Summary Reporting Format for Article 13 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2, pursuant to the decision of the Fifth Annual Conference of the States Parties to CCW Amended Protocol II as stipulated in paragraph 20 of its Final Document, CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/2

NAME OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: POLAND

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 30.03.2015

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This information can be available to other interested parties and relevant organizations:

☒ YES
☐ NO
AMENDED PROTOCOL II

Reporting for time period
from: 01/01/2014 to: 31/12/2014

Form A: Dissemination of information:
☑ changed
☐ unchanged
(last reporting year: )

Form B: Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes:
☐ changed
☑ unchanged
(last reporting year: 2003)

Form C: Technical requirements and relevant information:
☐ changed
☑ unchanged
(last reporting year: 2003)

Form D: Legislation:
☐ changed
☑ unchanged
(last reporting year: 2003)

Form E: International technical information exchange, co-operation on mine clearance, technical co-operation and assistance:
☑ changed
☐ unchanged
(last reporting year: )

Form F: Other relevant matters:
☐ changed
☑ unchanged
(last reporting year: 2003)

Form G: Information to the UN-database on mine clearance:
☐ changed
☑ unchanged
(last reporting year: 2003)
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

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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 ☐

CONVENTION ON CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS
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:  
POLAND

Reporting for time period
from: 01/01/2014 to: 31/12/2014

dd/mm/yyyy  dd/mm/yyyy

INFORMATION TO THE ARMED FORCES:

All soldiers of the Polish Armed Forces are instructed in the international humanitarian law including the rules set by the CCW Protocols. The relevant information is disseminated to them in the framework of:
- Military Academies and Officer’s Schools curriculums for professional officer candidates and courses dedicated specifically for military commanders and legal advisors - by law scholars;
- training centers of all armed services for warrant officers and non-commissioned officers;
- the routin process of improving professional qualifications of military personnel conducted by superiors and legal advisors in all military units;
- military exercises which require taking into account specific rules of the IHL norms and regulations;

Moreover training in international law of armed conflicts and protection of cultural heritage is an important element of the preparation process of the personnel for the peacekeeping and stabilization missions. All mission members are obliged to attend such training before being sent abroad.

INFORMATION TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION:

The Center for the Dissemination of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) under the auspices of the Main Board of the Polish Red Cross (PRC), which operates from 1977 is tasked with the dissemination of information on IHL and mission of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The Center is running the largest IHL Library (over 5 thousand volumes) which contains a special section on conventional weapons regulations. The library is available to students
and post-graduates in law, political sciences, and international relations, as well as secondary school students and PRC workers and volunteers from across the country. During 2014, the PRC Center for the Dissemination of IHL organized a number of seminars, meetings and lectures devoted to international humanitarian law. Most of them were on topics which focused on legal aspects of landmines (including II Protocol to CCW). It is worth mentioning a few of the most important ones:

- XVIII Polish School of International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict in Radziejowice – an annual 4-day course for law and international relations students from civil and military universities, representatives of the Armed Forces, the Police, the Border Guard, the State Fire Service, Red Cross workers and volunteers. Lectures were given by experts on IHL from major polish Universities and Armed Forces. One evening session of the course was devoted to the issue of landmines in Poland;
- lectures on means and methods of warfare during IHL courses for armed forces organized by National Defence Academy – several times during 2014;
- lecture by a PRC representative during the CIMIC course in Military Training Center for Foreign Operations in Kielce;
- continuation of a e-learnig course “We discover humanitarian law” targeted at teachers of basic and secondary schools; the project started on the 15th Sep 2013;
- organization of the annual Professor Remigiusz Bierzanek Competition for the best Ph.D., MA and BA thesis in humanitarian law and human rights and knowledge about the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (seventeen editions of the competition have been held to date);
- coordination of the activities of the Commission for the Protection of the Emblem and related actions, including assessment of applications for use of the emblem and interventions in the event of misuse on a national scale;
- coordination of the activities of the Commission for the Protection of the Emblem and related actions, including initiatives on promotion and dissemination of IHL, networking and knowledge sharing and publication and promotion of books.
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:  
POLAND

Reporting for time period  
from:  

\[01/01/2014\]  

to:  

\[31/12/2014\]

INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE:

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON MINE CLEARANCE:

In 2014 the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs continued its support in the area of development cooperation to Laos providing assistance in ERW and mine-affected areas. A total of 17.550,00 USD was donated to support education efforts - community awareness - within the scope of UXO National Program (UXO Lao).

At the reporting period Poland contributed to the alleviation of humanitarian problem caused by landmines, unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other explosive remnants of war. Particularly, the Polish Engineering Forces personnel being engaged in stabilizing missions in Afghanistan and Mali, executed tasks for the benefit of local populations - additionally to their mandatory tasks. These activities among others included: removal and destruction of mines, UXO and other explosive remnants of war (in cases of emergency), as well as providing warning and risk education to the local communities.

At total of 48 Polish deminers were directly involved in demining and clearing activities in missions abroad. They identified and destroyed the following amounts of dangerous items: Under the auspices of EU — EUTM Mali:

- 16 pcs of artillery and mortar munitions;
- 14 pcs of hand and anti-tank grenades;
- 4 pcs of unexploded ordnance;
- 41 pcs of various types of munitions.

Under the auspices of NATO — ISAF Afghanistan:
- 2 pcs of air bombs;
- 501 pcs of artillery and mortar munitions;
- 946 pcs of hand and anti-tank grenades;
- 17,909 pcs of various types of munitions;
- 44 pcs of elements of EOD;
- 1,456 kg of explosives.

The Polish Engineering Forces personnel have not organized any training specifically directed to local population, but CIMIC (Civil – Military Cooperation) teams, MAT and PAT (Military and Police Advisory Teams) executing their mandatory tasks permanently conducted awareness training for the local population on the ERW threat.

The total cost of the above mentioned activities has been estimated to be about 105,000 Euro.