
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**)

Summary sheet

Summary Reporting Format for Article 13 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2,
pursuant to the decision of the Fifth Annual Conference of the States Parties to CCW
Amended Protocol II as stipulated in paragraph 20 of its Final Document,
CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/2

NAME OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY FINLAND

DATE OF SUBMISSION March 2015

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

YES

NO

REPORTING PERIOD: 03/2014 to 03/2015

Form A: Dissemination of information:

changed
x unchanged (last reporting: 2003)

Form B: Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes:

x changed
 unchanged

Form C: Technical requirements and relevant information:

changed
x unchanged (last reporting: 2003)

Form D: Legislation:

x changed
 unchanged

Form E: International technical information exchange, co-operation on mine clearance, technical co-operation and assistance:

x changed
 unchanged

Form F: Other relevant matters:

changed
x unchanged (last reporting: 2003)

Form G: Information to the UN-database on mine clearance:

changed
x unchanged (last reporting: 2004)

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(PROTOCOL II AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996)

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

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YES

NO

Partially, only the following forms:

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

Form B Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes

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

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

Remark: Please note that Finland participates actively also in the work of Mine Action Support Group (MASG) both at capital and Embassy levels.

High
Contracting FINLAND reporting for time March 2014 March 2015
Party _____ period from _____ to _____

Mine clearance programme incl. rehabilitation

During year 2014, the Finnish Defence Forces (FDF) has conducted in total 432 EOD cases in Finland. The most of cases have been clearance of ERWs , but there has also been some land and sea mine clearances.

Since 1991, Finland has taken part in humanitarian mine action in countries with the highest number of accidents caused by landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW). Finland's support is based on a holistic approach. This includes mine detection and clearance; assistance in the care, rehabilitation as well as social and economic integration of mine victims; and the support to mine awareness projects, including Mine Risk Education. The Agencies through which Finnish support is channeled – most of them long-term partnerships – have been chosen in a way that their competencies and specialization complement one another to meet the different objectives. Finland supports countries with land mine problems through the UN as well as through Finnish and international NGOs and Trust Funds. Finland also takes part in EU humanitarian landmine activities through its contributions to the Community Budget.

Finland participates in donor coordination through the Mine Action Support Group (MASG) at the HQ and Embassy levels. In addition, Finland provides core support to the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD).

Humanitarian mine action is funded from the development cooperation budget. In 2014, the total budget for humanitarian mine action was 6 MEUR. Finland’s support was channelled to six countries.

Form D Legislation

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

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;”

Remark:

High Contracting FINLAND reporting for time March 2014 March
Party _____ period from _____ to 2015

Legislation

The Act on Safety in the Handling of Dangerous Chemicals and Explosives (390/2005) entered into force on 1 July 2005. The Act is also applied in the activity of the Finnish Defence Forces unless otherwise provided in this Act. According to paragraph 7, section 6 of the Act, an explosive means "an explosive and an article or equipment containing an explosive compound as well as other material, article or equipment that has been made to produce an explosion or a pyrotechnical phenomenon". Thus it covers the mines, traps and other ordnance meant in the Amended Protocol II on Prohibitions on Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices. Included in the Act are i.a. provisions on the general principles on safety and on the use of explosives.

The Penal Code has been amended in 2008 (Act 11 March 2008/212). The changed Chapter of the Penal Code, Chapter 11, concerns war crimes and crimes against humanity. The amended Act has entered into force on 1 May 2008. The Act also includes provisions on the responsibility of a superior and separately a provision on the negligence of notification as well as a provision on the order of a superior as a factor for acquittal from criminal responsibility. The Act's connection to the CCW Convention is acknowledging the possibility that the crimes mentioned in the Act would be committed by using mines, booby-traps or other devices stipulated in the Protocol II of the CCW Convention.

The Decree of the Ministry of Defence on Military Explosives (772/2009) was issued on the basis of paragraphs 3 and 4, Section 3, of the Act on Safety in the Handling of Dangerous Chemicals and Explosives (390/2005). The Decree entered into force on 1 November 2009. The Decree concerns both explosives meant for military activities that are in the possession of the Finnish Defence Forces and those in the possession of the Border Guard.

Finland ratified the Ottawa Mine Ban Convention in November 2011. The Convention entered into force on July 1, 2012. National legislation, i.e. the Criminal Code and the Coercive Measures Act, has been amended in accordance with Article 9 of the Convention. The amendments (legislative acts 1466/2011 and 1467/2011) have entered into force on 1 July 2012.

Form E **International technical information exchange, cooperation on mine clearance, technical cooperation and assistance**

Article 13, “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
paragraph 4 (e) 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	FINLAND	reporting for time period from	March 2014	March	to 2015
	_____		_____		_____

International technical information exchange

Finland has participated in meetings of the Standing Committee of Experts on Mine Action in Geneva.

Finland has participated:

- In the meeting of experts under CCW AP II

International cooperation on mine clearance

Finland stands ready to offer expertise related to technical humanitarian demining to international organisations and field operations on a case by case basis.

International co-operation on technical co-operation and assistance

Appendix 1

Means and technologies of mine clearance

THE FINNISH HUMANITARIAN DEMINING EXPERTISE

Finland established in June 1997 a humanitarian standby demining capacity as well as focused training for overseas operations or missions. In 2003 Finland agreed on an interagency guidelines paper, which provides the basic principles for the Finnish participation in humanitarian mine action operations. In accordance with the guidelines, Finland stands ready to provide expertise to international organisations as well as operations regarding humanitarian demining. In particular the personnel with technical demining expertise will be available.

The key personnel consist mainly of experienced retired engineer officers, NCO's and specialists from the reserve. They will have further education to increase their expertise to train different humanitarian mine action functions to locally selected personnel (mine awareness, quality assurance, mine survey, mine detection, UXO-team, mine clearance (mechanical/manual) and medical first aid).

The Defence Command is responsible of the implementation of the humanitarian demining training and the Military Engineer School (Army Academy) is the focal point at the practical level.

Appendix 2

Lists of experts and experts agencies

- Training and Development

Military Engineer School
Army Academy
Väinö Valveen katu 4
FIN 53900 LAPPEENRANTA
tel. +358 299 800
E-mail: maasotakoulu@mil.fi

- Materiel matters

Finnish Defence Forces Logistics Command
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National points of contact on mine clearance

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