

**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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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: 1998 to 2008

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

With the beginning of conflict in 1991, the Republic of Croatia started facing the mine problem as one of the most difficult consequences of war operations conducted on its territory and became one of many countries worldwide with severe mine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) contamination. Contamination caused and continues to cause humanitarian, economic, developmental and social disturbances.

Between 1998 and 2007, almost 226,6 square kilometers were demined and over 583 square kilometers were released through technical survey and other land release methods.

Demining operations carried out under the auspices of civilian authorities have resulted in 46,430 mines (26,570 anti-personnel mines and 19,860 anti-tank mines). and 202,166 UXO destroyed. At the same time, the Croatian Army destroyed 1,826 anti-personnel mines, 2,473 anti-tank mines and 44,406 pieces of UXO on the area around military facilities. In total Croatia has destroyed 28,396 anti-personnel mines, 22,333 anti-tank mines and 246,572 UXO.

During the execution of demining operations, there were 46.430 mines detected and destroyed out of which 26.570 anti-personnel mines and 19.860 anti-tank mines and 202.166 miscellaneous unexploded ordinances (UXO). At the same time, the Croatian Army destroyed 1.826 anti-personnel mines, 2.473 anti-tank mines and 44.406 pieces of UXO on the area around military barracks, polygons and facilities.

**Table 2: Number of mines and UXO destroyed in the period 1999-2007**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Anti-personnel Mines</b>	<b>Antitank Mines</b>	<b>UXO</b>
<b>1999.</b>	3.160	2.597	13.851
<b>2000.</b>	1.173	710	789
<b>2001.</b>	1.877	1.640	3.124
<b>2002.</b>	4.177	3.690	87.095
<b>2003.</b>	7.680	4.481	58.247
<b>2004.</b>	3.353	2.857	5.850
<b>2005.</b>	2.187	1.018	24.870
<b>2006.</b>	1.514	1.184	5.409
<b>2007.</b>	1.449	1.683	2.931
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.570</b>	<b>19.860</b>	<b>202.166</b>

### Any other relevant information

Croatia has developed sophisticated methods and standards for demining, technical survey, quality assurance and quality control. These methods and standards are based on the International Mine

Action Standards, modified in accordance with Croatian national circumstances, and have been established pursuant to a legislative framework for humanitarian demining which has been codified by the Republic of Croatia. In addition, Croatia has established a method used for cancelling, with confidence, mine suspected areas, which are ultimately considered not to be dangerous.

In line with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), CROMAC Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) represent a set of prescribed operating procedures according to which CROMAC conducts: survey of mine hazardous areas and/or buildings (general survey, marking of mine hazardous areas and technical survey), project planning – project documentation development, eligibility assessment of the authorized legal entities for conducting humanitarian demining operations, quality assurance and quality control of mine search and demining operations in the Republic of Croatia.

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. By the end of 1998, 4 legal entities were accredited for conducting humanitarian demining, by the end of 1999 there were 12 entities accredited. In 2000, there were 13 accredited entities, in 2001, 23 entities, in 2002 the number increased to 39, in 2003 to 48. Today, 59 legal entities are accredited for conducting humanitarian demining out of which 58 are commercial companies and one non-governmental organization (Norwegian People's Aid - NPA). Of these 59 entities accredited for conducting demining operations, 27 commercial companies and one non-governmental organization (NPA) are currently conducting mine search and demining operations and they employ 525 deminers and 91 auxiliary workers who dispose of 69 mine detection dogs, 45 demining machines and 653 metal detectors.

## **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: 1998 to 2008

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

Right upon the establishment, CROMAC started taking over the data from the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defense, the company "AKD Mungos" and UNMAC but also with establishing its own database. Today, out of 21 counties, 12 counties are affected by mine problem i.e. 112 towns and municipalities inhabited by 1/5 of the total population of the Republic of Croatia. Total mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia at the beginning of the 2008 comes to 997 km<sup>2</sup>, with approx. 110.000 mines and UXOs still have to be found and destroyed.

The Croatian Mine Action Centre 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.

In the Republic of Croatia, planning is conducted according to «National Mine Action Strategy» adopted by Croatian Parliament in 2000. The Plan is made by the Croatian Mine Action Centre on the basis of priorities and harmonizes the strategy with financial means available. The proposal of the Plan is submitted to the authorized ministries for consideration (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Sea, Tourism, Transport and Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance) and after that to the Government for adoption. After the adoption, the Demining Plan becomes the basic document in terms of planning for next year.

### Any other relevant information

**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 1998 to 2008

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

Croatia has marked all mine suspected areas with over 14,500 warning signs. Mine risk education activities continue to be conducted through lectures and presentations, exhibits, TV and radio spots, theatre plays, art workshops, as well as one-time special activities such as selling demining coupons, collecting waste paper, distribution of educational notebooks to all first grade pupils of elementary schools and other projects at the state and local level.

In addition, mine risk education efforts have been undertaken going back before entry into force of the Convention. Mine risk education until 1999 was conducted by the Croatian Red Cross (CRC) and the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC), and from 1998 by CROMAC, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports and non-governmental organizations such as the Croatian Mine Victims Association (CMVA), Mine Aid, the Association of Civilian Victims of Homeland War, Norwegian Peoples Aid (NPA), MINES Association, RECOBOT Trust Fund, SOROPTIMIST, DASKA theatre and BEMBO and friends. It is estimated that over 1,000,000 persons have undergone some forms of mine risk education since 1996.

Mine risk education programmes have been or are conducted through lectures and presentations, exhibits, TV and radio spots, theatre plays, art workshops, as well as one-time special activities such as selling demining coupons, collecting waste paper, distribution of educational notebooks to all first grade pupils of elementary schools and other projects at the state and local level. Taking into the consideration that demining is a time consuming process, it is important to focus on the constant risk that threatens the population living in the mine/UXO contaminated areas. Learning how to live and work as well as how to alleviate the suffering caused by mines is process that goes along with demining activities.

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. We here bring only the laws and referral acts that are in the closest relation with accessing care.

- The Law on Humanitarian Demining from 20 December 2005, among other things, defines the realization of right on disability allowance or retirement income in line with their profession. The Law defines the rights of deminers and members of their families in case of getting hurt or inability to work resulting from being hurt during the performance of demining operations.
- The Law on Special Rights from the Pension Insurance of the Employees engaged in Humanitarian Demining Operations from 20 December 2005, NG 158/05.

- The new Amendments of the Law on the Rights of the Croatian Defenders and Members of Their Families are passed by the Croatian Parliament, National Gazette no.147/04.
- Protection of Civil Victims of Homeland War injured by mines is defined by the Law on the Protection of Military and Civilian Homeland War Invalids (National Gazette no. 33/92; 77/92; 58/93; 2/94; 76/94; 108/95; 82/01 and 103/03. According to the Report of the Directorate for the Protection of Victims and Participants of War of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of the Republic of Croatia and based on the above-mentioned law, rights on the basis of physical impairments are as follows: personal disability allowance, allowance for the care and help of another person, orthopaedic aids, professional rehabilitation, bathing and climatic therapy.
- Rights on the basis of material and other needs of a beneficiary are as follows: upkeep costs, allowance for help and care in the house, special bonus for free school books and scholarships, advantage during the employment, advantage during situating into social welfare homes, special calculation of years of service, right to transportation and funeral costs.
- Adopted National Strategy of a Unique Policy for the People with Disabilities from 2003 to 2006 (National Gazette no.101/98, 15/2000, 117/2001).
- The Law on Employment and Professional Rehabilitation (National Gazette no. 33/05 from 14 March 2005)
- Fund for Professional Rehabilitation and Employment – established in December 2005 and continues its work in the forthcoming years.
- Special Directorate for the Protection of Victims and Participants of War was established by a special Decree on Internal Organization issued by the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (NG no. 38/07 from April 13, 2007 – Article 2).
- The National Activity Plan for the Rights and Interests of Children with Special Needs 2006-2014 was adopted in March 2006.
- The National Strategy of a Unique Policy for Persons with Disabilities is currently being implemented. It is monitored and reported by the Committee of the Government of the Republic of Croatia for Persons with Disabilities. The National Strategy for Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities for the period 2007-2015 passed by the Government of the Republic of Croatia is in force.

**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 1998 to 2008

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 1998 to 2008

### Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 7

The co-operation and development in the past have resulted in the fact that the Republic of Croatia is not just the object of support from foreign governments and institutions, but has developed an equal partner relationship. Among numerous mutual projects it is necessary to emphasize a few:

- The role in the framework of regional co-operation in the **South Eastern European Mine Action Coordination Council (SEEMACC)**,
- Implementation of joint projects with Serbia and Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina along common borders and sea bed areas,
- Participation in scientific and research projects in the framework of CROMAC's Scientific Council as well as partner projects of CROMAC-CTDT Ltd. and world-famous scientific institutions.
- Participation in developing standards and exchange of experience in mine action.

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, preparations for 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 the Kingdom of Norway in implementing Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) projects in the Republic of Croatia, Scan Centre establishment and extension  
Co-operation with UN organizations (UNOPS, UNMAS, UNDP) and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD),  
Co-operation with non-governmental and other organizations,  
Co-operation with institutions in the implementation of scientific and research projects and development of standards,  
Co-operation with National Mine Action Centers,  
Attendance on conferences, congresses, scientific meetings at the regional and international level;  
organization of meetings and conferences in the Republic of Croatia.

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 1998 to 2008

### Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 8

International collaboration is intensified in every element of mine action, and its significance derives not only from the responsibilities of the Republic of Croatia assumed by signing and ratifying the Ottawa Convention and the Croatian role within the Stability Pact in the South-eastern Europe but from the necessity of getting more significant support of the international community in resolving mine problem.

Collaboration on the international field insisted on transparency and intensified collaboration of CROMAC with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Croatian Missions in the world and Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia. Apart from fulfilling the responsibilities assumed by signing the Ottawa Convention, the activities of international collaboration were directed towards collecting the financial means for demining, procurement of necessary equipment, collecting financial means for mine victims assistance and education on mine danger.

At the very beginning, international collaboration consisted of collaboration with the foreign governments through their embassies seated in Croatia or Croatian embassies in foreign countries as well as numerous foreign governmental and nongovernmental organizations. Apart from donor activities, CROMAC was involved in participating in research projects and attending the regional and global conferences, getting the opportunity to present CROMAC achievements in mine action as a part of its activities on the international cooperation fields. With the years, international subjects of mine action confirmed that CROMAC had become stabile and constant subject in the context of international system of mine action.

### Any other relevant information

## **FORM G** Steps taken to implement Article 9 of the Protocol: Generic preventive measures

High Contracting Party: Croatia

Reporting for time period from 1998 to 2008

### 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 ordnance, Republic Croatia applies best practices and operating procedures with respect to its storage, transport, field storage and handling in accordance with the following:

Explosive ordnance is stored in 26 secured facilities that are well-guarded and protected against fires and thunders.

Explosive ordnance 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 than 75 %. Personnel working and handling explosive ordnance 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 ordnance 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 ordnance, MoD Zagreb dated 1998
- Decree on transport of explosive ordnance, 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
- Directive on extension of rocket ammo lifetime in AF dated 2007.

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.

Up to date have been adopted the following NATO STANAG and AASTP:

- Adopted STANAG 4540, 4527, 4515, 4443, 4117, implementation is to be followed;
- STANAG 440 is in the process of standardization – Manual of NATO safety principles for the storage of military ammunition and explosives – AASTP-1

- STANAG 4123 is in the process of standardization – Determination of the classification of military ammunition and explosives – AASTP-3

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;
- Types and quantities of explosive ordnance that are not longer usable and needs to be removed by delaboration and destruction

c. Training

Training and education of personnel involved in handling and maintenance of explosive ordnance in AF is regulated through the GS AF education and training program of GS AF.

During the period of 2004 to 2008 Logistics department of GS AF organized and conducted functional education:

- Handlers for keeping and maintenance of explosive ordnance four two week courses with total of 45 NCOs;
- Rocket technicians during 2006, six months course with 28 NCOs
- One-year pyrotechnical certification program in 2005 and 2006 where 24 NCOs successfully completed program and received the approval for independent handling of explosive ordnance.

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 Annuals reports to On implementation of the UN Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and 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

## **FORM H**      Steps taken to implement Article 11 of the Protocol: Compliance

High Contracting Party: Croatia

Reporting for time period from 1998 to 2008

### Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 11

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.

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.

### Any other relevant information

**FORM I** Other relevant matters

High Contracting Party: Croatia

Reporting for time period from 1998 to 2008

Any other relevant information