operating since 1977 is tasked with the dissemination of information on IHL and
the mission of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The Center is running the largest IHL Library (over 5 thousand volumes) which contains a special section on conventional weapons regulations. The library is used by students and post-graduates in law, political sciences, and international relations, as well as secondary school students and PRC workers and volunteers from across the country. During 2016 the PRC Center for Dissemination of IHL organized a number of seminars, meetings and lectures devoted to international humanitarian law. Most of them were focused on legal aspects of landmines (including II Protocol to the CCW). It is worth mentioning a couple of the most important events:

- XX Polish School of International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict in Radziejowice - an annual 5-day course for law and international relations students from civil and military universities, representatives of the Armed Forces, the Police, the Border Guard, the State Rire Service, Red Cross employees and volunteers. Lectures were given by experts on IHL from major Polish Universities and Armed Forces,
- Several lectures on means and methods of warfare during IHL courses for armed forces organized by War Studies University,
- Continuation of a e-learning course "Exploring humanitarian law" dedicated to the teachers of basic and secondary schools,
- XIX edition of Professor Remigiusz Bierzanek contest for the best PH. D., MA and BA thesis in humanitarian law and human rights and knowledge about the International Red Cross and Red Cross Movement;
- Coordination of the activities of the Commission for the Protection of the Emblem and related actions, including assessment of applications for use of the emblem and interventions in the event of misuse on a national scale,
- Coordination of the activities of the IHL Dissemination Commission including initiatives on promotion and dissemination of IHL, networking and knowledge sharing and publication and promotion of books.

Any other relevant information:
FORM D: Technical cooperation and assistance

Paragraph 5 of the Decision on Compliance:

"The High Contracting Parties will provide information [...] on:

(d) Measures taken on technical co-operation and assistance;"

High Contracting Party: POLAND

Reporting period: from 01/01/2016 to 31/12/2016

☒ additional information of measures taken on international technical information exchange, on international cooperation on mine clearance, and on technical cooperation and assistance is contained in the National Annual Report provided in accordance with paragraph 4(e) of Article 13 of Amended Protocol II for the year: 2016

☒ additional information on measures taken on international technical cooperation and assistance is contained in the National Report provided pursuant to paragraph 2 (b) of Article 10 of Protocol V for the year: 2016

International technical co-operation, including relevant experiences in seeking or providing technical assistance and cooperation:

In 2016 the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs contributed with 50 thousand US dollars in support of UNMAS's actions in Gaza ("Mitigation of the threat posed by explosive hazards in Gaza"). In the last two years Poland's total financial assistance to mine action and mitigation in Gaza amounted to 85 thousand US dollars. Gaza continues to be contaminated with ERWs consisting of unexploded aircraft bombs, tank shells and other munitions. For 2017 UNMAS has identified the following priorities: protection of civilians from ERW threats, support to reconstruction activities and emergency preparedness.

At the reporting period Polish Armed Forces contributed to the alleviation of humanitarian problem caused by landmines, unexploded ordnance (UXO), improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and other explosive remnants of war (ERW). This was possible through the participation of the Polish Engineering Forces personnel in the stabilizing mission in Afghanistan. The PEF activities among others included: removal and destruction of mines, UXO, IEDs and other explosive remnants of war (in cases of emergency).

In 2016 6 Polish deminers formed an emergency team for demining and clearing operations. The unit remained on standby and did not participate directly in mine clearance activities.

International technical assistance:

Any other relevant information: