Excellency,

Your country is one of the High Contracting Parties to CCW Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War and ranks among those which have met their transparency obligations by providing national report(s). This is very much appreciated. As you are aware, the importance of fulfilling the transparency reporting requirements under Protocol V was emphasized on a number of occasions by the High Contracting Parties. Compliance with these requirements is regarded as an indicator of the level of commitment to the principles and rules incorporated in this important legal instrument. National transparency reporting is indeed a useful tool to promote implementation of legally-binding obligations, maintaining a culture of compliance with them, as well as strengthening the framework for international cooperation and assistance under the Protocol.

I take this opportunity to remind you that the deadline for submission of this year’s annual update of the national reports and/or summary cover pages is 31 March 2010.

You will recall that in order to facilitate the filling-out of the forms of the National Reporting under Protocol V the Third Conference of its High Contracting Parties approved the “Guide to National Reporting under CCW Protocol V” and recommended to use it in order to provide the information referred to in paragraphs 24 to 28 of the Final Document of the First Conference of the High Contracting Parties (details in the enclosure to this letter) in the most comprehensive way possible.

The Permanent Representatives of the
High Contracting Parties to CCW Protocol V
on Explosive Remnants of War
Geneva
The submission of the national report elaborated by using the above-mentioned Guide at your country’s discretion is of utmost importance as it will, together with the reports of the other High Contracting Parties, serve as the primary sources of information and experience for follow-up deliberations at the next informal Meeting of Experts (Geneva, 21 to 23 April 2010) with a view to make recommendations for consideration by the Fourth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V.

The blank electronic template for Protocol V national reporting as well as the Guide to National Reporting under CCW Protocol V are available on the CCW Protocol V webpage at http://www.unog.ch/ccw/ProtocolV.

Against this background, I would kindly invite you to transmit this correspondence without delay to your national point of contact/respective authorities responsible for the preparation of the above-mentioned national report and/or summary cover pages for their urgent action. It should be sent no later than 31 March 2010 to the following address:

CCW Implementation Support Unit (ISU)  
Office for Disarmament Affairs  
(Geneva Branch)  
United Nations Office at Geneva  
Palais des Nations, Office C-113.1  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland

Telephone: +41 (0) 22 917 4026  
Fax: +41 (0) 22 917 0054  
E-mail: ccw@unog.ch  
Webpage: http://www.unog.ch/ccw/ProtocolV

Should you require further information on the Convention and its Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War, as well as on the national transparency reporting under Protocol V, please do not hesitate to contact the CCW ISU at the address indicated above or myself at the address given below.

Yours sincerely,

Henrik Markuš  
Coordinator  
on National reporting, pursuant to Article 10 (2) (b) of the Protocol, and on Article 4 Generic electronic template

9, chemin de l'Ancienne route • Case postale 160 - CH - 1218 Grand Saconnex • Tel.: 022 747 74 00 • Fax: 022 747 74 34
Enclosure

The national reports for the database on Protocol V, pursuant to its Article 10 (2) (b), shall cover the following issues, if applicable:

(a) Steps taken to implement Article 3 of the Protocol: Clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war;

(b) Steps taken to implement Article 4 of the Protocol: Recording, retaining and transmission of information;

(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;

(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;

(e) Steps taken to implement Article 7 of the Protocol: Assistance with respect to existing explosive remnants of war;

(f) Steps taken to implement Article 8 of the Protocol: Co-operation and assistance;

(g) Steps taken to implement Article 9 of the Protocol: Generic preventive measures; and

(h) Steps taken to implement Article 11 of the Protocol: Compliance.