

**PROTOCOL ON PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION OF  
THE USE OF MINES, BOOBY-TRAPS AND OTHER DEVICES  
AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996  
ANNEXED TO THE CONVENTION ON PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION  
OF 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 Format according to Article 13 para 4 and Article 11 para 2.

NAME OF HIGH  
CONTRACTING PARTY

**THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

DATE OF SUBMISSION

**30/09/2007**

NATIONAL POINTS OF  
CONTACT

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**This information can be made available to all interested parties and entities:**

**YES**

**NO**

**The following forms, only partially:**

A  B  C  D  E  F  G

## Summary sheet

(Pursuant to the decision of the Fifth Annual Conference of the States Parties to CCW Amended Protocol II as stipulated in paragraph 20 of the Final Report, CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/2)

REPORTING PERIOD: 31/08/2006 to 31/08/2007

Form A: **Dissemination of information:**

**changed**  
 **unchanged**

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

**changed**  
 **unchanged**

Form C: **Technical requirements and relevant information:**

**changed**  
 **unchanged**

Form D: **Legislation:**

**changed**  
 **unchanged**

Form E: **International technical information exchange, co-operation on mine clearance, technical co-operation and assistance:**

**changed**  
 **unchanged**

Form F: **Other relevant matters:**

**changed**  
 **unchanged**

Form G: **Information to the UN-database on mine clearance:**

**changed**  
 **unchanged**

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

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

(b) Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;"

### ***Remark:***

High Contracting Party: **the Republic of Croatia**

reporting for **31/08/2006 to 31/08/2007**  
time period from

### **Mine clearance program**

In 2006, the revision of National Mine Action Program that was passed in October 2000 by the Croatian Parliament proceeded with the financial matters recognized as a main precondition for its fulfillment. According to the new Humanitarian Demining Law that entered into force on January 5, 2006, the Three-year Demining Plan has to be done.

Croatian Government approves the Annual humanitarian demining plan and Annual report on execution that also has to be adopted by the Croatian Parliament. Mine clearance activities in the Republic of Croatia coordinated by Croatian Mine Action Centre (HCR) that was established by the Croatian Government on 19<sup>th</sup> February 1998 with the basic task of coordinating the execution of mine action in the Republic of Croatia.

The mine suspected area on Croatian territory is estimated at 997 km<sup>2</sup>, where the priorities still remain agricultural areas, houses and house yards, infrastructural objects, meadows and pastures.

According to the 2007 Annual demining plan, it is planned to return for the safe usage the area of 29,3 km<sup>2</sup> using the mine clearance and mine searching methods. From September 01, 2006 to August 31, 2007, humanitarian-demining activities enabled the realization of 248 projects of mine clearance and mine searching on the area that amounts to 25.913.062 m<sup>2</sup>. During the execution of these projects, 3.175 mines (1712 AP and 1.463 AV) and 2.809 pieces of UXO's were found and destroyed

## Rehabilitation programs

### Mine/UXO risk education

Within the borders of mine suspected area, 7 mine incidents occurred in the period from 1 September 2006 to 31 August 2007, with 9 victims of which 3 were lightly injured, 3 were seriously injured and 3 died.

During the above-mentioned period, a program of mine/UXO risk education, as well as providing assistance to mine victims was conducted by non-government associations and international organizations such as: Croatian Red Cross, International Red Cross Committee, Croatian Mine Victims Association, the Association of Civil Victims of Homeland War, Recobot foundation, NPA and Association Bembo. Educational activities were joined by the Regional Center for Assistance and Disaster Relief with its project called "Children for safer world" in order to include knowledge on management of disaster and crisis situation (like mine incident) into school curriculum. Croatian Red Cross organized several activities in the area of 14 counties, in 49 municipal associations. It provided lectures for children and adults in 25 associations of Croatian Red Cross, organized school meetings, exhibitions and workshops for school children called "PAZI NE GAZI" (Don't touch mines). 9 playgrounds were built for children in mine surrounded areas. Media campaign is also very active with several educational activities and projects, for example TV and radio spots broadcasted for free, in order to additionally educate population about mine danger and strengthen general awareness of the danger. This was organized in the month of April during the CROMAC traditional educative campaign "April – Month of Mine Risk Protection".

Croatian Mine Victims Association also provides educational program to prevent incidents. It has organized educational performance for children "Bembo and Friends" in cooperation with the association Bembo and NPA for 3 years. 3000 children have visited the performance so far. An educational picture book and musical CD accompanied the performance. On April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007, The International Mine Awareness Day was celebrated in Croatia. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, CROMAC, Croatian Red Cross, Croatian Mine Victims Association, Norwegian People's Aid and Association Bembo organized the celebration.

### Providing assistance to mine victims

Croatian Mine Action Centre and Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a government sector and Croatian Association of Mine Victims together with several organizations (Croatian Red Cross, Norwegian Peoples Aid, Bembo Association, Association of Civil Victims of Homeland War, Mine Aid) as a non-government sector, provide individual support and perform collective programs in order to enable mine victims for further work and life.

### **Individual assistance**

Disabled persons in Croatia gain their rights based on 207 Acts and Sub-acts. Croatian Parliament passed the amendment of the Law on the Rights of Croatian Defenders and their Family Members. It was published in Official journal NN No. 147/04. Amendment of the Law on Civil Victims of War is being prepared. The civilians gain their rights based on the current Law from 1997. In February 2005, the Parliament passed the Law on Employment and Professional Rehabilitation (NN No. 33/05 of 14 March, 2005). It covers the way and procedure of retraining and employment of disabled persons.

Fund for professional rehabilitation and employment of persons with disability was established in December 2005 motivating companies and company owners to employ disabled persons or motivate these persons to get self-employed using financial assistance from the State

Budget. The Law on pro bono Legal Assistance from 2005 is regulating assistance to persons not able to afford engaging a lawyer in court or administrative matters due to poor material and economic status which most of civil victims of war have. In the beginning of 2006 the new Law on Demining was passed enabling deminers to gain invalidity and pension rights related to their profession and defining the rights to which deminers, their families and other participants in demining process are entitled in case of injury or inability to work as a result of demining operations. In March 2006, the National Plan of Activities for Regulating Children Rights and Interests 2006-2012 for children with special needs were passed; it entails a needs assessment to enable the development of support programs.

Regional commissioners of the Croatian Mine Victims Association provide psychological assistance. The commissioners introduce them with their rights and procedures of achieving the status, and provide them with single financial aid. A team of experts for legal issues has been established in CMVA in order to solve contentious issues, status and legal rights of mine victims (civilians, pyrotechnics, defenders).

The Ministry of Family, Veterans' Affairs and Integration Solidarity opened the centers for psychosocial support in each of 21 counties; they offer psychological support to all persons with disabilities, including mine victims and members of their families.

Additional payment for more qualitative orthopedic prosthesis is the most usual way of providing individual support to mine victims. About 10 people per year ask for financial aid in the procurement of orthopedic prosthesis (additional payment amounts to 7.000,00 – 50.000,00 kunas). Young people are trained to become prosthetics. There are several activities like the procurement of small agricultural machines to establish a farm, as well as the procurement of computers, schoolbooks and equipment, furniture, visiting the victims at their homes and rehabilitation centers, covering rehabilitation and attendants' costs.

### **Collective programs of rehabilitation and re-integration**

The most significant and comprehensive project, organized by the Croatian Mine victims Association, Croatian Mine Action Centre and Ministry of the Interior, is the updating of database and collecting data about new victims. CMVA has a complete database of 2198 landmines and UXO victims in database, and 1.000 of them area CMVA members. Database of the children mine victims and children whose parents are mine victims is also being made.

As a part of psychosocial rehabilitation for young mine victims, workshops have been organized during the summer in Rovinj since 2000. 53 children and young people from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina attended the workshop in 2007. Not only rehabilitation, but also educational program is provided – music, video, photo, art, and sports workshops. When they return to everyday life, children and young people use the acquired knowledge and even find a job.

Due to the fact that 15-20% of the victims are children and young people, the lack of systematic programs of psycho-social rehabilitation, the lack of the Centre for psycho-social rehabilitation somewhere in the world, a project of Regional Centre DUGA is being established by PhD Ms. Dijana Pleština, CMVA and Centre for Crisis. This Regional Centre will provide psychosocial rehabilitation to children and young people from Croatia, the region and outside the region all through the year. Thanks to several foreign and domestic donors, funds for the reconstruction and equipping of the building have been collected.

## Form C

## Technical requirements and relevant information

Article 13/4/c "The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to Depository ..... on:

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

### *Remark:*

High Contracting Party: **the Republic of Croatia**

reporting for **31/08/2006 to 31/08/2007**  
time period from

### Technical requirements

#### **1). Records**

- a) Croatian Mine Action Centre received the minefields and mined areas plans from Croatian military, and from the opposite part through UNPROFOR, which constituted a database, which did not cover all minefields. The Centre obtains the rest from technical reconnaissance.
- b) Mines in the territory of the Republic of Croatia were not laid remotely.
- c) Copies of minefield records were handed over to Mine Action Centre, and the originals are kept in military archives.
- d) No mines have been laid since 1995.

#### **2) Specifications related to detecting possibility-**

- a) The Republic of Croatia did not produce anti-personnel mines before and after January 1, 1997.
- b) The mines used in Homeland War had been produced in installations of former Yugoslavia (mostly in today's Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia). Anti-magnetic (anti-personnel) mines 1, 2 and 3 were not accorded with technical request of detecting possibility, and defragmented anti-personnel mines 2A and 3, while antipersonnel defragmented bouncing mine had steel body, thereby fully complying with the request stated in the para 2 (a) of the Technical Annex.

#### **3. Specifications related to self-destruction and self-disabling**

The equipment and weapons of the Croatian Armed Forces contain no remotely laid anti-personnel mines, and they were not used at all in Croatia during the Homeland War.

#### **4. International signs of minefields and mined areas**

Minefields are marked with generally adopted marks.

### All other relevant information

Croatia has destroyed all stockpiles of anti-personnel mines and retained 7,000 anti-personnel mines according to Article 3 of Ottawa Convention. Now, it has 6179 pieces for outlined purposes.

Mines, which are detected in the minefields, are destroyed immediately or after taking them out.

**Form E**                      **International technical information exchange, co-operation on mine clearance, technical co-operation and assistance**

Article 13/4/e "The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to Depositary ..... on:

(e) Measures taken on international technical information exchange, on international co-operation on mine clearance, and on technical co-operation and assistance;"

***Remark:***

High Contracting Party **the Republic of Croatia** reporting for **31/08/2006 to 31/08/2007**  
time period from

International technical information exchange

Based on the Agreement on the transfer of tasks, Article 2, signed between the Croatian Mine Action Centre and CROMAC- Center for Testing, Development and Training (CTDT) on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2003, CROMAC-CTDT took over the activities and projects focused on performing administrative and technical tasks related to testing of demining machines, mine detection dogs and metal detectors, as well as scientific and research activities.

International technical information exchange

- CROMAC and CTDT participated in International workshop „Sistems and tools for Explosives and UXO detection“ organized by German Company “Vallon” during September 2006
- CROMAC - CTDT Director actively participates in work of SEEMACC
- CROMAC and CTDT participated in a workshop “Reliability testing of demining” organized by German National institute for Research and Development in Berlin during January, 2007
- CROMAC and CTDT participated in WS 28 and 29 about procedures of detection after machine demining during January, April and July 2007
- CTDT in cooperation with CROMAC organized 4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium “Humanitarian Demining 2007”- “Machine demining”

Cooperation with Danish company “Aresa”

CROMAC-CTDT starting in October 2006 gave temporary concession for use of the Cerovac testing area to Danish company Aresa for testing of bio-technology detection

25 September – 13 October 2006 metal detector testing as conducted “STEMD project” for SE Europe

16 – 22 October 2006 on Benkovac Testing Site, German Institute Fraunhofer and University of Rostock conducted scanner testing in the framework of Humanitarian Demining Project.

On Cerovac testing site to International machine testing project (MV-10 and Mine Wolf) were conducted with in “ITEP work plan” during September 2006

8 August the ITEP Project STEMMD (Systematic Test and Evaluation of Metal Detectors) started, as part of the ITEP Project 2.1.2.3 for South East Europe. The testing will be conducted by BAM with assistance of HCR-CTRO. The mines that will be used for testing were buried in August, and the trial will begin on 25 September and will be concluded on 13 October. The goal of the trial is to assist demining companies and national mine action centers to choose the most suitable detectors on the basis of results, and to encourage metal detectors users to give feedback on the CEN Workshop Agreement on standardized metal detectors testing (CWA 14747). The trial will include the most used detectors in the region, as well as the latest models on the market. In cooperation with CROMAC, HCR-CTRO has organized the third International Symposium „Humanitarian Demining 2006“, held from 24 to 27 April 2007 in Sibenik. The main topic was “Machine Demining”.

#### International co-operation on mine clearance

The international cooperation on mine clearance of the Republic of Croatia during the above mentioned period was performed thanks to the donors' contributions from different countries, organizations and individuals.

The European Union, the United States of America and the Kingdom of Norway had the biggest share in financing humanitarian demining activities. Demining projects from the donation of the Government of the USA are implemented through International Trust Fund for Humanitarian Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF) as well as the donation from NGO Adopt-A-Minefield and Austrian Development Agency (ADA). Norwegian donation is implemented through NGO-Norwegian Peoples Aid, that performs humanitarian demining activities on the areas of 3 Croatian counties (Zadar, Brod-Posavina and Vukovar-Srijem). Norwegian Government also donated equipment and knowledge for the realization of Scan Center project (phase I and II) and this project amounts to 2,6 million Euro.

Instalment of SCAN centre enabled high quality and speed of scanning all the records from the sketches and maps as well as increased the possibility of creating basic geospatial digital data on the positions of mines, minefields and combat activity lines with higher precision.

The Governments of Germany, France, Luxemburg, Royal Belgium and Monaco have financed mine clearance projects. The donation of the FR of Germany was implemented through Arbeiter Samariters Bund (ASB) within the Stability Pact program and the projects were realized in Osijek-Baranja, Sisak-Moslavina, Lika-Senj, Karlovac and Šibenik-Knin County.

Other donations are from different NGO's like Rotary clubs (especially RC Wien Nord Ost from Austria), Roots of Peace and Recobot Foundation.

#### Technical co-operation and assistance

During the time period from September 01, 2006 to August 31, 2007, CROMAC's technical cooperation consisted of the exchange of experience and participation on symposiums.

The Croatian Mine Action Centre actively participated at the meetings of directors of national mine action centres from all over the world and the symposium “Connecting demining with development” held in Geneva where the demining extension period was discussed in accordance with article 5 of Ottawa Convention but also in the work of standing committees of the Ottawa Convention state parties in Brussels.

CROMAC and CROMAC-Centre for Testing, Development and Training Ltd. were the organizers of Forth International Symposium «Humanitarian demining 2007» in Šibenik entitled “Machine Demining”.

Croatian Mine Action Centre has continued its successful activities within the Southeastern Europe Mine Action Coordination Council (SEEMACC) via experience and knowledge exchange with other national mine action centers in the Southeastern Europe region.



**Form F**                      **Other relevant matters**

Article 13/4/f "The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to Depository ..... on:

(f) Other relevant matters;"

***Remark:***

High Contracting Party the **Republic of Croatia** reporting for                      **31/08/2006 to 31/08/2007**

time period from

Other relevant matters

Mine clearance activities in the Republic of Croatia are regulated by the Mine clearance Act (NN No.19/96) and the Law on Mine clearance Amendments (NN No. 86/98 and No. 64/00). The authority for mine clearance activities in Croatian Armed Forces is given to Mine clearance Battalion of the Engineering Brigade. Its task is to clear of mines military facilities that were neglected by the Armed Forces units due to humanitarian mine clearance that had, up to 1996, been conducted by units of the Croatian Armed Forces. Another task of the mine clearance battalion is to prepare a mine clearance platoon for mine clearance in PfP program that will be completed by the end of 2003.

All pyrotechnics engaged in mine clearance have passed the training for performing humanitarian mine clearance activities. They also have life insurance.

The mine clearance battalion keeps database on mined military facilities for the entire Croatian Armed Forced.

From August 31, 2006 to August 31, 2007, the area of 506.400 square meters of military facilities was cleared of mines; 298 AP mines and 13.108 pieces of UXO's were found and destroyed.

## Form G

## Information to the UN-database on mine clearance

Article 13/4/g "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 list of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance;"

High Contracting Party **the Republic of Croatia** reporting for **31/08/2006 to 31/08/2007**  
time period from

### Means and technologies of mine clearance

Mine clearance capacities include a complete equipment of 28 demining companies that are authorized by Croatian Ministry of Interior to perform mine clearance and mine search activities. They also need to have accreditation from Croatian Mine Action Centre to perform such actions. The firms have 870 employees in all operational units: 568 deminers, 70 auxiliary workers and 28 medical teams that consist of doctors, medical technicians and drivers with medical vehicles.

All the employees that work in mine clearance are wearing protective equipment that consists of flack jacket with protection for groins and helmets with visors. For special cases of UXO demolition, companies use ballistic suits. Following equipment is in usage for humanitarian demining activities: 708 metal detectors, 45 mine clearance machines including all types (medium, light and heavy), excavators, machines for vegetation clearing and 78 mine detection dogs.

In Croatia, mine clearance actions are mostly performed as a combination of mechanical demining using demining machines, manual detection and mine-searching dogs. Croatian Mine Action Centre Standard operating procedures also prescribe the entire methodology of humanitarian demining activities. Frequent use of demining machines puts Croatia among the leading states with industrial mine clearance.

### List of experts and expert agencies

Mine clearance experts are employed in various institutions, which deal with anti-mining issue.

HCR (Croatian Mine Action Centre):

- Oto Jungwirth – Director, Mirko Ivanušić – Deputy Director
- Nikola Gambiroža – standardization, standard operating procedures, Demining Machines Evaluation Committee
- Tomislav Ban – quality insurance and quality control
- Davor Laura – general survey, making of projects, mine situation databse
- Miljenko Vahtarić – planning, analysis and finances
- Neven Karas – legislative issues
- Heads of CROMAC Regional offices (Damir Stojković, Ivan Čikara, Dubravko Krušarovski) – operational performance

CROMAC Scientific Committee – includes 36 members: members of academy, persons with doctoral degrees, and other experts. The heads of actual projects are:

- D.Sc. Milan Bajić
- M.Sc. Hrvoje Babić
- M.Sc. Mile Baće
- M.Sc. Tomislav Bašić
- D.Sc. Vladimir Knapp
- D.Sc. Hrvoje Gold
- D.Sc. Mario Bauer
- M.Sc. Matko Bogunović
- M.Sc. Teodor Fiedler
- M.Sc. Marin Hraste
- M.Sc. Nenad Javornik
- M.Sc. Božidar Javorović
- M.Sc. Stjepan Ječić
- M.Sc. Krešimir Jelić
- M.Sc. Boris Kamenar,
- M.Sc. Vladimir Knapp
- M.Sc. Vladimir Koroman
- Željko Kučan,
- D.Sc. Nikola Kezić
- M.Sc. Vjera Krstelj
- M.Sc. Sven Lončarić,
- D.Sc. Dario Matika
- M.Sc. Nedjeljko Perić
- D.Sc. Dinko Mikuliž, Head of Scientific Council
- D.Sc. Dijana Pleština
- M.Sc. Stanislav Sever
- M.Sc. Branko Somek
- M.Sc. Vladimir Srb
- M.Sc. Petar Strohal
- M.Sc. Ivo Šlaus,
- M.Sc. Stjepan Udović
- M.Sc. Ozren Žunec
- M.Sc. Davor Antonić,
- M.Sc. Jakša Topić
- M.Sc. Nenad Gućunski
- M.Sc. Stjepko Šesnić
- M.Sc. Branko Tomazić

CTRO (Centre for Testing, Development and Education) –took over testing and evaluation activities for demining machines and dogs from CROMAC. CTRO Director is M. Sc. Nikola Pavković with associates: M. Sc. Ivan Šteker and M.Sc. Želimir Šarić

Slavko Majetić, owner of the firm DOK-ING, Ltd., is an expert for construction and production of mine clearance machines MV-4, MV-10, MV-20. Another Croatian company, Đuro Đaković, is also involved in construction and production of demining machines RM-KA 02.

There is one state owned demining company, one non-government organization (NPA - Norwegian Peoples Aid) and other demining companies are privately owned. There are 28 commercial companies that are authorized by the Ministry of the Interior and they regularly apply for public tenders for mine clearance and mine searching projects:

- **MUNGOS, Ltd.** (state owned)
- **NPA** (NGO Norwegian Peoples Aid)
- **AVANGARD Ltd.**
- **CENTURION Ltd.**
- **CONSENSUS Ltd.**
- **DEMIN-KA Ltd.**
- **DETEKTOR Ltd.**
- **DOK-ING Ltd.**
- **DOK-ING Demining Ltd.**
- **ENIGMA Ltd.**
- **HEKSOGEN Ltd.**
- **ISTRAŽIVAČ Ltd.**
- **I.T.P. ATLANTA Ltd.**
- **L.M.B.S. Ltd.**
- **MKA DEMING Ltd.**
- **MUSTELA Ltd.**
- **NITRO Ltd.**
- **PIPER Ltd.**
- **PIROS Ltd.**
- **REASEURO WORLDWIDE Ltd.**
- **RUMITAL Ltd.**
- **SCANJACK Ltd.**
- **TERRAFIRMA Ltd.**
- **TEHNOELEKTRO Ltd.**
- **TORNADO Ltd.**
- **TITAN Ltd.**
- **TIM LIDER Ltd.**
- **UXB BALKANS Ltd**

National points of contact on mine clearance

- Prime Minister – Ivo Sanader
- Head of CROMAC Council and prime minister's advisor for demining, Đuro Brodarac
- Advisor for mine action at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, –  
M.Sc. Dijana Pleština
- Head of CROMAC Oto Jungwirth

Other points of contact:

- Head of CROMAC Scientific Council, M.Sc. Nikola Kezić;
- Head of the Centre for Testing, Development and Training (HCR-CTRO) – Nikola Pavković;