

**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)**

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

NAME OF HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY	<b>BELGIUM</b> <hr/>
DATE OF SUBMISSION	<u>01.10.2011</u>
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**Form C**                      **Technical requirements and relevant information**

Article 13 / 4 / c      “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      BELGIUM                                      reporting for time period from      01.01.2010      to      31.12.2010

Technical requirements

- a. The procedures in practice for the registration of minefields are in accordance with those requested in the Protocol  
For the recording, marking and control of minefields in operation, Belgium is acting according to the provisions of the STANAG 2036. This STANAG is fully in line with what is required by the Protocol
- b. Detectability: this is not applicable because the use of anti-personnel mines is being prohibited under the OTTAWA Convention and by national law.
- c. Self-destruction and neutralisation: not applicable
- d. Signalisation  
See answer under paragraph a. above

Any other relevant information

**Form D****Legislation**

Article 13 / 4 / d “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository ... on:

(d) Legislation related to this Protocol;

*Remark:*

High Contracting Party **BELGIUM**

reporting for time period from 01.01.2010 to 31.12.2010

Legislation

Law of 20 March 2007 prohibiting the financing of the production, use and possession of antipersonnel mines and submunitions

Law of 08 June 2006 concerning the regulation of economic and individual activities with weapons, as amended by the Law of 16 July 2009.

Law of 08 January 2004 approving the modification of Art 1 of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or Have Indiscriminate Effects.

Law of 30 March 2000 on the definitive Prohibition of the Antipersonnel Mines, which simplifies the existing procedure on the total prohibition of Antipersonnel Mines.

Law of 10 August 1998 on the ratification of the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-traps and other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II 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 Have Indiscriminate Effects.

Law of 10 August 1998 on the ratification of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on their Destruction.

Law of 24 June 1996 amending the Law of 3 January 1933 on Arms production and Trade, on the Carrying of Weapons and on Ammunition Trade, with the View to Prohibit the Belgian State and Public services from Storing Anti-personnel mines.

Law of 9 March 1995 on Anti-personnel mines, Booby-traps and Similar Devices.

**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 Depository ... 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 **BELGIUM** reporting for time period from 01.01.2010 to 31.12.2010

**International technical information exchange**

- Since May 2004, Belgium participates to the European Research Grouping Arrangement n°2, with France, Luxembourg, the United-Kingdom and Germany, relating to the European Co-operation for Ammunition Destruction.
- Since 2003 a complete handbook on EOD technical information was produced, translated in KHMER and handed over to the CMAC (Cambodia), Belgium guarantees technical information support on request.
- On a regular basis, with the participation of 1 or 2 demining skilled personnel, Belgium attends meetings relating to Humanitarian Mine Action and organized under the umbrella of :
  - CEN work programs
  - NATO working group EOD
  - GICHD Review Board for IMAS
  - EDA working groupand assumes a liaison role between those organizations.
- Belgium participates :
  - at Board of Directors (BoD) level to the International Test and Evaluation Program for humanitarian demining (ITEP) and by that means takes part in the decision and policy process of the ITEP-organisation
  - annually, through its Department of Defence, by financing the working cost of the ITEP-secretariat, approximately at 60.000 Euro for this year.

## **International cooperation on mine clearance**

### **1. Introduction**

The projects listed here are based on financial contributions and the provisions of services. Note that the Belgian military experts working for SEDEE (Service for removal and destruction of explosive devices) have NATO diplomas and qualifications:

- EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal)
- IEDD (Improvised Explosive Device Disposal)

The staff is qualified in mine clearance and in the handling of UXO.

### **2. Projects :**

#### **A. Africa :**

Program Recipient: MOZAMBIQUE  
Activity Type: mine clearance Mine Action Plan Mozambique Gaza Province 2009-2013  
48 months  
Funding amount: **1.500.000 Euro**  
Funding Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Program Recipient: SOMALIE  
Activity Type: mine clearance Humanitarian Mine action Plan in Somaliland 2009-2011  
24 months (2010 -2011)  
Funding amount: **200.000 Euro**  
Funding Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Program Recipient: DR CONGO  
Activity Type: Survey and clearance operations in Kasai  
12 months (2011)  
Funding amount: **550.000 Euro**  
Funding Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### **B. Middle East :**

##### **a. LEBANON :**

In the framework of the UNIFIL mission -South, Belgium has a demining/EOD capacity available composed of :

- 01 demining platoon. This platoon is composed of 43 persons.
- 01 Liaison Officer in BEIRUT in support of the UNIFIL-staff.

This personnel rotates every four months.

Program Description: In the framework of the UNIFIL-South build-up, Belgium deployed 1 EOD/demining platoon (43 persons) for the duration of 2010 devoted to clearing operations in the surroundings of TIBNIN/ AT TIRI.

Funding Source (Government Ministry or Department): Ministry of Defence

Program Recipient: LEBANON UNDP – support to Libanon Mine Action Center

27.10.11

Activity Type: Clearance UXO - Demining action based on the priorities of the Libanon Landmine Impact Survey fixing high risk area related to social and economical impact of contaminated inhabited zones in South Libanon

1 year – start: 1/12/2010

Funding amount: **1.000.000 Euro**

Funding Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Department of cooperation development

Program Recipient: IRAQ

Activity Type: UXO's Clearance action in general - Humanitarian Mine Action Northern and Central Iraq

24 months (28-05-2010)

Funding amount: **500.000 Euro**

Funding Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Program Recipient: JORDAN

Activity Type: Mine clearance - Jordan Valley sampling and verification project

12 months

Funding amount: **306.972 Euro**

Funding Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### C. Asia :

#### a. CAMBODIA :

Since 2003 a complete handbook on EOD technical information was produced, translated in KHMER and handed over to the CMAC (Cambodia), Belgium guarantees technical information support on request.

#### b. AFGHANISTAN :

Since July 2005, Belgium deploys permanently 9 EOD operators to the Provincial reconstruction Team (PRT) KUNDUZ . Since 2010, this capacity is reduced to 5 EOD operators and 2 EOR operators.

The rotation is based on a four months period.

Program Recipient : AFGHANISTAN ISAF

Funding amount (original currency): **1 012 200 Euro**

Implementing Agency : Service d'enlèvement des engins explosifs (**SEDEE-DOVO**)

Funding Source (Government Ministry or Department): Department of Defence

Contribution Type (Monetary or In-Kind) : in-kind

Activity Type (coordination, survey, marking, clearance, destruction, training, MRE, victim assistance, unspecified, etc.) : detection, neutralisation and destruction of ERW (mines included) and the detection, neutralisation and destruction of improvised explosive device (IED).

Program Description : In 2010, THREE (four months) rotations composed of 5 EOD/IEDDD operators and 2 EOR operator supported the German led Provincial Reconstruction Team KUNDUZ (PRT KUNDUZ)

Program Recipient : AFGHANISTAN



Activity Type: Humanitarian mine and UXO's clearance in Northern Afghanistan  
4 years 4 months  
Funding amount: **1.000.000 Euro**  
Funding Source: Service Public Fédéral Affaires Etrangères, Commerce Extérieur et Coopération au Développement

Program Recipient: CAMBODJA  
Activity Type: Victim Assistance - Towards the institutional sustainability of the Physical rehabilitation centers of Siam Rep and Takeo  
4 months (2010-2011)  
Funding amount: **500.000 Euro**  
Funding Source: Service Public Fédéral Affaires Etrangères, Commerce Extérieur et Coopération au Développement

Program Recipient: LAO PDR UNDP  
Activity Type: UXO's clearance - Support to Uxo's Laos geographical survey in Saravane and Champasak provinces  
12 months  
Funding amount: **100.000 Euro**  
Funding Source : Service Public Fédéral Affaires Etrangères, Commerce Extérieur et Coopération au Développement

#### **D. SOUTH AMERICA**

Program Recipient: COLOMBIA  
Activity Type: Victim Assistance - Renforcement Institutionnel des capacités nationales pour la prise en charge et l'orientation des victimes civiles en Colombie  
48 months (start 1/9/2010)  
Funding amount: **550.000 Euro**  
Funding Source: Service Public Fédéral Affaires Etrangères, Commerce Extérieur et Coopération au Développement

Program Recipient: COLOMBIA  
Activity Type: Victim Assistance - Reducing the risks posed to vulnerable communities by Conventional Weapons (CW) contamination  
12 months;  
Funding amount: **300.000 Euro**  
Funding Source: Service Public Fédéral Affaires Etrangères, Commerce Extérieur et Coopération au Développement

#### **E. INTERNATIONAL- MULTILATERAL**

Program Recipient : **CICR CONTRIBUTION VOLONTAIRE / LUTTE CONTRE LES MINES**  
Activity Type: Humanitarian aid - Yearly Special Call ICRC for mine action – multiannual program  
Funding amount: **2.000.000 Euro**  
Funding Source: Service Public Fédéral Affaires Etrangères, Coopération au Développement (DGOS – D2.1)

### **3. Research and Development:**

Research and development activities are conducted as well at the national as at the international level.

a. National level:

- The research project on the use of bio-sensors (rats) in humanitarian de-mining operations, funded by the Belgian State Secretariat for Development Aid and conducted by the NGO APOPO and the RUCA(<http://www.apopo.org/>), is highlighting very promising solutions in the close-in detection of AP mines. The rats proved to be more powerful than dogs in trials organized in Tanzania. This project started in 1997 is still ongoing. A validation phase in Mozambique is still underway. Support to the APOPO-project : field tests in Mozambique : 230.000 EUR (budget of the Flemish community - Belgium)
- The PARADIS project (A prototype for assisting rational activities in humanitarian de-mining using images from satellites <http://www.sic.rma.ac.be/Projects/Paradis/>) started in 1998. Initially, this project was funded by the Belgian federal Office for scientific, Technical and Cultural Affairs and the Belgian Ministry of Defense, and conducted by the Royal Military Academy (RMA) with - in the beginning - the participation of the department of Geography (IGEAT) of the Free university of Brussels (ULB). This prototype is highlighting very interesting solutions for the management of humanitarian de-mining operations using satellite images, maps, context information and the IMSMA database and involves key actors including end-users, image analysts and scientists. Now this Project is only funded by the Belgian Ministry of Defense.

Since 2004, it is in a phase of optimizing the developed solutions and to this end has undergone different tests :

- in October 2005: with the help of NGO APOPO, tests have been performed in Mozambique in order to analyze the possibility to integrate the needs of APOPO in the system,
- since November 2005 : trials have been conducted in Afghanistan by the Belgian EOD-team in close (internet) collaboration with the SIC laboratory of the RMA,
- in June 2006, further validation tests for some modules have taken place in Belgium in collaboration with EOD personnel. These amount about 100.000 Euro.
- in 2007, the PARADIS system has been finalized and presented to the end-users at SEDEE-DOVO. Presentations were targeting different levels of users (field officers, planners).

Moreover many functions in the system have been generalized so as to fit the needs of a broader spectrum of users. Maintenance matters have also been evaluated inside Belgian Defense. Data exchange with new standard systems such as EOD IS have been investigated. At the end of the project (Dec 2007) the system was made available to SEDEE-DOVO.

Moreover a last field test was conducted with APOPO in Mozambique in order to establish an exhaustive list of end-users requirements. This for an amount of about 80.000 Euro.

In 2008 (Jan to Sep), APOPO has been funding (about 25.000 Euro) the finalization of the adaptation of the system to its specific needs based on the requirements identified in 2007. The system was then successfully installed at APOPO's premises.

b. International level: (voir aussi les autres acteurs impliqués)

- The RMA is supporting the International Test and Evaluation Program (ITEP) by its participation to the executive Committee and to the

different working groups, as well as by financing the ITEP secretariat. From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2004, the ITEP secretariat (<http://www.itep.ws>) is installed in the premises of the Royal Military Academy in Brussels, Belgium. The MOU with ITEP for the hosting of the secretariat has come to an end on the 17<sup>th</sup> of July 2010 without being renewed.

- The RMA is chairing the CEN (Centre Européen de Normalisation) initiative to define a new standard on the soil characterisation for electromagnetic mine detection sensors. This project is funded by the European Commission and will last two years. The personnel costs are funded by the Belgian Defence in the scope of the BEMAT project (see above).
- The VUB is involved in the STREAM project (<http://stream.etro.vub.ac.be/home.html>), funded by the European Commission, on the development of (1) products, and (2) procedures for end-to-end technological platforms and tools for survey and decision support in humanitarian crisis : humanitarian demining and locations of refugee settlements. This project started in 2005 and will last 4 years.
- Two Belgian deminers and a scientist from the Royal Military Academy participated in the tests of the dual sensor detectors organized by Germany under ITEP umbrella (Oberjettenberg, 21 Sep 2009 – 16 Oct 2009).

**Form F****Other relevant matters**

Article 13 / 4 / f “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository ... on:

(f) other relevant matters.

*Remark:*

High Contracting Party     **BELGIUM**     reporting for time period from     01.01.2010     to     31.12.2010    

Other relevant matters

Since 2003, Belgium organises an EOD course in French and in English to train team leaders of other countries.

It should be underlined that one course in each language is organised every year and that there are only a limited number of places available.

For Since 2008, and due to operations in Belgium and abroad, no international students were trained.

Since Sep 2006, BEL contributes to UNIFIL with an Engr/EOD capability. More than 13.000 UXO (cluster Ammo) have been cleared since then.

