

**EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE
STATES PARTIES TO AMENDED PROTOCOL II
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**

CCW/AP.II/CONF.8/NAR.3
26 October 2006

ENGLISH ONLY

Geneva, 6 November 2006

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

**Consideration of matters arising from
reports by High Contracting Parties
according to paragraph 4 of Article 13
of the Amended Protocol II**

THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA

National annual report

Submitted in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2 of the
Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines,
Booby-Traps and Other Devices
as Amended on 3 May 1996 to the CCW

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 Austria

DATE OF SUBMISSION 28 June 2006

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT Mr. Alexander Kmentt, Minister,
Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Tel: +43/501150/3435, fax +43/501159/3435
e-mail: alexander.kmentt@bmaa.gv.at
(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

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:

High
Contracting reporting for time
Party Austria period from: 1 January 2005 to 31 Dec. 2005

Mine clearance programmes

As indicated previously, Austria is a non-mine-affected country (including mines, booby traps and other devices). Nevertheless discoveries from UXO and APL left from previous wars do occur. In the reporting period, 3 UXO left from World War II were discovered and destroyed.

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.

Form C Technical requirements and relevant information

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

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

Remark:

High
Contracting reporting for time
Party Austria period from: 1 January 2005 to 31 Dec. 2005

Technical requirements

The response given by Austria in its previous five reports covering the period 27th January 1999 to 31st December 2004 also 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.

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 reporting for time
 Party Austria period from: 1 January 2005 to 31 Dec. 2005

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 “Bundesgesetzblatt (BGBl) 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 (“Bundesgesetzblatt 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.

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 Austria reporting for time period from: 1 January 2005 to 31 Dec. 2005

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, mine awareness and mine victims assistance programs/activities of international agencies and organisations or NGO's in the following countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Mozambique (support to NGO demining programme) Sri Lanka. Austria has also contributed to the International Trust Fund (ITF) for demining programmes in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Croatia and has supported a mine-stockpile destruction project in Serbia and Montenegro in the framework of the EU-Atlantic Partnership Council/NATO Partnership for Peace.

International co-operation on technical co-operation and assistance

Austria has continued to provide during this reporting period mine/UXO clearance teams in the framework of UNDOF, KFOR.

Training programmes on mines and UXOs are offered by Austrian military personnel on the Golan Heights (UNDOF) and in Kosovo (KFOR).

Form F Other relevant matters

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

(f) other relevant matters.”

Remark:

High
Contracting reporting for time
Party Austria period from: 1 January 2005 to 31 Dec. 2005

Other relevant matters

Nil.

Form G Information to the UN-database on mine clearance

Article 11, paragraph 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.”

High Contracting Party Austria reporting for time period from: 1 January 2005 to 31 Dec. 2005

Means and technologies of mine clearance

No changes for this reporting period 1st January to 31st December 2005.

Lists of experts and experts 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 75 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, VALLON 1612B, MD 8, Minelab F1A1, Minex FD2.

There are several commercial companies in Austria which are offering services for demining and UXO-clearance operations. For a list see the national points of contact.

National points of contact on mine clearance

Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs
E-mail: alexander.kmentt@bmaa.gv.at

Federal Ministry of Defence
E-mail: milpol2@bmlv.gv.at

Federal Ministry of the Interior:
E-mail: willibald.berenda@bmi.gv.at
