

**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	Ireland
DATE OF SUBMISSION	26 April 2012
NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT	Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Section Department of Foreign Affairs, Tel. +353-1-4082392; Fax +353-1-4082383 (Organization, telephone, fax, email)



**Form B**                      **Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes**

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

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

*Remark:*

High Contracting Party    IRELAND

reporting for time period 1 January 2011 to 31 DECEMBER 2011

from \_\_\_\_\_

Mine clearance programmes

There are no mined areas in Ireland

Rehabilitation programmes

N/A

**Form C**

**Technical requirements and relevant information**

Article 13 para 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 Ireland reporting for time period 1 JANUARY 2011 to 31 DECEMBER 2011  
from \_\_\_\_\_

Technical requirements

As a State Party to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction of 1997 (the Ottawa Convention), Ireland is subject to the general obligation not to produce or possess anti-personnel mines. However, pursuant to Article 3, paragraph 1 of that Convention, “the retention or transfer of a number of anti-personnel mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques is permitted.” *Ireland currently possesses 62 anti-personnel mines (blast mines) for these purposes.*

Defence Force manuals have been amended to take account of the technical requirements of the Amended Protocol II, and all of the mines retained conform fully with the technical requirements of Amended Protocol II.

No anti-personnel mine production facilities exist in Ireland.

Any other relevant information

The Army Corps of Engineers used 2 mines in training during this reporting period.

**Form D**

**Legislation**

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

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;

*Remark:*

High Contracting Party IRELAND reporting for time period from 1 JANUARY 2011 to 31 DECEMBER 2011

Legislation

There have been no legislative developments since Ireland furnished its last annual report.



**Other relevant matters**

**Form F**

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

(f) other relevant matters.

*Remark:*

High Contracting Party IRELAND reporting for time period from 1 JANUARY 2011 to 31 DECEMBER 2011

Other relevant matters

Ireland was one of the first states to ratify the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction in December 1997. Under the terms of that Convention, only a minimal stock is retained for the purposes of training and research in mine clearance techniques. Defence Force Tactical Doctrine has been amended to prohibit the use of anti-personnel mines.

**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

High Contracting Party    IRELAND                      reporting for time period from    1 JANUARY 2011              to              31 DECEMBER 2011

<u>Means and technologies of mine clearance</u>
<u>Lists of experts and experts agencies</u> The Irish Defence Forces represent the only expertise on mine clearance in Ireland. Contact can be made through the point of contact identified on page 1.
<u>National points of contact on mine clearance</u> The Irish Defence Forces represent the only expertise on mine clearance in Ireland. Contact can be made through the point of contact identified on Page 1.

## **EMERGENCY AND REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE**

### **MINE ACTION**

One of the largest impediments to rehabilitation and development in post-conflict society is the presence of landmines and explosive remnants of war. Since 1994, Ireland, through its overseas development aid programme, has been involved in funding humanitarian mine clearance operations, as well as providing support for rehabilitation programmes for mine victims and mine awareness campaigns in affected countries.

The mine action programmes supported through the overseas development programme are primarily determined by their relevance to the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance in terms of disaster relief and recovery in the field. This relevance is an essential criterion for mine action funding from these funds. Nonetheless, such mine action support in the humanitarian context is entirely consistent with Article 6 of the APLC, which commits each State party to:

- (a) provide assistance for the care, rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims and for mine awareness programmes and,
- (b) provide assistance for mine clearance and related activities.

From 2005-2011 Ireland contributed over €24.4 million to mine action. Over €18.8 million of this has been spent on mine clearance projects in Afghanistan, Somalia, Angola, Iraq, Lebanon, Mozambique, Lao PDR, and Cambodia. Other funding was allocated for victim assistance, advocacy, mine risk education and stockpile destruction.

In the period covered by this annual return, 1 January 2011 -31 December 2011 , a total of €2,800,000 has been assigned to Halo Trust for integrated mine clearance in, respectively, Somalia (€600,000), Afghanistan (€800,000), and Cambodia (€500,000). €400,000 was allocated to Mines Advisory Group for clearance activities in Iraq, with a further €500,000 to UNDP for such activities in Laos.

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In November and December 2011 a Team comprising two experts from the Irish Defence Forces and an independent consultant conducted a review of Irish aid funded mine action programmes in Cambodia, Lao and Vietnam. The report was finalised in February 2012 and is available to interested parties through national Point of Contact above.

Ireland remains committed to providing appropriate mine action support within the framework of its humanitarian interventions, being mindful of whether such support is under threat from the potential resumption of conflict or re-mining, as well as whether states in which support action may be considered are States Parties to the APLC.

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