CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF CERTAIN
CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS, WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY
INJURIOUS OR HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS (CCW)
PROTOCOL ON EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR
(PROTOCOL V)

REPORTING FORMS
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 10 (2) (B) OF THE PROTOCOL AND THE
DECISION OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES TO
PROTOCOL V
(As adopted by the First Conference at its second plenary meeting on 5 November 2007)

HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY:             THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

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Date of submission: 31 March 2011

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 ☐ H ☐ I ☐
FORM A Steps taken to implement Article 3 of the Protocol: Clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: Croatia

Reporting for period from: **01/01/2010 to 31/12/2010**

**Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 3**

Through 183 mine clearance and mine search projects, mine threat has been removed from an area that amounts to 31,811,942 m² while additional 38,147,607 m² was reduced through general survey activities. All these activities resulted in the total decrease of the suspected hazardous area in Croatia in the amount of 69,959,549 m². By December 31, 2010, the Croatian Mine Action Centre has also updated areas contaminated only with unexploded ordnance in the size of 6.9 km² and they are marked with 409 UXO hazard signs. According to that, suspected hazardous area in the Republic of Croatia on December 31, 2010 totalled 815.3 km².

In 2010 the largest share in demined area with a share of 61% are agricultural lands which the local and regional governments have stated as their priorities crucial for start of agricultural production. Of the total contracted demining operations in 2010, 26.7% refers to the priorities related to safety, 70.5% related to socio-economic development, and 2.8% on the environmental priorities.

During the mine clearance and mine search activities total number of 6,471 mines and UXO’s was found and destroyed, out of which, 3,612 mines and 2,859 UXO.

**Table 2: Number of mines and UXO destroyed in the period 01/01/2010 – 31/12/2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Anti-personnel Mines</th>
<th>Anti-vehicle Mines</th>
<th>UXO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1,809</td>
<td>1,803</td>
<td>2,859</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Any other relevant information

The Quality Control was performed on 4,250 sampling lots covering the sampling area of 528,473 m², which, in average, totals 1.53% of demined area, and is higher percentage than it is proscribed by the Law (1%).

The Law on Demining introduced the market model to demining in Croatia rendering the establishment of closed commercial companies for conducting demining operations possible as a precondition for the realization of the World Bank loan and opening of the market to foreign companies. Mine clearance capacities include a complete equipment of 27 demining companies (26 commercial and 1 NGO-Norwegian Peoples Aid) that are authorized by Croatian Ministry of Interior to perform demining activities. They also need to have accreditation from Croatian Mine Action Center to perform such actions. In 2010, 27 commercial companies and 1 NGO (Norwegian People’s Aid) with the total capacities of 623 deminers, 64 demining machines and 24 mine detection dogs conducted demining operations.

All the employees that work in mine clearance are wearing protective equipment that consists of flack jacket with protection for groins and helmets with visors. For special cases of UXO demolition, companies use ballistic suits. Following equipment is in usage for humanitarian demining activities:
metal detectors, demining machines of all types (medium, light and heavy), excavators, machines for vegetation clearing and mine detection dogs.

In Croatia, mine clearance actions are mostly performed as a combination of mechanical demining, manual detection and mine-searching dogs. Croatian Mine Action Centre Standard operating procedures also prescribe the entire methodology of humanitarian demining activities. Frequent use of demining machines puts Croatia among the leading states with mechanical mine clearance.

**Croatian Armed Forces** are in possession of several military barracks, air bases and training grounds with a MSA of 2, 60 km² at the beginning of 2011. During last year an area of 136 713 m² was cleared. During the clearance process no APM or AVM were found. However 116 pieces of UXO's were found and destroyed.
FORM B  Steps taken to implement Article 4 of the Protocol: Recording, retaining and transmission of information

High Contracting Party: Croatia

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2010 to 31/12/2010

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 4 and the Technical Annex

Today, 106 towns and municipalities in 12 out of 21 counties are affected by mine problem. Total mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia at the beginning of the 2011 comes to 815.3 km$^2$, with approx. 90,000 mines and UXOs that still have to be found and destroyed.

On December 31, 2010 the total mine suspected area was marked with 15,666 mine danger signs that are one of the basic elements of the Mine Information System (MIS) that is shown on the maps given to the local authorities, police administration and individuals that have requested maps on MSA situation.

CROMAC is directly liable to the Government of the Republic of Croatia. The Government appoints the representatives of ministries to CROMAC Council that acts as a mediator between the Government of the Republic of Croatia, ministries dealing with mine problem as part of their scope of activities and CROMAC.

Annual Demining Plan is based on priorities and requests of counties that are compliant to their development programs, programs of reconstruction and return of displaced people, needs and requests of public companies and other demining beneficiaries, defined mined and mine suspected area and financial means secured. The Plan is approved by Croatian Government and Annual Report is adopted by Croatian Parliament.

The Croatian Mine Action Centre drafts the Humanitarian Demining Plan with the consent of the Ministry of Finance, The Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Sea, Transportation and Infrastructure, the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction, the Ministry of Regional Development, Forestry and Water Management, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development, the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Culture.

Any other relevant information

The new National Mine Action Strategy in the Republic of Croatia was approved by Croatian Parliament in mid-September 2009 and it consists of all relevant information on mine action since 1991, current status of mine suspected area (size, positioning, structure and impact on society and economy), a description of available capacities for mine action execution and their performance and basic goals to be achieved in the period 2009 to 2019, with an established method and preconditions for their realization.

Also, the Humanitarian Demining Plan for the period 2009 to 2011 was made in 2008 and approved by Croatian Government in July 2009. It defined the basic tasks and their implementation for the next three-year period. Basic characteristics of planned realization in the next three-year period are: complete removal of mine danger from houses, house yards and infrastructure facilities in the Republic of Croatia as well as from over 2/3 of all agricultural areas.
FORM 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

High Contracting Party: Croatia

Reporting for time period from 01/01/2010 to 31/12/2010

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 5 and the Technical Annex

In 2010, the Croatian Mine Action Centre has coordinated a number of activities related to mine risk education. A series of lectures "Children in Mine Environment" was organized in schools by the Association of organizations of Croatian Civil Victims of Homeland War, Croatian Red Cross and police departments of anti-explosive protection of particular county’s police administration. On that occasion, various MRE materials were divided to schools and libraries.

Thanks to Virovitica-Podravina County and its cities as well as the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, Homeland War Veterans Association in Virovitica-Podravina County held a lecture entitled "Caution, weapons and mines" in the Virovitica-Podravina County. Anti-explosive protection staff of the Ministry of Interior conducted 236 trainings regarding the dangers of remaining mines and explosive devices that were attended by 18 830 persons.

Daska Theatre performed 51 MRE theatre plays entitled ‘’No, no, MINES!’ in counties with mine suspected areas and the play was seen by 6600 students and teachers.

Pinocchio Theatre held two performances "Watch Mine" for primary school pupils in the town of Knin, and also held art workshops and four "With chalk against mines" with the participation of children from Knin primary schools and kindergartens. Performances and workshops included about 700 Children from kindergarten age to fifth grade elementary school.

Central ceremony of marking the April 4, International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, was held in Town of Lipik during which MRE lectures were held and theatre play „No, no mines!”.

In 2010 there was also traditional media campaign “April- month of mine protection” on TV and radio stations and numerous other media related activities with the aim of MRE.

Areas contaminated only with unexploded ordnance are marked with 409 UXO hazard signs and mine suspected areas are marked with 15.666 mine warning signs.

Any other relevant information

The Republic of Croatia has highly-developed legal framework relating to the persons with disabilities in realizing their legitimate rights and status. The status and various forms of rights are being realized through over 200 different laws and by-laws. There are 4 basic forms of mine victim assistance the ministries, different institutions, non-governmental sector, a number of organizations and individual initiatives take part in-medical care, physical rehabilitation, psychological help and social reintegration and professional and economic rehabilitation.

In 2010 there were 6 mine incidents with 7 victims (3 deminers). Three persons were killed (2 of them were deminers) and 1 person received heavy physical injuries. In 2 incidents there were no casualties. In 2010, the same annual rate of mine victims was recorded as in 2009.
FORM 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

High Contracting Party: Croatia
Reporting for time period from **01/01/2010 to 31/12/2010**

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 6

Every humanitarian mission or organization that is coming to Croatia with goal to help or to get involved in demining action in Croatia can get all relevant information in Croatian Mine Action Center. CROMAC will provide information about ERW, mine suspected area, priorities and all other topics that could be point of interest of those organizations. That is one of the CROMAC’s main tasks.

CROMAC tasks are as follows:
- Collecting and processing data about the MSA and database management,
- Planning of demining operations and organizing public tenders for awarding demining operations,
- MSA marking,
- Drafting of demining and technical survey projects,
- Quality assurance and quality control over demining operations,
- Issuance of demining certificates,
- Co-ordination of MRE and MVA activities,
- International co-operation.

Any other relevant information
FORM E  Steps taken to implement Article 7 of the Protocol: Assistance with respect to existing explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: Croatia
Reporting for time period from 01/01/2010 to 31/12/2010

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 7

The Republic of Croatia confirmed its resoluteness in solving the mine problem by passing the Law on Humanitarian Demining in 1996, establishing the Croatian Mine Action Centre in 1998, fulfilling the commitments undertaken by joining the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction as well as providing for permanent and stable sources of financing in the State budget, in the World Bank loans and from public companies in the Republic of Croatia. Croatia ratified the Convention on 28 May 1998 and submitted its initial transparency report, on 3 September 1999, providing information on areas that contain or are suspected to contain anti-personnel mines.

Croatia has, together with another 14 countries, successfully presented the Request for the extension of Article 5 deadline at the 9th Meeting of the State Parties held in Geneva from November 24-28, 2008. Deadline extension was granted to Croatia until year 2019.

Republic of Croatia was one of the first to ratify the Convention on Cluster Munitions in the first trimester of 2009. Accordingly, the CROMAC has developed Standard operating procedure that will regulate the marking of the areas in which there is the danger of cluster munitions, and made signs indicating the dangers of unexploded ordnance and cluster munitions.

The Republic of Croatia, CROMAC and all institutions and organizations that deal with mine problem are, in frame of our law competence, ready and open for cooperation and consulting with other parties to solve any problem that may arise in interpretation and applying method of this Protocol provisions.

In the year 2010, CROMAC continued all activities towards fulfilling the obligations from the signed conventions and protocols.

Any other relevant information
FORM F  Steps taken to implement Article 8 of the Protocol: Co-operation and assistance

High Contracting Party: Croatia

Reporting for time period from **01/01/2010** to **31/12/2010**

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 8

The establishment of **Cluster for humanitarian demining** created the opportunity for the export of Croatian knowledge and technology to foreign markets or in countries that have a mine problem. Cluster, through its founders and its associated members, in one place ensures the capacity, resources and knowledge to carry out all activities related to mine action. As the knowledge, technologies and products greatly surpassed the needs of Croatia, the intention is to offer the same knowledge and resources to countries with mine problem for its faster removal. The main objective of this association is to improve efficiency through a variety of advanced economic processes: changing and improving methodology, components, machines, services and through adaptation and access to new regions, and all for the purpose of establishing a mine action as Croatian export product.

Cluster now comprises of 10 members, except for Croatian Mine Action Centre and CROMAC-CTDT, there are the manufacturers of demining machines DOK-ING Ltd., Duro Dakovic Special Vehicles Inc., manufacturers of protective equipment Borovo Gumitrade Ltd. and Šestan Busch Ltd., a manufacturer of metal detectors Vallon GmbH from Germany, Regional Center for Underwater Demining (RCUD) from Montenegro, the demining company Istraživač Ltd. as well as Geofoto Ltd.

Croatian Mine Action Centre was the co-organizer of the 7th international symposium “Humanitarian Demining 2010” which was held in the Town of Šibenik from 27 to 29 April 2010. During the symposium, a presentation of demining machines performance was organized with a dozen of demining machines. Also, performance of mine detection dogs and metal detectors was shown, as well as presentation of unmanned aircraft UAV. 140 participants from 34 countries had the opportunity to exchange their experiences in mine action during the three-day symposium.

Any other relevant information

Basic forms of activities:

- Co-operation on the level of foreign governments and embassies in the Republic of Croatia,
- Co-operation with different organizations through the Embassies and Missions of the Republic of Croatia abroad,
- Co-operation with the World Bank,
- Co-operation with the European Union (EU) – CARDS Program, use of pre-accession funds in the framework of responsible authorities of the Republic of Croatia,
- Co-operation in the framework of obligations and meetings related to the Ottawa Convention,
- Co-operation in the framework of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe,
- Co-operation with countries in the region in the framework of SEEMACC (South Eastern European Mine Action Coordination Council),
- Co-operation with the United States of America (USA) through the project of matching funds through the ITF,
- Co-operation with UN organizations (UNDP) and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD),
- Co-operation with non-governmental and other organizations,
Co-operation with National Mine Action Centres,
Attendance on conferences, congresses, scientific meetings at the regional and international level;
Organization of meetings and conferences in the Republic of Croatia.

CROMAC can offer the following forms of assistance to the international mine action community:

• Establishment of the National mine action centre,
• Legal, sub legal and normative regulations,
• Establishment of mine information system and geo-information system,
• Planning system – production of National strategies, annual and operative activity plans,
• Education of executors of humanitarian demining operations (deminers, auxiliary workers and management) and mine risk education,
• General survey, definition of suspected hazardous area and education of survey teams,
• Protective equipment and demining machines produced in the Republic of Croatia,
• Capacities and know-how of the Croatian demining companies,
• Capacities for testing demining machines, equipment and devices as well as new technologies of mine and UXO detection.
FORM G  Steps taken to implement Article 9 of the Protocol: Generic preventive measures

High Contracting Party: Croatia

Reporting for time period from **01/01/2010 to 31/12/2010**

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 9 and the Technical Annex

a. **Munitions manufacturing management**
   Production of all types of arms and military equipment in the Republic of Croatia is regulated by the law on the Production, Overhaul and Trade in Arms and Military Equipment, adopted on 25 March 2002 (Official Gazette 33/2002). The law regulates safety and protection of methods of producing and refitting arms and military equipments.

b. **Munitions management**
   In order to ensure the best possible long-term reliability of explosive ordinance, Republic Croatia applies best practices and operating procedures with respect to its storage, transport, field storage and handling in accordance with the following:
   Explosive ordinance is stored in 26 secured facilities that are well-guarded and protected against fires and thunders.
   Explosive ordinance is stored and sorted in accordance with its condition. Out of date and faulty explosive ordnance is sorted out and stored separately. For explosive ordnance warehousing, tracking and testing procedures have been put in place in order to maintain its reliability.
   All facilities are made of concrete and with insulation in order to maintain temperatures under 5°C and humidity under not more then 75 %. Personnel working and handling explosive ordinance must be well pyrotechnically educated and certified in order to perform their duties.

   Storage and handling, transport, supply and maintenance, laboratory testing and observing Life Cycle Management of explosive ordinance in Armed Forces is regulated by Ministry of Defence and General Staff of Armed Forces of Republic of Croatia with:
   - Directive on storage protection and handling of explosive ordinance, MoD Zagreb dated 1998
   - Decree on transport of explosive ordinance, MoD dated 2006
   - Directive on chemical balance of gunpowder dated 2000
   - Directive on explosive ordnance quality control in MoD and AF dated 2005
   - Directive on maintaining of explosive ordnance in AF dated 2004
   - Directive on record keeping of out of date and faulty explosive ordnance dated 2005
   - Directive on managing with the existing quantities of explosive ordnance in AF dated 1997

Currently in the Croatian Armed Forces, process of implementation of NATO norms and standards in the area of explosive ordnance safekeeping is going on. Explosive ordnance experts from the Croatian Armed Forces are currently involved in work of NATO Committee AC/326 “CNAD Ammunition Safety group” responsible for development and improvement of norms and standards in the area of safe storage, transport and use of explosive ordnance.

Decision of the Defence Minister for the planning period to year 2015 defined:
   - Types and quantities of usable explosive ordnance, their storage and maintenance;
   - Types and quantities of usable and perspective classical rocket ammo that could be used for live-firing, quality control, life cycle oversight and its extension;
c. Training

Training and education of personnel involved in handling and maintenance of explosive ordnance as well as CROMAC personnel, personnel of demining organizations, and personnel needed in the region of South-Eastern Europe is regulated through the CROMAC-CTDT Ltd. (Centre for testing, development, and training) education and training programs.

- In April 2009 CROMAC-CTDT started the implementation of the project “Deployment of the Decision Support System for Mine Suspected Area Reduction” in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The project is financed by ITF with a USA grant. The project goal was to conceive a decision making support system for operational deployment in mine action centers within SEEMACC (Southeast Europe Mine Action Coordination Council) through implementation of a very advanced data fusion methodology. The project was ongoing by the end of 2010.

- In June CROMAC-CTDT has conducted a training course *UXO Detection and Removal, Level 4, specialist level*. The training course was financed by the USA State Department through ITF. The course was conducted in accordance with CWA 15464-3:2005: Humanitarian Mine Action - EOD Competency Standards and with IMAS. The candidates and the lecturers came from the region of Southeast Europe - Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Macedonia.

- In May, high ranking staff of the Egyptian Ministry of Defense and Ministry for International Cooperation visited CROMAC and CROMAC-CTDT test site Cerovac, where they were demonstrated the work of demining machines manufactured in Croatia. CROMAC-CTDT Director presented activities of testing, training and development contacted by CROMAC-CTDT. In December CROMAC Director and CROMAC-CTDT Director paid a follow-up visit to Cairo, where talks were held about establishing a Regional Training Center for African countries. During the visit to Cairo, CROMAC director signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the leader of the Egypt’s Executive Secretariat for Demining an development of the northeast coast.

- In September CROMAC-CTDT Director and a member of its Scientific Council participated in the GICHD/UNMAS Technology Workshop in Geneva, where they held presentations on Validation and Verification of demining Equipment and on the results of the project Decision Support System for Suspected Hazardous Area Reduction, respectively.

- In November, CROMAC-CTDT and its Scientific Council representatives visited Colombia, where they held talks at the Ministry of Defense and National Police. During the visit a project of Deployment of the Decision Support System for Mine Suspected Area Reduction was presented. It was concluded that the system might be used in Colombia for defining hazardous mined areas. Furthermore, the structure of mine action in Croatia was presented, as well as the relevant legislature, especially the Law on humanitarian demining and humanitarian demining rules and regulations and the process of training accreditation and certification in humanitarian demining.

d. Transfer

Import, export and transit of military equipments are subject to legislation on control of strategic goods. For detailed information on Export control system of the Republic of Croatia please see Annual reports on implementation of the UN Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspect for all years so far. It is available at http://disarmament.un.org/cab/salw-nationalreports.html

Any other relevant information
Steps taken to implement Article 11 of the Protocol: Compliance

High Contracting Party: Croatia

Reporting for time period from **01/01/2010 to 31/12/2010**

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 11

For the purpose of precise definition of the actual suspected hazardous area, the Croatian Mine Action Centre (hereinafter: CROMAC) developed its own model of organization and operative handling of humanitarian demining process with guidelines and contents of the international mine action standards (hereinafter: IMAS) built in.

Standard Operating Procedures (hereinafter: CROMAC SOPs) of the Croatian Mine Action Centre were passed in order to realize the tasks set in a rational manner and speed up the process of defining suspected hazardous area all the way to the handover of areas cleared from mines and UXO to the final beneficiaries. CROMAC SOPs define the survey of suspected hazardous area and/or facility (general survey, SHA marking, technical survey and area reduction), project designing, competence assessment of authorised legal entities for the conduct of humanitarian demining operations, quality assurance and quality control (quality assurance and quality control over mine search and/or demining, sampling-sampling for inspection and control of soil treatment depth while using demining machines, sampling-sampling for inspection and control of demined and searched area) and medical support.

Procedures for conducting surveys, implementation of procedures, responsibilities as well as control and verification of survey operations carried out, all in order to define suspected hazardous area (SHA) were described in detail.

Any other relevant information

The Croatian SOPs in mine action are as follows (all available on CROMAC web site [www.hcr.hr](#)):  

**SURVEY OF MINE SUSPECTED AREA AND/OR BUILDINGS**

- **01.01** - General Survey  
- **01.01.01** - Appendix to the SOP 01.01 "General Survey"  
- **01.02** - Marking of Mine Suspected Area  
- **01.02.01** - Marking of Areas of Potential Unexploded Ordnance  
- **01.03** - Technical Survey  
- **01.04** - Reduction of Areas in the MSA

**DESIGNING - ELABORATION OF DESIGNING DOCUMENTATION**

- **02** - Designing - Elaboration Of Designing Documentation

**STANDARDIZATION AND ACCREDITATION**

- **03.02** - Accreditation

**QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY CONTROL**

- **04.01** - Quality Assurance and Quality Control of Mine Search and/or Demining  
- **04.02** – Sampling - Sampling for Inspection and Control of the Soil Treatment depth during Demining Machine Usage  
- **04.03** – Sampling - Sampling for Inspection and Control of Demined and Searched Area

**MEDICAL SUPPORT**

- **05.01** – Medical Support And Evacuation

**DESTRUCTION OF MINES AND UNEXPLODED ORDINANCES**

- **06.01** – Destruction of Mines and Unexploded Ordinances -
FORM I Other relevant matters

High Contracting Party: Croatia

Reporting for time period from **01/01/2010 to 31/12/2010**

Any other relevant information

The Croatian Police department is continuing its "Less arms, less tragedies" program in partnership with UNDP. The citizens are being educated and encouraged to turn in their weapons and ordinance leftover from the Homeland War. The Police department also reacts on basis of citizen’s telephone calls and finds large quantities of weapons within their investigations of various criminal activities. During 2010, Police department in total collected 383 AP mines, 90 AV mines, 4184 hand grenades, 2314 pieces of artillery ordinance, 1571 kilograms of different explosives, 6788 pieces of various explosive materials (detonator capsules, fuses, tracer ordinance), large amounts of SALW and over 1,2 million pieces of munitions 14,5 mm. and under.

Realizing the scope of the problem in Croatia, the Police department is determined to continue these programs in the future.

The weapons collected by the Police department are transported and destroyed at 3 different military sites in Croatia. Organized destruction on large scale is done on military training grounds "Gašinci", near the town of Đakovo in eastern Slavonia region and training grounds "Eugen Kvarternik" near the town of Slunj which is about 100 km south of Zagreb. The destruction of SALW by a combination of disassembly and burning methods is done at military training area "Cerovac" near the town of Karlovac.