

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

**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)**

REPORTING FORMATS

for Article 13 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2

NAME OF THE HIGH
CONTRACTING PARTY: BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 31/03/2017

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF
CONTACT: Ministry of Civil Affairs of BH / The
Demining Commission of BH /BHMAC,
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(Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail)

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

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Form A Dissemination of information

Article 13,
paragraph 4 (a)

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository [...] on [...]:

(a) dissemination of information on this Protocol to their armed forces and to the civilian population;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Reporting for time period

from: January to: December 2016
dd/mm/yyyy dd/mm/yyyy

INFORMATION TO THE ARMED FORCES:

BH Armed Forces have been aware of Amended Protocol II of the CCW. Members of the BH Armed Forces through the individual and collective training given basic knowledge of international humanitarian law and the law of armed conflict, including international agreements ratified by B&H.

Representatives of the Armed Forces at the proposal of the Ministry of Defense of BiH participate in the work of expert teams dealing with solving UXO and demining of minefields.

INFORMATION TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION:

Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified Amended Protocol II and it is published on all mine action related internet sites, containing BH reports and is therefore, in the public domain. Also MRE activities include information to the civilian population.

MRE is conducted through public information, education of population and connect with the impact communities by BHMACE and accredited organizations for mine risk education. For school-age children information about mine danger spread through the implementation of the curriculum.

In order to warn the population on mine danger BHMACE continuously performs put or renovation mine warning signs.

The action of the BH Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the dissemination of information among the civilian population takes place over a demining battalion of the BH Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina through the activities of MRE why the BH Armed Forces are accredited.

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Form B Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes

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

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Bosnia and Herzegovina

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MINE CLEARANCE PROGRAMMES:

Mine Action programme exists in Bosnia and Herzegovina since 1996. Mine clearance per year in square metres depends mostly on funds and resources available. Threat is widespread mostly along the confrontation lines of former warring sides. Mine Action represent the re- establishment of safe environment in areas contaminated with mines and UXO, aiming to ensure safe environment and the economic development.

Mine Action is a activities with mines five main components:

- 1. Mine risk education**
- 2. Humanitarian demining operations that include clearance of mines and UXO, all levels of survey, Quality Assurance and mapping**
- 3. Landmine Victim Assistance**
- 4. AP mines stockpiles destruction**
- 5. Advocacy**

BHMAC is conducting Quality Assurance in demining testing of metal detectors, MDD teams and ground preparation machines for clearance and technical survey, Risk Area Permanent Marking and all levels of survey.

Various training courses of demining structure are conducted regularly, as well as mine risk education activities coordinated by the BHMAC.

In 2016, operations of technical survey and mine clearance were conducted at 269 tasks (out of which 14 mine suspect areas) where the tasked area was 15.981.114 m². Out of that, 202 tasks were completed (9 mine suspect areas) with reduced and cleared area of 13.652.343 m², 3054 antipersonnel mines, 63 anti-tank mines and 1255 pieces of ERW were found and destroyed during the stated operations. The average number of mines per hectare is 17/ha.

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REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES:

LMVA

In 2016, Demining Commission in BiH has adopted the Decision on Forming the Coordination Group for mine/ERW/cluster munition victims' assistance, and the process of formalization of documents commenced accordingly on the level of BiH, through standing ministerial bodies. In this reporting period, a preliminary preliminary coordination meeting of this working group for mine victims' assistance was held, and in order to improve situation in the area of mine action segment of mine/ERW/cluster mines victims' assistance. BHMAIS database has been updated with 17 mine victims in relation to location, victims' identity and assistance provided in the previous period. BHMAIS database provided information on mine victims per official requests for 20 victims, 5 participants in mine victims' assistance process and 4 international organizations, all in accordance with the Law on the protection of Personal Data in B&H.

MRE

In 2016, there have been continuous activities on Mine Risk Education on mines/ERW/cluster munitions through informing of the public, education of the affected groups of population and liaising of mine actions with the impacted community/municipality. The focus of mines/ERW/cluster munition MRE was the conduct of activities within impacted communities/municipalities with large suspect area of III category priority, i.e. education towards the most impacted groups of population. With the technical and financial EUFOR support as well as technical supervision from Mine Action Centre BiH, NGO „Stop Mines“ organized 1 training for „Mine Awareness Instructors“, where 24 attendees passed it with success. In this reporting period, there were 14 realized projects of MRE education with 22888 persons educated on mine threat.

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Form C **Technical requirements and relevant information**

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

(c) steps taken to meet technical requirements of this Protocol and any
other relevant information pertaining thereto;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Bosnia and Herzegovina

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TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Bosnia and Herzegovina has taken all steps necessary to meet technical requirements of the Protocol. All mines booby traps and other devices in the inventory of BH Armed Forces comply fully with technical provisions of Amended Protocol II.

ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

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

Article 13,
paragraph 4 (e)

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
Depositary [...] 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:

Bosnia and Herzegovina

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INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE:

In cooperation with international and national organizations, Bosnia and Herzegovina is participating in exchange of experiences and technologies, training capacities as well as development of better and advanced methods of mine clearance and other mine action, performing tests and evaluations.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON MINE CLEARANCE:

Bosnia and Herzegovina is continuously developing the cooperation at international, regional and bilateral level aiming to develop demining capacities, as well as the exchange of knowledge, experiences and personnel. Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre is developing the cooperation with MAC centers in the region of SE Europe as well as other associations and through the exchange of experiences further contribute to demining process.

During 2016, representatives of Mine Action Centre in BiH actively participated at the 19th International Meeting of Mine Action National Programme Directors and UN advisors, 26th SEEMAC meeting held within the 13th International Symposium on Humanitarian Demining.

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TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE:

Specific cooperation during 2016 Mine Action Centre realized with the following: EUFOR HQ, Ministry for Foreign Affairs Japan, Ministry of National Defense of Turkey, US State Department-a, Zimbabwe Mine Action Centre, embassies of donor countries in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Slovenia, GICHD-a and James Madison University.

In 2016 the AF B&H activities continued in the framework of cooperation with:

NPA in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding concerning the implementation of the Plan to strengthen the capacity of demining battalion and EUFOR in the framework of implementation of mine risk education.

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

Article 11,
paragraph 2,

“2. Each High Contracting Party undertakes to provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations System, especially information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance.”

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Bosnia and Herzegovina

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MEANS AND TECHNOLOGIES OF MINE CLEARANCE:

Mine clearance capacities included a complete equipment of 26 demining companies. They also need to have accreditation from BHMIC to perform such actions. 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: 1265 metal detectors, 37 demining machines including all types (medium, light and heavy), excavators, machines for vegetation clearing and 61 mine detection dogs. In Bosnia, mine clearance actions are mostly performed as a combination of mechanical demining, manual detection and mine-searching dogs. BHMIC Standard operating procedures also prescribe the entire methodology of humanitarian demining activities. Frequent use of demining machines puts Croatia among the leading states with industrial mine clearance.

LISTS OF EXPERTS AND EXPERT AGENCIES:

BHMIC:

Sasa Obradovic, Acting Director,

Zdravko Jonjic, Deputy Director,

Damir Sisic, Deputy Director,

Tarik Serak, Heads offices

Ranko Banjac, Heads offices

Zoran Grujic, Heads offices

There are 26 accredited organizations for mine actions. All information about them we have on our web page: www.bhmic.org

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NATIONAL POINTS OF CONTACT ON MINE CLEARANCE:

MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OF BH
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AFFAIRS OF BH
THE DEMINIG COMMISSION OF BH
BHMAC
BHMAC web site: www.bhmac.org
