

**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**

HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: Republic of Lithuania

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Transatlantic Cooperation and Security Policy Department
Arms Control and Terrorism Prevention Division
Phone: +370 5 236 2579, Fax: +370 5 236 2519
E-mail: dovydas.spokauskas@urm.lt

Ministry of National Defence
Department of International Relations and Operations
Phone: +370 5 273 5635, Fax: +370 5 212 6967
E-mail: agne.bernadisiute@kam.lt

Date of submission: 29 APRIL 2007

<u>This information can be available to other interested parties and relevant organizations</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES
<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	Partially, only the following forms:
A <input type="checkbox"/>	B <input type="checkbox"/>
C <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>
E <input type="checkbox"/>	F <input type="checkbox"/>
G <input type="checkbox"/>	H <input type="checkbox"/>
I <input type="checkbox"/>	

Introduction

The First and the Second World Wars which took place in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania have resulted in the pollution of part of the territory with explosive remnants of war. That carries a potential danger to people, hinders the socio-economic development, organization of protection of the environment and culture and is detrimental to state, social and private activities in the territories, including the territorial waters of the Republic of Lithuania, polluted by explosive remnants of war.

Pollution of the former Soviet military bases with unexploded ordnances, weapons and other substances used for military operations, as well as the level and the spread of pollution over the territory of the Republic of Lithuania have not been examined in detail and may constitute a potential danger to people and the activities they perform.

During the period from 1990 to 2006 13 persons were killed and 6 persons were injured because of the explosive ordnances that were either left by the Soviet army or remained from the First and the Second World Wars. Over 200,000 explosive charges have been destroyed since 1990.

By the Law on the Ratification of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the 1980 United Nations 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 (Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette) No 122 4458, 2004) the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania has ratified Protocol V, which came into force for the Republic of Lithuania on 12 November 2006.

Although majority of the provisions of Protocol V apply to explosive remnants of war, which result from conflicts after its entry into force, certain provisions impose the obligation on the states to also resolve the existing problems related to explosive remnants of war.

This initial report aims not only to present measures, which Lithuania is required to take as a State Party to Protocol V, but also to introduce the wider set of commitments that Lithuania plans to take in order to reduce threat caused by ERWs.

On 18 April 2007 the Programme for the Clearance and Prevention of Explosive Remnants of War (hereinafter – Programme) and the Plan of Implementing Measures for the Programme (hereinafter – Plan of Implementing Measures) for the years 2007-2018 was approved by the Resolution No 446 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania. Its principal objective is to ensure that ERWs are found, their potential threat to people prevented and adverse effects to private and public activities minimised. The tasks to be carried out for the attainment of this objective include: examination and evaluation of the threat, drafting and amending relevant legislation, carrying out of clearance and cooperation with international community.

Full text of the Programme and the Plan of Implementing measures is available on-line:

In English, http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=312266;

Lithuanian, http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=297014&p_query=&p_tr2=.

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

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 3

Note: According to Article 1, paragraph 4 of the Protocol, Article 3 only applies to Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) other than existing ERW as defined in Article 2, paragraph 5 of the Protocol. ERWs found in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania result from First and Second World Wars as well as pollution of former Soviet military bases, i.e. they existed before entry into force of the Protocol. Therefore all steps taken by the Republic of Lithuania with regard to clearance, removal or destruction of ERW should be regarded as a voluntary measure, which does not result from any obligation under the Protocol.

With regard to clearance, removal and destruction of ERW in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, the Plan of Implementing Measures foresees to start marking and clearing of ERW polluted territories once the relevant information is collected, compiled and assessed. Marking and clearance activities are estimated to start in 2009.

According to the Plan of Implementing Measures, following measures should be taken:

- The Ministry of National Defence, the Fire and Rescue Department, county governors and municipalities should develop and approve the methodology for the definition of the risk categories of the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war;
- The Ministry of National Defence should draw up and approve annual plans for clearance works in the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war;
- County governors, municipalities, the Ministry of National Defence and the Fire and Rescue Department should mark the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war and implement other measures of explosion prevention;
- The Ministry of National Defence and the Fire and Rescue Department should organize clearance work.

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

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

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

Note: According to Article 1, paragraph 4 of the Protocol, Article 4 only applies to Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) other than existing ERW as defined in Article 2, paragraph 5 of the Protocol. ERWs found in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania result from First and Second World Wars as well as pollution of former Soviet military bases, i.e. they existed before entry into force of the Protocol. Therefore all steps taken by the Republic of Lithuania with regard to recording, retaining and transmission of information in ERW should be regarded as a voluntary measure, which does not result from any obligation under the Protocol.

The Plan of Implementing Measures foresees following measures with regard to examination and evaluation of threat posed by ERW in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania:

- County governors, municipalities, Fire and Rescue Department should regularly inform the Ministry of National Defence about the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war, including the territorial waters of the Republic of Lithuania and the territories of past Soviet military bases, as well as about the incidents related to explosive remnants of war, killed or injured persons and the damage caused;
- The Ministry of National Defence should regularly collect, analyse, document and archive received information and archive materials on territories polluted with explosive remnants of war;
- On the basis of information collected, the Ministry of National Defence should compile and regularly update the maps of territories polluted with explosive remnants of war;
- The Ministry of National Defence should conduct a study which would contain assessment of:
 - the risk carried by the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war;
 - categorisation, based on the risk level, of the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war and indicated on the maps;
 - provision regarding the monitoring of the status and changes of the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war, and forecasting further developments;
 - setting of the priorities of marking the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war as well as clearance, removal or destruction of explosive ordnances;
 - estimation of the cost of the performance of the activities indicated in the study

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: Republic of Lithuania

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

Note: According to Article 1, paragraph 4 of the Protocol, Article 5 only applies to Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) other than existing ERW as defined in Article 2, paragraph 5 of the Protocol. ERWs found in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania result from First and Second World Wars as well as pollution of former Soviet military bases, i.e. they existed before entry into force of the Protocol. Therefore all steps taken by the Republic of Lithuania with regard to precautions for the protection of the civilians and civilian objects from the risks and effects of ERW should be regarded as a voluntary measure, which does not result from any obligation under the Protocol.

The Plan of Implementing Measures foresees following measures with regard to protection of civilian population from threats posed by ERW in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania:

- The Ministry of National Defence, the Fire and Rescue Department, county governors and municipalities should prepare and adopt the Description of the Procedure of the Submission of Information About the Danger of the Territories Polluted with Explosive Remnants of War to the Civilian Population, which shall lay down such measures as marking of the territories polluted with explosive remnants of war with warning signs as well as other measures of general prevention that would help to avoid or minimise the danger posed by such a territory;
- The Police Department, the Fire and Rescue Department and the Armed Forces should draft and approve the Safety Rules for the Territories Polluted with Explosive Remnants of War in which Mine-clearance is carried out

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: Republic of Lithuania

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 6

There are no humanitarian missions and organisations operating in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania.

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

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 7

According to the Plan of Implementing Measures the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of National Defence should constantly cooperate with foreign states, international organisations, also with non-governmental organisations and foundations in order to minimise the risks posed by explosive remnants of war. In particular, this should be achieved through the following measures:

- Taking part in the exchange of scientific and technological knowledge necessary to pursue the clearance of explosive remnants of war;
- Exchanging the experience of experts;
- Submitting, on a voluntary basis, information to the databases of the mines-related activities belonging to the United Nations system, especially information related to the tools and technologies for the clearance of explosive remnants of war;
- Submitting reports on the results of the implementation of the Programme for the Clearance and Prevention of Explosive Remnants of War to international organisations.

International assistance

Although Lithuania has emerged as a donor state only around 2004, a substantial part of our international assistance was channelled to projects related to international mine action, including activities related to reduction of harm caused by ERWs.

Lithuanian contributions to international disarmament projects include:

Activity, funding and/or in-kind contributions	Implementing organisation or agency	Date	Contribution
De-mining and UXO clearance, province of Ghowr, Afghanistan	Lithuanian led Provincial Reconstruction Team	2004 - 2007	In kind
SALW and MANPADS destruction in Ukraine	NATO / NAMSA Partnership for Peace Trust Fund - PiP	2005	40 000 LTL (11 000 EUR)
Repacking and centralising of chemicals in Moldova	NATO / NAMSA PiP	2005	20 000 LTL (5 800 EUR)
Contribution to GICHD's activities on ERWs	GICHD	2005	25 000 LTL (7 200 EUR)
Destruction of anti-personnel mines in Belarus	NATO / NAMSA PiP	2006	30 000 LTL (9 000 EUR)
Rehabilitating of land contaminated by unexploded ordnance (UXO) after the fire at an ammunition depot in Novobogdanivka, Ukraine	OSCE	2006	34 500 LTL (10 000 EUR)
Contribution to the Mine and Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Clearance Project in Afghanistan	United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)	2006 - 2007	90 000 LTL (41 000 \$)
National contribution to the Sponsorship Programme of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)	Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)	2007	20 000 LTL (10 000 CHF)
Contribution to support activities of the GICHD Implementation Support Unit	GICHD Implementation support unit	2005 - 2007	32 000 LTL (16 000 CHF)
Support to GICHD publication „A Guide to Cluster Munitions“	GICHD	2007	20 000 LTL (10 000 CHF)
Contribution to the organisation of the seminar „Towards an Anti-personnel mine-free South Caucasus – including Abkhazia, South Ossetia, and Nagorno-Karabakh“, Kiev, Ukraine	Geneva Call	2007	35 000 LTL (10 000 EUR)
Clearance of 569 hectares of contaminated land and disposal of unexploded ordnance (UXO) in Azerbaijan	NATO / NAMSA PiP	2007	35 000 LTL (10 000 EUR)

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

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 8

Note: According to Article 1, paragraph 4 of the Protocol, Article 8 only applies to Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) other than existing ERW as defined in Article 2, paragraph 5 of the Protocol. ERWs found in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania result from First and Second World Wars as well as pollution of former Soviet military bases, i.e. they existed before entry into force of the Protocol. Therefore all steps taken by the Republic of Lithuania with regard to co-operation and assistance with respect to ERW other than existing ERW should be regarded as a voluntary measure, which does not result from any obligation under the Protocol.

For information on Lithuania's participation in international cooperation and assistance to diminish the risk posed by ERWs, please see Form E.

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

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

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

(a) Munitions manufacturing management and future production

Manufacturers must obtain a license to engage in manufacture of arms, ammunition, their major parts and accessories of arms from the Weaponry fund Lithuania under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

Currently there is only one manufacturer of conventional weapons in Lithuania – GGG small arms ammunition plant, established in 2000, which specializes in the production of cartridges cal. 5,56x45 GP21 (SS109) and cal. 7,62x51 GP11 (M80).

All stages of manufacturing are controlled and scrutinised. Ammunition is produced on a basis of NATO technology, control and testing documentation. In 2002 the enterprise implemented an integrated quality system according to ISO 9001:2000 standard. Testing of ammunition is conducted according to NATO testing and control procedures, which ensure reliability of ammunition in a variety of weather conditions. Import and export of ammunition is conducted strictly under export control legislation in force in the Republic of Lithuania. Every consignment of ammunition must receive a separate export license.

(b) Munitions management

Lithuanian Armed Forces apply best practice norms and operating procedures in the area of munitions and explosive ordnance management. The following legislation is currently in force:

- Order of the Minister of National Defence No.260 of 24 April 1994 on Regulations of Accounting, Stockpiling and Issuing of Arms and Ammunition in the National Defence System (amendments of 29 March 2004). The Order defines accounting, stockpiling, issuing and documentation of arms and munitions in the national defence system.

- Order of the Minister of National Defence No. 188 of 5 March 1993 on Storage, Transportation and Destruction of Explosives and Explosive Devices. The Order sets the requirements and procedures for packing, storage, transport and destruction of explosive ordnance in the national defence system.

(c) Training

All personnel involved in the handling, transporting and use of explosive ordnance are obliged to undergo relevant work safety training.

(d) Transfer

Import, export and transit of military equipment are subject to legislation on control of strategic goods. For detailed information on Export control system of the Republic of Lithuania please see Annual report to On implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (report for 2007 is available at <http://disarmament.un.org/cab/bms3/1National%20Reports%202008.html>).

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

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 11

Seminars and workshops on International Humanitarian Law and other international rules governing armed conflicts, including Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War, are regularly organised for the instructors and officers of the Lithuanian Armed Forces.

During pre-mission training these topics are also introduced to the military officers selected for international peace operations and missions. Currently, a number of training programmes on this subject are included into curriculum of the Military Academy and Non-commissioned Officers School.

Together with other relevant information of International Humanitarian Law, texts of the Protocol are available at the libraries of military establishments.

The Commission on the Implementation of International Humanitarian Law, an advisory body to the Minister of National Defence established in 2001, coordinates dissemination of information on International Humanitarian Law and related topics.

Among other activities the Commission also organises national and international seminars, courses and workshops on international humanitarian law and related topics for military officers and public servants. The national Red Cross Society also participates in providing information on international humanitarian law to the general public.

The text of the Protocol could be accessed in Lithuanian both in the Official Gazette and the Parliament website:

http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=234959&p_query=&p_tr2=

FORM I Other relevant matters

High Contracting Party: Republic of Lithuania

Any other relevant information

In 2007 at their First Conference the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention of Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) appointed Lithuania to chair the Second Conference, which will take place on 10-11 November 2008. In this capacity Lithuania is guided by the decisions taken at the First Conference, in particular in 2008 to hold informal meetings of experts on five most relevant implementation issues – reporting templates and information exchange mechanism, clearance, cooperation and assistance, generic preventive measures and victim assistance. The President-designate (Ambassador Edvardas Borisovas, Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the UNOG in Geneva) has undertaken efforts on universalization and facilitation of the work of five Coordinators. Lithuania believes that implementation of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War is closely related to other instruments and mechanisms, which are referred to in the UNGA IV Committee resolution on Assistance to Mine Action, thus attaches great importance to global coherence in action. Lithuania intends to initiate an in-depth study of IMSMA as a potential network for exchange of data, national reporting, tool of matching cooperation and assistance needs with resources, etc. Classification of ERW-affected countries, development of the national point of contact concept is also under attention of the President-designate.

In 2007 Lithuania was appointed to coordinate the CCW Sponsorship Programme. Under the coordinatorship of Lithuania the Programme became operational, first approach on criteria of sponsorship has been developed, the group of donors broadened, briefings and a questionnaire for the beneficiary delegates established.