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PERMANENT MISSION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF
ARMENIA TO THE OSCE

D-2207/027/2022

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Armenia to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe presents its compliments to all Permanent Delegations and Missions to the OSCE and to the OSCE Conflict Prevention Center, and has the honour to submit the reply of the Republic of Armenia to the OSCE Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Mines.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Armenia to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Permanent Delegations and Missions to the OSCE and to the OSCE Conflict Prevention Center the assurances of its highest consideration. *A.V.*



Vienna, 30 May 2022

To all Permanent Delegations and Missions to the OSCE
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OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

Part I

- 1. Is your country a State Party to the 1996 Amended Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices annexed to the 1980 Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW)?**

The Republic of Armenia is not a State Party to the the 1996 Amended Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices annexed to the 1980 Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW).

Azerbaijan continues its encroachments on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Armenia since May 12 2021, in blatant violation of the basic principles of international law, including the UN Charter, threatening regional peace, security and stability. Current security situation does not create conducive environment for Armenia to consider joining the Convention.

- 2. Please attach the most recent annual report submitted by your country in accordance with Article 13 of the Amended Protocol or give the appropriate electronic address for the report.**

N/A

If no:

- 3. Is your country considering ratification/accession to the Amended Protocol II?**

No.

- 4. What measures have been taken to prevent the indiscriminate use of mines, booby-traps and other devices?**

There are clear regulations and guidelines which largely exclude the indiscriminate use of mines, booby-traps and other devices.

- 5. Would your country be interested in receiving assistance related to the implementation of this Protocol? If so, please describe.**

The Republic of Armenia is interested in expanding demining capabilities and modernizing existing capacities.

6. Does your country have the capacity to assist others related to this Protocol? If so, please describe.

The Republic of Armenia is ready to assist other countries in demining activities within the limits of the capacities of the engineering divisions of its Armed Forces.

The capacity in the field of humanitarian demining, detection and disposal of improvised explosive devices are limited, but the sapper units of the Armed Forces are ready to provide assistance to the extent possible.

Part II

7. Has your country ratified or acceded to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction?

No. However, in the spirit of transparency and confidence building Armenia on the voluntary basis provides annual information on anti-personnel landmines to the UN and the OSCE.

8. (a) If yes, please attach the most recent report submitted by your country in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention or give the appropriate electronic address for the report.

(b) If no, is your country considering ratification/accession to the Convention?

(c) Has your country adopted legislation to address the humanitarian objectives of the convention, or taken any specific measures regarding the use, production, storage, transfer and destruction of anti-personnel landmines? In case a moratorium has been introduced, what is its scope and duration and when was it introduced?

(c) National standards of mine action have been defined by the Government Decree No. 454-N, dated April 23, 2014. In case of existence proper grounds for accession to the Convention, relevant legal acts will be elaborated within the framework of national legislation.

9. Does your country have any specific measures in place to provide assistance to victims?

The National Center for Humanitarian Demining and Expertise of Armenia together with the ICRC jointly elaborates strategy of assistance to mine victims.

The victims are under the protection of the Government. They receive financial assistance, stationary medical and rehabilitation treatment. Medical treatment of victims, as well as financing of prosthetic care are also ensured by the Government.

The National Centre for Humanitarian Demining and Expertise implements projects on provision of legal assistance to mine victims, their inclusion in social programmes and their professional training. The Centre also seeks donor assistance

10. Does your country require assistance in mine clearance, stockpile destruction, mine awareness and/or victim assistance? If so, please describe.

"Center for Humanitarian Demining and Expertise" SNCO was established in Armenia with the US support in 2011. Armenia needs to expand its technical capacities in the field of demining. The following will be useful assistance for modernizing its demining devices, in particular demining robots, armoured equipment, modern mine-detectors and equipment, systems of electronic destruction of improvised explosive devices of remote control and protective uniform which will reduce the risk of explosion while defusing mines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices.

Also, additional financial assistance to raise the awareness about the mine damages as well as to support the victims thereof will be useful. It will also help to ensure protection and security for war-torn population.

11. Does your country have the capacity to assist others in mine action? If so, please describe.

Taking into account the humanitarian nature of the problem, Armenia expresses its readiness to assist in the demining operations of other States within the limits of its current capacities. To this end Armenia is currently carrying out demining operations in the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic.

OSCE Questionnaire and Answers about Explosive Remnants of War (ERW)

1. Has your country notified the Depositary of its consent to be bound by the 2003 CCW Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) once it enters into force? Is your country considering doing so?

Armenia has not yet ratified the Convention on Conventional Weapons.

The Republic of Armenia is not a party to 2003 CCW Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War (ERW).

2. 2. If yes, at what stage is the process?

N/A

3. Would your country be interested in receiving assistance in clearing or otherwise minimizing the risks and effects of ERW? If so, please describe.

In order to clear or otherwise minimize the risks and effects of ERW, the sapper units of the RA Armed Forces, together with the "Humanitarian Demining and Expertise Center" SNCO, carries out demining works throughout Armenia.

At present, our country does not need assistance in demining or reducing the risks and consequences of Explosive remnants of war.

4. Does your country have the capacity to assist others in clearing and minimizing the risks and effects of ERW? If so, please describe.

Taking into account the humanitarian nature of the problem, Armenia expresses its readiness to provide assistance to other countries to the extent possible.

Currently Armenian demining specialists are engaged in providing humanitarian demining assistance to conflict affected population in Syria, in line with the UN GA Resolution A/RES/46/182 and in response to priority needs, identified by the 2018 Syria Arab Republic Humanitarian Response Plan. The humanitarian assistance mission aims at supporting removal of ERW as a life-saving action to contribute to the safety of civilians, including conflict affected Armenian communities, to raise their mine awareness and to improve their livelihood and the access to basic needs and services, as well as to enable reconstruction efforts.