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)

Provisional Reporting Formats for Article 13 para 2 and Article 11 para 2.

NAME OF HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY               BELGIUM
DATE OF SUBMISSION                                01.11.2009
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Form A Dissemination of information

Article 13 / 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 BELGIUM reporting for time period from 01.10.2008 to 30.09.2009

Information about the Armed Forces

a. General Information:

Officers assigned as “Advisers in the Law of Armed Conflict” are available in each unit (till battalion or independent company level) to advise military commanders on the application of the Law of Armed Conflict. The education programme of these advisers encloses among other subjects a general information about the (amended) Protocol II.

b. Specific Information:

(1) Combat engineers and EOD personnel involved in mining and demining activities are educated and trained in all matters related to the Belgian tactical doctrine G600 “Minefields laying, marking, recording, reporting and demining procedures”, in accordance with the STANAG 2036 (Land Mines Procedures), STANAG 2389 (Minimum standards of proficiency for trained explosive ordnance disposal personnel), STANAG 2485 (Countermine Operations in Land Warfare) and this protocol.

Mine awareness is also given to all soldiers during their basic military education.

Information to the civilian population

**Form B**

**Mine clearance and rehabilitation programs**

Article 13 / 4 / b  “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programs;”

**Remark:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>reporting for time period from 01.10.2008 to 30.09.2009</th>
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</thead>
</table>

**Mine clearance programs**

NOT APPLICABLE : the country is not affected by minefields

For international cooperation : see Form E

**Rehabilitation programs**

NOT APPLICABLE : the country is not affected by minefields

For international cooperation : see Form E
Form C  
Technological requirements and relevant information

Article 13 / 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  BELGIUM  
reporting for time period from 01.10.2008 to 30.09.2009

Technical requirements

a. The procedures in practice for the registration of minefields are in accordance with those requested in the Protocol
   For the recording, marking and control of minefields in operation, Belgium is acting according to the provisions of the STANAG 2036. This STANAG is fully in line with what is required by the Protocol

b. Detectability: this is not applicable because the use of anti-personnel mines is being prohibited under the OTTAWA Convention and by national law.

c. Self-destruction and neutralisation: not applicable

d. Signalisation
   See answer under paragraph a. above

Any other relevant information
Form D

Legislation

Article 13 / 4 / d “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

(d) Legislation related to this Protocol;

Remark:

High Contracting Party BELGIUM reporting for time period from 01.10.2008 to 30.09.2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law of 20 March 2007 prohibiting the financing of the production, use and possession of antipersonnel mines and submunitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law of 08 June 2006 concerning the regulation of economic and individual activities with weapons.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law of 08 January 2004 approving the modification of Art 1 of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or Have Indiscriminate Effects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law of 30 March 2000 on the definitive Prohibition of the Antipersonnel Mines, which simplifies the existing procedure on the total prohibition of Antipersonnel Mines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law of 24 June 1996 amending the Law of 3 January 1933 on Arms production and Trade, on the Carrying of Weapons and on Ammunition Trade, with the View to Prohibit the Belgian State and Public services from Storing Anti-personnel mines.</td>
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<td>High Contracting Party</td>
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**International technical information exchange**

- Since May 2004, Belgium participates to the European Research Grouping Arrangement n°2, with France, Luxembourg, the United-Kingdom and Germany, relating to the European Co-operation for Ammunition Destruction.
- Since 2003 a complete handbook on EOD technical information was produced, translated in KHMER and handed over to the CMAC (Cambodia), Belgium guarantees technical information support on request.
- On a regular basis, with the participation of 1 or 2 demining skilled personnel, Belgium attends meetings relating to Humanitarian Mine Action and organized under the umbrella of:
  - CEN work programs
  - NATO working group EOD
  - GICHD Review Board for IMAS
  - EDA working group
  
  and assumes a liaison role between those organizations.
- Belgium participates:
  - at Board of Directors (BoD) level to the International Test and Evaluation Program for humanitarian demining (ITEP) and by that means takes part in the decision and policy process of the ITEP-organisation
  - annually, through its Department of Defence, by financing the working cost of the ITEP-secretariat, approximately at 60.000 Euro for this year.
International cooperation on mine clearance

1. Introduction:
The projects listed here are based on financial contributions and the provisions of services. Note that the Belgian military experts working for SEDEE (Service for removal and destruction of explosive devices) have NATO diplomas and qualifications:
- EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal)
- IEDD (Improvised Explosive Device Disposal)
The staff is qualified in mine clearance and in the handling of UXO.

2. Projects:

A. Africa:
- Department of Defence: DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO DRC – KANANGA: In September 08, a diving EOD team (4 persons) of the Belgian Service for Removal and Destruction (SEDEE) of Explosive Devices was deployed to KANANGA in order to clear the borders of the lake and adjacent land.
- In 2008 the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs supported several demining projects in Africa: Humanitarian Mine Action in support of vulnerable communities in Southern DRC (€350.000), demining in Makamba in Burundi (€251.741), support for demining with the help of rats in Mozambique (€350.000). The Ministry engaged to prolong this support in 2009 and engaged funds for training and awareness raising in DRC in 2009 (€500.000) and demining in Chad (€200.000)

B. Europe:
- In 2008 the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs supported a demining project in municipalities Konjic and Lopare in Bosnia-Herzegovina (€40.000).

C. Middle East:
- Department of Defence JORDANIE: In January an EOD Recce team of 02 persons performed a Recce of the banks of the Jordan river near the Baptism Site. LEBANON:
  - In the framework of the UNIFIL mission -South, Belgium has a demining/EOD capacity available composed of:
    - 01 EOD/IEDD team (03 persons)
    - 01 demining platoon. This platoon is composed of 35 persons.
    - 01 Liaison Officer in BEIRUT in support of the UNIFIL-staff. This personnel rotates every four months
- In 2008 and 2009 the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs supported demining projects in Iraq (€250.000) and engaged for the Jordan Valley Sampling and Verification Project in 2009 (€55.000).
D. Asia:
a. CAMBODIA:
Since 2003 a complete handbook on EOD technical information was produced, translated in KHMER and handed over to the CMAC (Cambodia), Belgium guarantees technical information support on request.

In 2008 the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs supported and engaged to support projects for mine clearance, support for the Physical Rehabilitation Centres of Siem Reap and Takeo in Cambodia and local capacity building and training in Cambodia (€1.250.000).

b. AFGHANISTAN:
Since July 2005, Belgium deploys permanently 9 EOD operators to the Provincial reconstruction Team (PRT) KUNDUZ. Since 2008, this capacity is reduced to 8 EOD operators.

In 2008 the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs supported Humanitarian Mine Clearance in Afghanistan (€300.000) and a project for the physical security and stockpile management of ammunition (€300.000). In 2009 the Ministry engaged €285.000 for a similar project.

c. TADZJIKISTAN: In 2008 the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs supported Support to the mine action program Tajikistan for survey operations and capacity development (€65.000) and Community Income-Generating Initiatives for Mine Victims (€18.000).

d. PHILIPPINES: In 2009 the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs engaged itself to support a project that aims at furthering the anti-personnel mine ban in the Philippines through the engagement of armed non state actors 2009 (€100.000).

E. Latin-America:
In 2008 the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs supported mine clearance in Ecuador and Peru (€183.500). In 2009 the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs engaged €208.659 to support Community-based risk reduction education in Antioquia, Colombia.

F. Multilateral projects
In 2008 the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs engaged €54.000 to support the anti-personnel mine ban convention's implementation support unit in Geneva (Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining - GICHD) and €100.000 to support the production of handicap International’s Landmine Monitor Report 2008-2011.

3. Research and Development:
Research and development activities are conducted as well at the national as at the international level.

a. National level:
   - The basic research HUDEM(http://www.sic.rma.ac.be/Projects/Hudem/), coordinated by the Royal Military Academy (RMA) and involving the
participation of major university laboratories in Belgium, is funded by the Belgian Ministry of Defence and by the Belgian State Secretariat for Development Aid. The main activities include research on mine detection systems (metal detector, ground penetrating radar, infrared sensor, microwaves radiometer and nuclear quadruple resonance), on data processing and data fusion. Specific research activities also concern the analysis of possible robotic solutions to be applied to humanitarian de-mining. Started in 1997, this project ended 2002. From January 2003, the HUDEM research is continued by the BEMAT project, the aim of which is to predict and evaluate the detection performances in given scenarios of close and remote systems, including robotic aspects. For 2008 the amount allocated to it comes to 243.800 Euro and for 2009 to 137.100 Euro. This project will close at the end of 2009.

- The research project on the use of bio-sensors (rats) in humanitarian de-mining operations, funded by the Belgian State Secretariat for Development Aid and conducted by the NGO APOPO and the University of Antwerp (http://www.apopo.org/), is highlighting very promising solutions in the close-in detection of AP mines. The rats proved to be more powerful than dogs in trials organized in Tanzania. This project started in 1997 is still ongoing. A validation phase in Mozambique is still underway. Support to the APOPO-project: field tests in Mozambique: 230.000 EUR (budget of the Flemish community - Belgium).

- The PARADIS project (A prototype for assisting rational activities in humanitarian de-mining using images from satellites http://www.sic.rma.ac.be/Projects/Paradis/) started in 1998. Initially, this project was funded by the Belgian federal Office for scientific, Technical and Cultural Affairs and the Belgian Ministry of Defense, and conducted by the Royal Military Academy (RMA) with - in the beginning - the participation of the department of Geography (IGEAT) of the Free university of Brussels (ULB). This prototype is highlighting very interesting solutions for the management of humanitarian de-mining operations using satellite images, maps, context information and the IMSMA database and involves key actors including end-users, image analysts and scientists. Now this Project is only funded by the Belgian Ministry of Defense.

Since 2004, it is in a phase of optimizing the developed solutions and to this end has undergone different tests:
- in October 2005: with the help of NGO APOPO, tests have been performed in Mozambique in order to analyze the possibility to integrate the needs of APOPO in the system,
- since November 2005: trials have been conducted in Afghanistan by the Belgian EOD-team in close (internet) collaboration with the SIC laboratory of the RMA,
- in June 2006, further validation tests for some modules have taken place in Belgium in collaboration with EOD personnel.
These amount about 100.000 Euro.
- in 2007, the PARADIS system has been finalized and presented to the end-users at SEDEE-DOVO. Presentations were targeting different levels of users (field officers, planners).

Moreover many functions in the system have been generalized so as to fit the needs of a broader spectrum of users. Maintenance matters have also been evaluated inside Belgian Defense. Data exchange with new standard systems such as EOD IS have been investigated. At the end of the project (Dec 2007) the system was made available to SEDEE-DOVO. Moreover a last field test was conducted with APOPO in Mozambique in order to establish an exhaustive list of end-users requirements. This for an amount of about 80.000 Euro.

In 2008 (Jan to Sep), APOPO has been funding (about 25.000 Euro) the finalization of the adaptation of the system to its specific needs based on the requirements identified in 2007. The system was then successfully installed at APOPO's premises.
b. International level: (voir aussi les autres acteurs impliqués)

- The RMA is supporting the International Test and Evaluation Program (ITEP) by its participation to the executive Committee and to the different working groups, as well as by financing the ITEP secretariat. From 1st September 2004, the ITEP secretariat (http://www.itep.ws) is installed in the premises of the Royal Military Academy in Brussels, Belgium.

- The RMA is chairing the CEN (Centre Européen de Normalisation) initiative to define a new standard on the soil characterisation for electromagnetic mine detection sensors. This project is funded by the European Commission and will last two years. The personnel costs are funded by the Belgian Defence in the scope of the BEMAT project (see above).

- The VUB is involved in the STREAM project (http://stream.etro.vub.ac.be/home.html), funded by the European Commission, on the development of (1) products, and (2) procedures for end-to-end technological platforms and tools for survey and decision support in humanitarian crisis: humanitarian demining and locations of refugee settlements. This project started in 2005 and will last 4 years.

- Two Belgian deminers and a scientist from the Royal Military Academy participated in the tests of the dual sensor detectors organized by Germany under ITEP umbrella (Oberjettenberg, 21 Sep 2009 – 16 Oct 2009).
Form F

Other relevant matters

Article 13 / 4 / f “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

(f) other relevant matters.

Remark:

High Contracting Party BELGIUM reporting for time period from 01.10.2008 to 30.09.2009

Other relevant matters

Since 2003, Belgium organises an EOD course in French and in English to train team leaders of other countries. It should be underlined that one course in each language is organised every year and that there are only a limited number of places available.

For 2008 and 2009, and due to operations in Belgium and abroad, no international students were trained.

Since Sep 2006, BEL contributes to UNIFIL with an Engr/EOD capability. More than 13,000 UXO (cluster Ammo) have been cleared since then.
**Form G**

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

Article 11 para 2 “The High Contracting Parties shall provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations System, especially........on:

- information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance

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**Means and technologies of mine clearance**

For detection purposes, two different man portable detectors are used, the one based on the magnetic principle, the other on dual sensors technique.

Only manual removal and disposal means are applied except for some IED devices where a remotely operated robot can be used during the handling process.

**Lists of experts and experts agencies**

Belgian Ministry of Defence: SEDEE (Service for the removal and destruction of explosive devices)

ComOpsLand 2D (Operational Command Land – Engineers Branch)

**National points of contact on mine clearance**

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