

**EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE
STATES PARTIES TO AMENDED PROTOCOL II
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**

CCW/AP.II/CONF.8/NAR.11
26 October 2006

ENGLISH ONLY

Geneva, 6 November 2006

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

**Consideration of matters arising from
reports by High Contracting Parties
according to paragraph 4 of Article 13
of the Amended Protocol II**

THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC

National annual report

Submitted in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2 of the
Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines,
Booby-Traps and Other Devices
as Amended on 3 May 1996 to the CCW

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)

Reporting Formats for Article 13 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2

NAME OF THE HIGH
CONTRACTING PARTY **Hellenic Republic**

DATE OF SUBMISSION **5 October 2006**

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(Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail)

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

YES

NO

Partially, only the following forms:

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

Form B Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes

Article 13, “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
paragraph 4 (b) Depository ... on:

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party	reporting for time period
Hellenic Republic	from <u>21 September 2005</u> to <u>20 September 2006</u>

Mine clearance programmes

A huge mine clearance programme is still under way in vast areas of Western Macedonia and Ipiros in the North-West part of the Hellenic Republic, in “suspect areas” containing not only mines but also booby-traps, UXOs and other devices dating from World War II and the 1946-1949 era. There are no properly defined minefields in this area and no maps, the number of dangerous devices to be removed is very large and the weather conditions are adverse for the most part of the year, resulting in the very slow progress of works. It is worth mentioning that the “suspect areas” to be cleared and secured in the mountains of Grammos and Vitsi alone, measure well over 40.000 hectares. — **During 2006, 174,012 m² were cleared and secured in the above area. From 21th September 2005 until 20th September 2006, 4,518 antipersonnel mines were removed and destroyed in the area of Evros (North-East part of the Hellenic Republic), along the border with Turkey.**

Rehabilitation programmes

There are no mine victims among the Hellenic population. — Few mine casualties suffered during the last years by illegal migrants who try to cross the border coming from Turkey along river Evros in the North-East part of the Hellenic Republic, are treated in the hospital of Alexandroupolis or other major hospitals in northern Hellas. In two occasions so far free prosthetic services have been offered. Coordination and staff work is currently under way between various ministries (MFA, MoD, Ministry for Public Health, etc), so that in the future full disabled people programmes are offered through the Hellenic National Health System, free of charge. Apart from that the legal status of the mine casualties during the interim time (from the moment they are released from the hospital until their possible application for refugee status is vetted) is under re-examination so that the police will abstain from any effort to deport them. (**Note:** All minefields along the border with Turkey in the Evros Province are clearly defined and marked, well above any standard established by Amended Protocol II and the relevant NATO STANAGs. Mine casualties among illegal migrants are suffered from time to time because they are led to the border along river Evros at night and then instructed to ignore any mine fences and markings and walk into the Hellenic territory. Some times they are even aided in cutting the wire and led into minefields!). — Hellas offers, free of charge, health treatment through its National

Health System to people coming from various Balkan states, including people injured by landmines.

Form C Technical requirements and relevant information

Article 13, “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
paragraph 4 (c) Depository ... on:

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

Remark:

High reporting for
Contracting **Hellenic** time period
Party **Republic** from 21 September 2005 to 20 September 2006

Technical requirements

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

Any other relevant information

None.

Form D Legislation

Article 13, “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
paragraph 4 (d) Depository ... on:

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party	Hellenic Republic	reporting for time period from	<u>21 September 2005</u>	to	<u>20 September 2006</u>
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Legislation

Amended Protocol II was ratified by law 2652/98, published in issue no. 249 of the Official Government Gazette on November 03, 1998, and thus became *part of the internal Hellenic legislation* according to the relevant provision of the Constitution. No other legislation is required to enable the Hellenic Republic to carry out its obligations under the Protocol.

The Hellenic Republic also ratified the CCW and its Protocols I, II and III by law 1979/91, published in issue no. 186 of the Official Government Gazette on December 09, 1991. Protocol IV was ratified by law 2484/97, published in issue no. 75 of the Official Government Gazette on May 16, 1997. — The Ottawa Convention (MBT) was ratified by law 2999/02, published in issue no. 71 of the Official Government Gazette on April 08, 2002 and came into force on April 25, 2003.

