

National Annual Report

Submitted in accordance with Article 13, para.4 of the
Protocol II 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

Provisional Reporting Formats for Article 13 para.2 and Article 11 para.2

NAME OF HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY	<u>ISRAEL</u>
DATE OF SUBMISSION	30 March 2016
<u>NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT</u>	
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This information can be made available to other interested parties and relevant organizations

YES

~~NO~~

Partially, only the following forms:

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>						

Form A

Article 13.4.a

Dissemination of information

"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 **ISRAEL** reporting for time period **1.1.2015-31.12.2015**

Information to the Armed Forces

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Engineering Corps (EC) implements APII and takes measures in order to further ensure that the relevant military authorities in the IDF are aware of the provisions of the Protocol and their implications.

The IDF's EC instructions and standard operating procedures are reviewed regularly in order to verify their compatibility with the provisions of APII. Any contravention of such instructions may result in an IDF investigation and possible disciplinary or penal procedures, as appropriate.

The IDF maintains a set of detailed regulations and instructions regarding the management of archive, recording minefields and mined areas. During the past year the IDF's EC continued the program of a DGPS measuring of minefields, as well as preservation of minefields' history (including digital records). This year, warning posters, including instructions with regard the dangers of mines, were prepared and disseminated among the IDF relevant units and posts. In 2015, there was one reported incident in which a military officer was severely wounded during a standard infrastructure maintenance mission in a minefield.

Furthermore, efforts were extended towards the legal education and preparation of commanders, officers and soldiers by the IDF School of Military Law, which is responsible for the dissemination of the laws of war within the IDF. The CCW Convention and APII therein, are integral parts of the curriculum. Lectures concerning this issue are provided on a regular basis to IDF's personnel attending courses and to the engineering courses, including the officers (cadets) course, the company commander's course and the IDF Command Academy.

Information to the civilian population

Information regarding Israel's status and obligations vis-à-vis CCW in general and APII in particular is publicly available since Israel's ratification of the Protocol.

Additionally, organizers of field trips such as those conducted by schools, youth movements and company employees are obligated to coordinate their route with the relevant IDF Area Command. Upon such coordination, field trip organizers are

briefed as to the location of minefields situated in the area, or suspected areas that are treated as mined until cleared and verified, and are given the appropriate mine awareness instructions. It should be emphasized that land maps, which are issued by the Israeli Mapping Center (IMC), and which are commercially available, contain clear markings regarding the topographic location of minefields. The IMC minefield maps assist schools, youth movements and company employees, and they are also recommended for personal use by civilians when organizing their trips.

In order to prevent any accidental entry into potentially dangerous areas, warning signs in three languages (Hebrew, Arabic and English), are clearly positioned on the perimeters of minefields. Further information regarding minefield locations is provided by local municipalities to the general population upon land rights and use inquiries. As mentioned above, posters containing instructions with regard to the dangers of mines were made in 2015 and distributed in vicinity to minefields.

The MoD, via its website on the Internet and in writing, provided Israeli Defense Industry and other arms manufacturers and exporters with the relevant instructions of APII, especially the restrictions on the production of mines as indicated in the Technical Annex and the prohibitions undertaken in the unilateral moratorium on any exports, sales or transfers of APLs.

The INMAA (Israeli National Mine Action Authority) - responsible for the civilian demining operations in Israel - manages a "minefield information bank" that is open for public queries concerning the plans and programs of demining, as well as for measures taken to enhance public awareness of safety and security, in order to minimize mine-related risks.

INMAA has an active MRE (Mine Risk Education) plan associated with the Ministry of Education and the National Parks and Reserves Authority. Awareness campaign video clips, in Hebrew and Arabic created by the Government Publications Bureau, have been broadcasted in the media (TV, Radio and the Internet), as well as at specific school workshops.

Form B **Mine clearance and rehabilitation programs**

Article 13.4.b "The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
Depository ...on

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programs;"

Remark:

High Contracting Party **ISRAEL** reporting for time period from **1.1.2015-**
31.12.2015

Mine clearance program

The IDF's EC continued to implement its annual program of demining, monitoring and maintaining protection of minefields and suspected areas, in accordance with the relevant APII provisions, embodied in the military regulations. In this regard, extended monitoring, fences and markings of the minefields were maintained throughout the year by special EC units dedicated to this mission.

During winter time, special attention is given to minefields which are located in proximity to farms, residential areas, hiker routes, etc., as mines may be carried away into these areas by floods and running water.

During the past year the IDF conducted hundreds of inspections of the fencing and marking of minefields. The IDF has also made significant progress in clearing additional minefields and releasing areas of land for civilian use.

The IDF's EC also continued its activities in promoting the project of improving the capabilities of precisely recording minefields (GPS&GIS) and building an accurate archive of manually-emplaced minefields. In addition to the "minefield information bank", run by INMAA, as stated in form A, which is open and easily accessed, updated information has been made available, as appropriate, to relevant civilian municipalities and establishments, upon request.

The INMAA defined clearance policies, set the national priorities and implemented them in coordination with other relevant governmental ministries, the IDF and local authorities. The INMAA formulated directives for its activities and recruited skilled and qualified personnel. The INMAA kept mapping existing minefields and set priorities, creating a work plan for mine clearance in coordination with the relevant agencies.

The INMAA continues its clearance operations and land release intended for civil use, as defined in the Minefield Clearance Law (MCL 5771-2011). The INMAA has an approved annual and perennial mine clearance plan which is implemented mainly by commercial contractors participating in competitive tenders.

In 2015 INMAA continued to work on its 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th projects, completing clearance of approximately 780,000m², destroying 21,322 mines. In this period, the INMAA also continued its clearance operations in the West Bank, (carried by the HALO Trust) funded by donor countries. Since its establishment in 2011, the INMAA cleared and released more than 5,880,000 m².

Rules and regulations concerning the legislation, insurance, clearance methods and quality management appear in the Israeli National Mine Action Standards, which are updated on occasion on INMAA's website.

Rehabilitation programs

Israel has vast experience in the field of rehabilitation, with over 2000 traumatic amputations within the IDF and several dozens of civilian victims of landmines, UXOs, improvised explosives and other devices, caused inter alia by terrorist attacks.

Israel's medical services developed advanced surgical capabilities in managing amputations and in rehabilitating people who lost their limbs or had multisystem injuries. The medical services are now well trained and equipped to deal with the unfortunate effects of landmines. Israel is now one of the most experienced countries in the world in fitting computerized knee prosthetics to traumatic amputees. Israel's additional properties boost the amputees' quality of life and enable them to return to their daily activities and family life.

Major Israeli hospitals and rehabilitation centers responsible for facilitating comprehensive rehabilitation programs are: "Tel-Hashomer" ("Sheba medical center"), "Reut" and "Loewenstein" in Tel-Aviv; "Rambam" and "Bnei Zion" in Haifa.

Additionally, Israel has six laboratories specializing in the building of prosthetic devices, ten laboratories specializing in the building of orthotics, more than a dozen orthopedic shoemakers and many physiotherapists in the field of orthopedic rehabilitation.

These health care providers render assistance not only to Israeli citizens but also to many people from neighboring countries and the Mediterranean region as a whole.

Form C

Article 13.4.c

Technical requirements and relevant information

"The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

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

Remark:

High Contracting Party **ISRAEL** reporting for time period from **1.1.2015-31.12.2015**

Technical requirements

Compliance with the technical requirements of APII was verified prior and throughout Israel's ratification process. Following the ratification, and in order to guarantee Israel's continued compliance, technical inspections are routinely conducted by the EC. As mentioned above, this includes inspection and maintenance of fences and markings of the mined areas. It was conducted, as appropriate, also in the course of this year.

Israel uses several kinds of machinery equipment in its mine clearance projects. They include, where appropriate – screening & crushing systems, bucket loaders, excavators, sifters, flail/tiller machines, etc. Some of these projects executed by Israel while others by the contractors.

All the machines used for mine clearance are tested and approved by the INMAA during the initial preparation period of a project. The INMAA bases these tests on the standards set in CEN (European Committee for Standardization) Workshop Agreements.

Any other relevant information

The MoD carefully supervises the Israeli defense industry's R&D programs to prevent development that does not meet the requirements of APII. The Israeli Export Control Authority implements and verifies compliance with the moratorium on transfers of APLs. In this regard Israel took action to extend the moratorium of any export, sale or transfer until July 2017 and made it public via relevant websites. In due time, the competent authorities will initiate an internal review process with a view to prolong the moratorium on APLs.

Unmanned vehicles are expected to significantly upgrade the means for coping with mines and explosives. Today, there are continuous attempts to neutralize and dispose bombs using ground controlled devices consisting of a wing or a manipulator. In addition, the Administration for the Development of Weapons and Technological Infrastructure in Israel is developing a robotic reconnaissance system which is expected to perform many engineer oriented tasks.

Form D

Article 13.4.d

Legislation

"The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository ... on:

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;"

Remark:

High Contracting Party **ISRAEL** reporting for time period from **1.1.2015-31.12.2015**

Legislation

In order to implement the Minefield Clearance Law, the Israeli Parliament, the Knesset, established the Israeli National Mine Action Authority (INMAA) within the Ministry of Defense, and set forth its authorities and responsibilities. The INMAA is tasked with forming a national demining plan, which will be consistent with Israel's international obligations and based on IDF demining procedures and instructions, as compatible as possible with the International Mine Action Standards endorsed by the UN Inter-Agency Coordination Group.

The law provides for the formulation of perennial and annual national mine action plans and sets forth the establishment of a professional Advisory Board composed of representatives of the relevant ministries, governmental and municipal authorities, as well as a representative of the mine victim community. Additional issues provided for within the Law include: the coordination and cooperation between INMAA and the IDF; provisions for the employment of private contractors in mine clearance operations; earmarking of specific government budget for such activities; and the establishment of a National Minefield Clearance Fund which will receive, manage and allocate donations.

There are also IDF regulations and orders concerning marking, fencing and monitoring as well as demining and disposing of mines, booby-traps and other devices.

Moreover, the Israeli Defense Export Control law of 2007 criminalizes, inter alia, any unauthorized export. This law serves as Israel's statutory framework for the implementation of its obligations under the CCW regarding restrictions and prohibitions on transfer. In addition, the moratorium on export, sale or transfer of any APL continues to be in force, and is strictly enforced by Israel's Export Control Agency (DECA) in the MoD.

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 **ISRAEL** reporting for time period from **1.1.2015-31.12.2015**

International cooperation on mine clearance

Israel continues to promote the issue of international cooperation in the areas of mine clearance, mine awareness and mine victim rehabilitation. These initiatives contribute to the global efforts aimed at the alleviation of the humanitarian problems associated with mines.

There is ongoing cooperation and coordination with neighboring countries in support of the demining activities along the mutual borders, as feasible and appropriate.

The INMAA cooperates its technical activities mainly with the GICHD. During 2015 the INMAA's staff participated in various workshops and meetings which focused mainly on MDD's developing issues. The INMAA is in contact with mine action authorities in other countries, studying and sharing knowledge in mine clearance on many different topics, mostly technical. INMAA repeatedly shares information with the UNMAS and the landmine monitor upon their request.

Technical cooperation and assistance

Israeli companies have achieved technical expertise in the field of mine clearance and they contribute to the international mine clearing efforts.

During the past year, several Israeli companies continued to export humanitarian demining protection gears, such as inflammable sapper sandals, minefield clearing equipment and instruments for aerial measures to detect mines and mined areas.

Form F

Article 13.4.f

Other relevant matters

"The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:
(e) **Other relevant matters.**"

Remark:

High Contracting Party **ISRAEL** reporting for time period from **1.1.2015-31.12.2015**

Other relevant matters

In 1994 Israel unilaterally declared a moratorium on any export, sale or transfer of all types of anti-personnel mines. The moratorium was declared in recognition of the grave humanitarian consequences associated with anti-personnel mines and the need, in this respect, for self-imposed state restraint. Since its initiation, the moratorium has been extended for additional three-year periods, most recently in 2014 (in force until July 2017). The MoD's Export Control Directorate strictly implements and verifies compliance with the moratorium.

Unfortunately, there are still ongoing covert activities conducted by terrorist groups against Israel, supported by certain States that assist these groups in smuggling and accumulating weapons and explosives, mainly through underground tunnels and via sea lanes. Israel is cooperating with its neighboring countries, as well as with other countries in the Mediterranean region and beyond, to prevent this illicit trafficking and to dispose of the seized arms, as well as to detect and destroy the underground tunnels.

Israel reserves the right to take the necessary measures and precautions required to maintain its national security, including with regard to matters relating to this report, especially in light of recent regional instability and the pertaining security risks.

Form G

Article 11
para 2

Information to the UN-database on mine clearance

"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"**

Remark: High Contracting Party **ISRAEL** reporting for time period from **1.1.2015-31.12.2015**

Means and technologies of mine clearance

An updated list of the leading Israeli companies and their demining capabilities and equipment, as they appear on the internet:

Mine Clearance Contractors

QUADRO Projects & Technologies LTD.

22 Saharov St. New Industrial Zone, Rishon Lezion 75707, Israel

Tel: 972-3-9413010

Fax: 972-3-9410743

E-mail: pini@quadro.co.il

Website: www.quadro.co.il

NARSHA LTD

Tel. 972-54-9922386

E-mail: Tiran.tours@gmail.com

GOREN-KIDON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LTD

P.O.Box 428, 13 Remez St., Ness Ziona 74098, Israel

Tel: 972-8-9302016

Fax: 972-8-9302017

E-mail: office@goren-kidon.com

Website: www.goren-kidon.com

MAAVARIM CIVIL ENGINEERING LTD.

P.O.Box 349, Kidron 70795, Israel

Tel: 972-8-8690636, 972-54-4903200

Fax: 972-8-8690658

E-mail: info@maavarim.co.il

Website: www.maavarim.co.il

IMAG (IEOD)

P.O. Box 48017, 7 Ha-ta'asiya St., Rosh Ha'ayin, Israel

Tel: 972-3-9015044/5

Fax: 972-3-9015046

E-mail: eyal@ieod.co.il

Website: www.ieod.co.il

THE HALO TRUST

Tel. 972-54 -9203336

E-mail: mail@halowestbank.org

Website: www.halotruster.org

External QA/QC Contractors

ZEEV LEVANON PROJECTS AND SUPERVISING LTD

P.O.Box 49277, 26 Alexander Yanay St., Petah Tikva ,Israel

E-mail: adi@moked-matara.co.il

Website: <http://moked-matara.co.il>

4CI

HaTaas 20, Kfar Saba, Israel

E-mail: 4ci@4ci-security.com

Website: www.4ci-security.com

ISRATEAM

Tel. 972-52-3299640

E-mail: abachar@israteam.co.il

Website: www.israteam.com

DEXAGON

BEN YEHUDA 32 TEL AVIV

Tel: 03-5250837

ranz@dexagon.co.il

Lists of experts and expert agencies

The following list includes experts in rehabilitation programs:

SHEBA Medical Center, Rehabilitation Department:

DR. Itzhak Sivner

Tel: 972-3-5303701

Fax: 972-3-5303788

LOEWENSTEIN Rehab. Center:

Dr. Hagay Amir, Vice President of the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine

Tel: 972-9-7709090

Fax: 972-9-7709937

RAMBAM Medical Center:

Prof. Ulmann Yehuda

Tel: 972-4-8542129

Fax: 972-4-8542997

BNEI ZION Medical Center:

Dr. Ketty Goldenberg

Tel: 972-4-8359814

Fax: 972-4-8359270

MoD Rehab. Bureau:

Dr. Ido Katz

Tel: 972-3-6975068

Fax: 972-3-6975962