

- PROTOCOL V -

**REPORTING FORMS
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 10, PARAGRAPH 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: 03 April 2015
(dd/mm/yyyy)

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

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

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 3:

Through 112 demining projects, mine threat has been removed from an area that amounts to 37.748.867 m² while additional 46.048.489 m² was reduced through non-technical survey activities. All these activities resulted in the total decrease of the suspected hazardous area in Croatia in the amount of 83.797.356 m². According to that, suspected hazardous area in the Republic of Croatia on December 31, 2014 totalled 530,2 km².

In 2014 the largest share in demined area with 59% is area planned for different economic activities and most of them are agricultural land which the local and regional governments have stated as their priority crucial for start of agricultural production. Of the total contracted demining operations in 2014, 33% refers to the priorities related to general safety of citizens and their property and 8% on the environmental priorities. During the mine clearance activities total number of 5.333 mines and UXOs was found and destroyed, out of which, 3.349 mines and 1.984 UXOs.

Table 2: Number of mines and UXO destroyed in the period 01/01/2014 – 31/12/2014

Year	Anti-personnel Mines	Anti-vehicle Mines	UXO
2014.	1.842	1.507	1.984

Any other relevant information:

The Quality Control was performed on 5.369 sampling lots covering the sampling area of 522.423 m², which, in average, totals 1.4% 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 40 demining companies 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 2014, 40 commercial companies with the total capacities of 650 deminers, 55 demining machines and 30 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.

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Certain amount of the Croatian military facilities including barracks, air bases, training areas, radar stations and storage sites are still partially contaminated by land mines, cluster munitions remnants and other UXO's. The Demining battalion of the Engineering regiment is responsible for clearance of all military facilities. During the year 2014, an area of 601.157 m² was searched and cleared, 30 pieces of AP and pieces of AV landmines were found during the process, 103.988 pieces of UXO's were discovered and destroyed.

Since the incident in the military storage site Padene (near Knin on September 13, 2011), Demining battalion continues to search and clear surrounding area. All exploded and unexploded ordinances found are removed and destroyed. Clearance activities are continuing and should be finished during 2015.

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FORM B: Steps taken to implement Article 4 of the Protocol: Recording, retaining and transmission of information

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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

Today, 78 towns and municipalities in 10 out of 21 counties are affected by mine problem. Total mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia at the beginning of the 2015 comes to 530,2 km², with approx. 64.000 mines and UXOs that still have to be found and destroyed.

On December 31, 2014 the total mine suspected area was marked with 12.071 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.

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 Annual Humanitarian Demining Plan was prepared by Croatian Mine Action Center with the approval of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Regional Development and the European Union Funds, the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, the Ministry of Environment and Nature, Ministry of Physical Planning and Construction, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of tourism.

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.

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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: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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

In 2014, the Croatian Mine Action Centre coordinated a large number of activities related to informing about mine danger.

Through 30 lectures and presentations it was educated 3.590 citizens in 2013. Majority of them was kindergarten and elementary school kids. Special education was given to the association "Montažstroj", scouts and foreign volunteers. From 76 activities, 6 of them were done by Association of Civil Victims of the War of the Republic of Croatia with support of Ministry of Veterans. These lectures were held with support of the Croatian Red Cross and Ministry of Interior lecturers.

In organisation of foundation "Croatia Without Mines" 11 lectures for members of Croatian Hunting Society and Roma Community were held during 2014. This project will continue in 2015.

In November 2010 CROMAC started cooperation with the Ministry of Interior on the project supported by UNDP "Less Arms, Less Tragedy". In 2014 CROMAC participated in 55 activities and, where was possible, the work of deminers was presented.

Central ceremony for the April 4, International day of Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action was held in Zagreb in co-organisation of Government Office for Mine Action and CROMAC.

In total there were 76 activities in 2014 during which around 16.960 citizens were directly educated about mine danger.

Any other relevant information:

The Republic of Croatia has well-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 2014 there was 1 mine incident with 1 civilian killed and 1 suffered heavy injuries.

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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: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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:

N/A

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

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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 2014, CROMAC continued all activities towards fulfilling the obligations from the signed conventions and protocols.

Any other relevant information:

N/A

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

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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 14 members, except for Croatian Mine Action Centre and CROMAC-CTDT, there are the manufacturers of demining machines DOK-ING Ltd., Đuro Đakovic Special Vehicles Inc. and demining company Istraživač Ltd., manufacturers of protective equipment Borovo Gumitrade Ltd. and Šestan Busch Ltd., a manufacturer of metal detectors Vallon GmbH from Germany and manufacturer of magnetic locators Schonstedt Instrument Company from USA, Regional Center for Underwater Demining (RCUD) from Montenegro, Blas-tip Ltd. from Slovenia, demining companies MKA*Deming Ltd. and Mungos razminiranje Ltd. as well as Geofoto Ltd.

Croatian Mine Action Centre and Government Office for Mine Action were the co-organizer of the 11th international symposium "Humanitarian Demining 2013" which was held in the City of Zadar in April 2014.

The Symposium participants expressed special interest in the field demonstration with demining machines and new technologies and methodologies in Mine Action.

During the three-day symposium, the research project "Implementation of tools for removing anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions and unexploded ordnance," the acronym Tiramisu, was presented as a project financed by the European Union worth 14.9 million euros in a consortium of 24 research cent centers.

Any other relevant information:

In January 2012, a research and development project TIRAMISU (Toolbox Implementation for Removal of Anti-personnel Mines, Submunitions and UXO) started, where CROMAC-CTDT is one of 26 partners from 11 countries. The project is coordinated by the Royal Military Academy in Brussels, and the goal is to provide a global toolbox that will cover the main Mine Action activities, from the survey of large areas to the actual disposal of explosive hazards, and mine risk education. The project is funded by the European Union within the 7th Framework Program (FP7). The goal of CROMAC-CTDT is to conduct chemical and hyperspectral analysis of vegetation inside minefields; to apply GIS for multicriteria analysis tools; to conduct a trial of honeybees in detection and quality control; and to implement validation of tools developed by other partners. The project will last for four years.

As part of the project, multisensor airborne survey of Pađene military depot, where an unwanted explosion happened in 2011, was conducted in June, as well as the measuring of spectral characteristics of explosive ordnance around it, taken

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from the ground.

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 F(a): Steps taken by States which have ERW victims to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2): Victim Assistance

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2):

Distribution of brochure issued in 2011 "Options and rights for persons with disabilities - people affected by mines" has continued in 2014.

NGO "Mine Aid" continued supporting mine victims through several projects. During 2014, the advisory assistance to persons affected by mines, and their families continued to be provided by Mine Aid.

CROMAC continued to provide advisory support to mine victims and their families and to collect data on mine victims during the process of non-technical survey.

In 2014 there was 1 co ordinations of the government and nongovernmental sector about support to mine victims.

Other relevant information, guided by the Plan of Action on Victim Assistance:

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

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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 50C 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.

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;

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

c. Training

One of the main fields of expertise of CROMAC-CTDT is training. Training courses are conducted in accordance with IMAS and CWA agreements. In 2014, the following training courses were conducted for international partners:

- In January, a training course for EOD Level 3 and in February training course for EOD Level 4 were held in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina for NPA Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- In March, a QA/QC training course was held for the Colombian Ministry of Defence. Training and working uniform was financed from the Croatian International Development Assistance Program.
- In May, a training course for EOD Level 3 was held in Amman and in September a training course for EOD level 4 for the staff of the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation (NCDR) from Jordan. The training was funded from the Croatian International Development Assistance Program.
- In October, a training course in Zagreb for EOD Level 3 and 4 for CBR (chemical, biological and radiological) threat for 15 members of Chilean Ministry of Defence was held.

Any other relevant information:

N/A

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

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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

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- 05.01 – Medical Support And Evacuation
- DESTRUCTION OF MINES AND UNEXPLODED ORDINANCES**
- 06.01 – Destruction of Mines and Unexploded Ordinances -

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FORM I: Other relevant matters

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Any other relevant information:

The Croatian Police department and CROMAC is continuing it's "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 the year of 2014, the Police department collected 221 pieces of AP landmines, 50 pieces of AV landmines, 1379,05 kg of different explosives, 2.735 hand grenades, 3.328 pieces of different artillery and mortar ammunition, 6 anti-ship mines, 5 air bombs (weight from 10 to 1000 kg), 610 pieces of other explosive ordinance, large amounts of various explosive materials (detonator capsules and fuses - 19.876; tracer ordinance - 4.703,01 m; explosives and powder charges - 1379.05 kg), large quantities of SALW and 528.301 pieces of munitions 14.5 mm and bellow. Large quantities of improvised explosive devices were also collected.

Police department is determined to continue these programs and activities in the future. The weapons collected by the Police department are transported and destroyed at Croatia's military facilities.