

N° Genf-ÖV/POL/0350/2018

NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Mission of Austria presents its compliments to the Implementation Support Unit of the Convention on Prohibitions and Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW) and has the honor to herewith transmit **Austria's CCW Compliance Report, the Amended Protocol II National Report and the Protocol V National Report for the reporting year 2017.**

The Permanent Mission of Austria avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Implementation Support Unit of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 1st May 2018




CCW Implementation Support Unit
United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
Geneva Branch
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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: Republic of AUSTRIA

DATE OF SUBMISSION: _____

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF
CONTACT: Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration
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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
Depositary [...] on [...]:

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

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Republic of AUSTRIA

Reporting for time period

from: 01 01 2017

dd/mm/yyyy

to: 31 12 2017

dd/mm/yyyy

INFORMATION TO THE ARMED FORCES:

The information submitted in the previous report 1st January - 31 December 2016 remains valid. Austria considers that there is no further need for specific implementation measures flowing from the contents of the amended Protocol II with regard to anti-personnel mines and booby-traps due to the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction and of the Federal Law on the Ban of Anti-Personnel Mines (Federal Law Gazette I Nr. 13/1997). The destruction of stockpiles of anti-personnel mines was completed in 1995 and the use of booby traps was prohibited by Federal Act (see also remarks made under Form D). All existing regulations with regard to the provisions of amended Protocol II had been corrected by the end of 1999 on a provisional basis. Instruction and training of soldiers is going on and encompasses active personnel as well as non-active personnel when activated temporarily for routine military activities.

INFORMATION TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION:

There are no changes to the previous reports concerning the period 27th January 1999 to 31st December 2016. Since amended Protocol II has been transformed into Austrian law the content has been published and is therefore available to the civilian population.

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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:

Republic of AUSTRIA

Reporting for time period

from: **01 01 2017**

dd/mm/yyyy

to: **31 12 2017**

dd/mm/yyyy

MINE CLEARANCE PROGRAMMES:

As indicated previously, Austria is a non-mine-affected country (including mines, booby traps and other devices). Nevertheless UXO and APM discoveries, left from previous wars, do occur.

According to the 2. Stability Act (2. StabG 2012, Federal Law Gazette I No. 35/2012 of 24.04.2012), the tasks of demining services (Entminungsdienst - EMD) are conducted under the Ministry of Defence and Sports. The legal basis are regulated in § 42, para. 5 and 6, Weapons Act 1996 (WaffG) Federal Law Gazette I Nr. 86/2000.

The demining service is an independent department within the Ministry of Defence and Sports. This service was transferred from the Ministry of the Interior to the Ministry of Defence and Sports on January 1, 2013. A report on the discovered war material of all kinds and all levels of dangerousness is published annually.

In the reporting period, following types of ERW (regarding to internationally notifiable types of ammunition) were found and destroyed:

83 cluster bombs

1 anti-personnel mine

REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES:

During the reported time period no person in Austria became a victim of mines, booby-traps or other devices. Despite that fact Austria has been developing and establishing a variety of acts and principles to ensure social security and, depending on particular situations, full rehabilitation.

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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
Depositary [...] on [...]:

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

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Republic of AUSTRIA

Reporting for time period

from: 01 01 2017

dd/mm/yyyy

to: 31 12 2017

dd/mm/yyyy

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

The response given by Austria in its previous reports covering the period 27th January 1999 to 31st December 2016 remains valid for this reporting period. The Austrian Armed Forces do not possess mines, booby-traps and other devices which are not in compliance with the technical provisions of this Protocol or which would be in contradiction with the obligations from other international treaties. The Austrian Armed Forces will not use improvised explosive devices which are not in compliance with the technical provisions of this Protocol. The Austrian Armed Forces are prepared to record and mark locations of any weapons covered by this Protocol in accordance with the respective provisions.

ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

**Austria did not claim for deferment of compliance with respect to Art.2.c. and 3.c. of the Technical Annex.
There are no indications of Austrian companies producing weapons, which are not in compliance with the provisions of amended Protocol II or which would violate other treaty obligations entered by Austria.**

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Form D Legislation

Article 13,
paragraph 4 (d)

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

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Republic of AUSTRIA

Reporting for time period

from: 01 01 2017

dd/mm/yyyy

to:

31 12 2017

dd/mm/yyyy

LEGISLATION:

No changes to the previous reports: Amended Protocol II is an integral part of the Austrian Law. The Protocol entered into force on 27 January 1999 and was published under the reference number "Federal Law Gazette III Nr. 17/1999". In addition, the following legal instruments are applicable in Austria with regard to the use of certain weapons: Federal Law on the Ban of Anti-Personnel Mines (Federal Law Gazette I Nr. 13/1997), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Production, Stockpiling and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, the Geneva Conventions and their respective Protocols.

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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 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:

Republic of AUSTRIA

Reporting for time period

from: 01 01 2017

dd/mm/yyyy

to: 31 12 2017

dd/mm/yyyy

INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE:

NIL

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON MINE CLEARANCE:

Austria is providing assistance to mine action activities through bilateral and multilateral programs and as a Member State of the European Union is supporting mine action activities of the European Union.

On a bilateral basis Austria has contributed during the reporting period to mine clearance in Ukraine (total value of the support € 1.000.000,-) as well as victim assistance.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE:

Austria has continued to provide mine/UXO clearance teams during this reporting period in the framework of EUFOR ALTHEA and KFOR. Furthermore Austria provides Mobile Training Teams in that regard in Moldova.

Training programmes on mines and UXO's are offered for all units during predeployment training for operations in Libanon (UNIFIL), Bosnien and Herzegowina (EUFOR ALTHEA), Kosovo (KFOR) and MALI (EUTM).

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Form F **Other relevant matters**

Article 13,
paragraph 4 (f)

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

(f) other relevant matters.”

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Republic of AUSTRIA

Reporting for time period

from: **01 01 2017**

dd/mm/yyyy

to:

31 12 2017

dd/mm/yyyy

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS:

NIL

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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:

Republic of AUSTRIA

Reporting for time period

from: 01 01 2017

dd/mm/yyyy

to: 31 12 2017

dd/mm/yyyy

MEANS AND TECHNOLOGIES OF MINE CLEARANCE:

No changes for this reporting period since 1st January to 31st December 2007.

LISTS OF EXPERTS AND EXPERT AGENCIES:

As it was previously reported, in Austria governmental experts for humanitarian demining operations as well as for military mine clearance activities are usually members of the Austrian armed forces. About 86 persons are trained in accordance with international practices and standards for such operations. The deployment of such experts is decided strictly on a case by case basis in accordance with the rules regulating the operation of members of the Austrian armed forces abroad in accordance with Austrian constitutional and legal requirements. Operation teams can be composed up to 4 persons. The following equipment is used for mine clearance: Schiebel AN-19/2, Schiebel MIMID, VALLON VMM3, VALLON 1620 C, VALLON VMC1-Ö, CEIA Mil-D1. There are several commercial companies in Austria which offer services for demining and UXO-clearance operations.

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NATIONAL POINTS OF CONTACT ON MINE CLEARANCE:

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