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ENGLISH only



***Permanent Mission of the Republic of Serbia
to the OSCE and other International Organizations in Vienna***

No. 633/19 PSO702/VIII-1a

Note Verbale

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Serbia to the OSCE and other International Organizations presents its compliments to Missions and Delegations to the OSCE and to the Conflict Prevention Centre, and in accordance with the Decision 7/04 of the Forum for Security Cooperation, has the honor to transmit herewith the reply to the OSCE Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Mines and Explosive Remnants of the War.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Serbia to the OSCE and other International Organizations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Missions, Delegations to the OSCE and the Conflict Prevention Centre the assurances of its highest consideration.



Vienna, 23 May 2019

Delegations/Permanent Missions to the OSCE
The Conflict Prevention Centre
Vienna

O S C E
Questionnaire on Explosive Remnants of War
Answers of the Republic of Serbia for 2018

1. Has your country notified the Depository 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?

Accession of the Republic of Serbia to the 2003 CCW Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War is still under consideration.

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

-

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

a) The Republic of Serbia is interested in eliminating from its territory all unexploded remnants of war and ordnance dispersed as a result of an emergency.

The International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF) has accepted the proposal submitted by the Mine Action Centre to organise in the Republic of Serbia a Basic course for training EOD specialists in accordance with the International Humanitarian Demining Standards. According to the ITF schedule, this Course was conducted in the period from 3rd December 2007 to 27th March 2008 with 35 attendees from the MoD and the Serbian Armed Forces, who completed the Course. In addition to this, seven students who excelled have also completed the Team Leaders Course.

In 2017, a project organised by USEUCOM, was launched to train demining instructors and medical personnel in accordance with the Programme of Human Demining in three stages, with 6 months long interruptions between the phases.

The first phase of the training for 21 members of the Serbian Armed Forces was carried out from 6th to 28th April 2017, in line with the Programme. The coordination of the conduct of the second and third phases of the Project is in progress.

The US Department of Defence has donated to the Ministry of Defence – Serbian Armed Forces demining equipment in the value of 266,428.14 US dollars and medical equipment used for humanitarian demining in the value of 69,393.82 US dollars.

Upon NATO proposal a project was launched titled “Strengthening capabilities of Serbian Armed Forces for disposal of unexploded ordnance” that would be financed from the NATO Programme “Science for Peace and Security”. The initial estimated value of the project is 400,000 euros with possible increase to over a million euros. The aim of the project is to enhance the capabilities of the Serbian Armed Forces in the field of demining and disposal of unexploded ordnance in military complexes. The envisaged duration of the project is 36 months from the date of adoption.

The Serbian Armed Forces is qualified for finding, deactivating and destroying explosive ordnance and clearing mine fields and minimizing the risks and effects of remnants of war in the territory of its home country. For the realisation of these tasks, it is necessary to provide additional funds for equipment, insurance and fringe benefits for expert teams (units) that would conduct these activities.

An additional training in detection, excavation and disposal of unexploded air bombs, great mass rocket and other projectiles at depths exceeding 0.5 metres is also needed.

b) In addition to the contamination with landmines, the Republic of Serbia suffers from additional contamination by Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) as follows:

The area of about 2.500.000 square meters is contaminated with cluster munitions.

It is assumed that since the 1999 bombing, about 150 air bombs – rockets weighing up to 930 kg are located throughout Serbia in the ground at a depth of up to 20 m.

It is suspected that after fire and explosions in military depots in Paraćin, Vranje, Kraljevo, Požarevac, Valjevo, Novi Sad, Smederevo, Raška, Grdelica, Kragujevac, outside of military objects, in an area of around 18.500.000 square meters, there are various types of ERW.

From the 1999 bombing of our country, unexploded air bombs-rockets can be found in the Sava River and the Danube River: (Bridge Bogojevo – Erdut, Bridge Bačka Palanka – Ilok, Novi Sad 1 – upstream the Sloboda bridge, Novi Sad 2- downstream the railway bridge, Pančevo Port, Transmission line Ritopek – Ivanovo, Bridge Smederevo – Kovin, Prahovo Port, Šabac, Obrenovac 1 – in the vicinity of thermal power plant, Obrenovac 2 – in the vicinity of Barič factory).

It is suspected that in the Sava River, in the area of the Jamena Village, there are improvised mines remaining from the 1999-1995 conflicts.

In the Đerdap Gorge, on the Danube River, in the vicinity of Prahovo, in 1944, German war vessels containing large quantity of unexploded ordnance, including anti-ship mines, were sunken. In 2006, a survey was conducted and the positions of 23 sunken vessels were determined as well as the existence of various types of UXO and anti-ship mines on 4 vessels. These UXO pose a threat to people and environment and significantly obstruct navigation in this part of the Danube.

Given the above and the complexity of the problem, Serbia would be interested in receiving international financial assistance for conducting clearance operations.

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

The Serbian Armed Forces and the “TRZ Kragujevac” are qualified and equipped for providing assistance to other countries in organising, training and in the process of mine clearance and minimising the risks and effects of the explosive remnants of war. Upon the completion of the Course, according to the schedule of activities and organised by the ITF, 35 persons are qualified to perform basic activities and 7 to be team leaders, all in accordance with the International Humanitarian Demining Standards.

The Serbian Mine Action Centre retains vast expertise in mine clearance, in particular as regards survey, project tasks developing, quality control and governing of mine clearance project tasks. Serbia is willing to share experience and lessons learned from the ongoing and completed operations.

**CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF
ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

Reporting Formats for Article 7

STATE PARTY:

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

POINT OF CONTACT:

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Defence Policy Sector

International Military Cooperation Department

Bircaninova 5

11000 Belgrade

+381 11/ 3201 553, fax : +381 11/ 300 63 32, e-mail : vfc@mod.gov.rs

(Name, organization, telephone, fax, e-mail)

MINE ACTION CENTRE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA (for Form C)

31, Vojvode Toze St.

11050 Belgrade

Republic of Serbia

+381 11/ 30 45 280, fax : +381 11/ 30 45 281, e-mail : czrs@czrs.gov.rs

(ONLY FOR THE PURPOSES OF CLARIFICATION)

Form A National implementation measures

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
a) The national implementation measures referred to in Article 9."

Remark: In accordance with Article 9, "Each State Party shall take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control".

State [Party]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018

Measures	Supplementary information (e.g., effective date of implementation & text of legislation attached).
Articles 376 and 377 of the new Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia make the use, production, stockpiling, trade and transfer of APM a criminal offence. These two provisions also specify penal sanctions.	

Form B Stockpiled anti-personnel mines

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

b) The total of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed by it, or under its jurisdiction or control, to include a breakdown of the type, quantity and, if possible, lot numbers of each type of anti-personnel mine stockpiled."

State [Party]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
PMA-1	494		494 Ministry of Defence (MOD)
PMA-2	596		596 Ministry of Defence (MOD)
PMA-3	540		540 Ministry of Defence (MOD)
PMR-2A	504		504 Ministry of Defence (MOD)
PMR-3	500		500 Ministry of Defence (MOD)
PROM-1	500		500 Ministry of Defence (MOD)
TOTAL	3,134		

Form C Location of mined areas

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

c) To the extent possible, the location of all mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines under its jurisdiction or control, to include as much detail as possible regarding the type and quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine in each mined area and when they were emplaced."

State [Party]: **REPUBLIC OF SERBIA** reporting for time period from **1st January 2018** to **31st December 2018**

As of 1 April 2019, there are 8 areas in the Republic of Serbia suspected to contain anti-personnel mines totalling 1,731,520 square metres. See Annex II for complete list of these areas. Areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines remain in 4 villages in the Municipality of Bujanovac as follows:

Summary of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines as of 1 April 2018

Municipality	Village	Number of areas known to contain anti-personnel mines	Number of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines	Total number of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines	Amount of area known to contain anti-personnel mines (square metres)	Amount of area suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (square metres)	Total amount of area known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (square metres)
Bujanovac	Ravno Bučje	/	1	1	/	390,300	390,300
	Končulj	/	5	5	/	1,181,820	1,181,820
	Dobrosin	/	1	1	/	28,000	28,000
	Turija	/	1	1	/	131,400	131,400
Total	4	/	8	8	/	1,731,520	1,731,520

At the 17th Meeting of the States Parties of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Antipersonnel Mines and on their Destruction, which was held in the period 26-30 November 2018, Geneva, the Republic of Serbia was granted a 4 year extension of the deadline for fulfilment of its obligations under Article 5 of the Convention, which is 1 March 2023.

Namely, due to the fact that Serbia has been facing a number of difficulties, such as the lack of adequate financial resources, and presence of areas contaminated with cluster munitions, air bombs-rockets and other UXO in addition to mine contaminated areas, Serbia was in no position to meet their 2019 deadline and in March 2018, Serbia submitted a request for their deadline to be extended to 1 March 2023.

The remaining areas contaminated by mines do not have registries and had not been planted in specific patterns. These are groups of mines, not minefields. On most of these areas deaths of humans or animals occurred or a mine was accidentally detected.

All these circumstances aggravate survey and clearance efforts, namely survey results are subject to alterations. Survey results in previous period showed that there are not sufficient indicators for the mine suspected areas to be classified as confirmed hazardous areas, so that the area in previous period regarded as such has been classified as suspected hazardous area.

In 2018, the Government of Serbia has allocated twice the funds from the state budget for demining operations than in previous years, that is around 200,000 EUR.

We have requested from our Government to continue to allocate funds in the years of the requested extension, in particular for the 2019 we have asked the funds to be increased which the Serbian Government did and allocated 350.000 EUR for the 2019 demining operations.

As you can see, despite economic situation, the Serbian Government has taken more ownership of the problem, first by allocating at all and then by increasing the funds for demining operations.

Since March 2018, when the extension request was submitted for the remaining area of 2,354,540 sqm in the Bujanovac Municipality, in May 2018, one technical survey project was completed totalling 113,600 sqm with 5 AP mines and 2 UXO found and safely destroyed.

This project was funded by the 2017 Serbian State Budget for demining operations and, matched, through ITF, with the U.S. Department of State's Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement donation.

In October 2018, two technical survey projects were completed in the Bujanovac Municipality, totalling 216,220 sqm, with 9 AP mines found and safely destroyed.

In December 2018, two clearance projects totalling 293,200 sqm were completed in the Bujanovac Municipality, with 15 AP mines and 1,345 UXO found and safely destroyed.

These 4 above mentioned projects have been funded by the 2018 Serbian State Budget for demining operations and, matched, through ITF, with the U.S. Department of State's Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement donation and the donation of the Republic of Korea. It has been the first time the Republic of Korea has financially supported demining operations in Serbia, for which we are very grateful.

In 2019, Serbia plans to match the available national funds with donor funds through ITF. In addition, we are pleased to announce that one demining project will be implemented in 2019 thanks to Japanese donation. This is the first time Japanese Government has earmarked funds for demining operations in Serbia, for which we are very grateful and are looking forward to continuation of our cooperation until the achievement of all set goals.

The Republic of Serbia Mine Action Centre will make all their efforts to complete the Article 5 obligation, in order to primarily provide safety of local population, safe exploitation of woods, safe use of road communications, environmental protection, as well as reduction of fire risks.

Summary of projections for the amount of area (square metres) suspected to contain anti-personnel mines to be released 2019-2023

2019	Areas	2
	Area	606,210
2020	Areas	1
	Area	467,880
2021	Areas	2
	Area	316,790
2022	Areas	1
	Area	195,000
2023	Areas	2
	Area	145,640
Total	Areas	8
	Area	1,731,520

As has been stated in our Extension Request Plan, the dynamics of implementation of our demining projects might be affected by provision of funds, that is if the funds for implementation of our projects are not provided, our plan will be directly affected and more difficult to achieve. On the other hand, if funds are provided, the work plan could be implemented in due time.

The funds from the Serbian State Budget have been provided to support the on-going work of the SMAC – salaries of the staff, running costs (electricity, water, heating), office and consumption material costs, fuel costs, maintenance of vehicles, costs of the SMAC staff insurance – as well as survey activities, development of adequate project tasks for demining/clearance of locations confirmed to be contaminated by mines, cluster munitions and other UXO, follow-up of the implementation of project tasks and conduct of demining quality assurance and quality control.

On an annual basis, from the Serbian State Budget is allocated around 150.000 EUR for the work of the SMAC.

The Republic of Serbia carries out a number of efforts to ensure that the civilians from affected communities are not injured by mines, cluster munitions and other UXO including through the following methods:

-Marking;

The whole area suspected to be contaminated with various types of mines has been visibly marked with “STOP UXO” signs in Serbian and Albanian languages, given that it is an area with multiethnic population. Areas contaminated with cluster munitions, air bombs – rockets and other UXO, have been also marked correspondingly. Marking is conducted by the Serbian Mine Action Centre (SMAC) and within its regular activities the SMAC periodically visits contaminated locations making sure that these signs remain emplaced.

-Risk education;

Locals of the affected communities are being informed about demining activities through a number of means and media. Mine risk education has been conducted in schools and affected communities. In accordance with the IMAS, during demining operations, evacuation of people from houses, shops and other communal locations located within the zone of demining works is conducted. Suspension of traffic on the roads within the zone of demining operations is conducted, too. In relation to that, the SMAC coordinates activities with local authorities, school authorities and other relevant state bodies (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Transport), local media means in communities where demining operations are conducted.

The following methods have been employed in Serbia to release areas suspected to contain mines:

-Non-technical survey

-Technical survey

-Clearance

-Mechanical demining

-Canine demining

In Serbia, an initial survey which includes collection of data and analysis of available documentation on mine emplacement is employed, as well as a non - technical survey (NTS), which follows after an analysis of previously collected data, conditions in the field, statements by local population, hunters, foresters, people dealing with exploitation of wood, representatives of Civil Protection and Police, amongst others. One significant indicator has been data on accidents that have occurred.

Non – technical survey determines borders of the suspected area, coordinates of the location, type of mines and other UXO, allocation of land, impact on environment.

Technical survey is employed to additionally collect information by technical methods on a suspected area and in case when the data collected by a non – technical survey are not sufficient for suspected areas to be declared hazardous or safe. Technical survey is done by the combination of several methods - manual detection by metal detectors and visually. Manual detection is conducted in prospections. The scheme and dimensions of a prospection depend on land configuration, and all in accordance with the IMAS.

Clearance is conducted in accordance with the IMAS. It is done by a manual method at the depth of 20 cm. Apart from a manual method, demining machines can be used, as well as dogs.

The size of the area to be cleared is determined on the basis of processed data which have been collected by a non-technical survey.

In 2018, there were no demining accidents in the Republic of Serbia.

There are a number of circumstances that present challenges for Serbia in complying with its Article 5 deadline.

Particular issues faced by Serbia are as follows:

- Unregistered mine contaminated areas (groups of mines): The remaining areas contaminated by mines do not have registries and have not been planted in specific patterns, which aggravates demining efforts, namely survey results are subject to alterations.
- Climactic conditions: Contaminated areas are inaccessible during some periods of the year causing operation delays.
- Contamination other than mines: Specificity and complexity of the problem presents the fact that apart from mines still remaining in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, Serbia also encounters with numerous challenges related to clearance of the areas contaminated with unexploded cluster munitions, air bombs – rockets and other UXO. All these unexploded ordnance are either remaining as a result of the 1999 bombing, or are caused by an explosion and fire in a military depot, or are remaining from previous wars.

Form D APMs retained or transferred

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

d) The types, quantities and, if possible, lot numbers of all anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques, or transferred for the purpose of destruction, as well as the institutions authorized by a State Party to retain or transfer anti-personnel mines, in accordance with Article 3"

State [Party]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018

1a. *Compulsory*: Retained for development of and training in (Article 3, para.1)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information: e.g. transferred from, transferred to
Ministry of Defense	PMA-1	494*		without fuses (UPMAH-1)
	PMA-2	596		
	PMA-3	540*		without fuses (UPMAH-3)
	PMR-2A	504		
	PMR-3	500		
	PROM-1	500		
TOTAL (MOD)	-----	3,134		

REMARKS :

* All fuses for APM types PMA-1 and PMA-3 were removed and destroyed.

Form D (continued)

1b. Voluntary information (Action #54 Nairobi Action Plan)

Objectives	Activity / Project	Supplementary information <i>(Description of programs or activities, their objectives and progress, types of mines, time period if and when appropriate,....)</i>
		“Information on the plans requiring the retention of mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques and report on the actual use of retained mines and the results of such use”

NOTE: Each State Party should provide information on plans and future activities if and when appropriate and reserves the right to modify it at any time

2. Compulsory: Transferred for development of and training in (Article 3, para.1)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information: e.g. transferred from, transferred to
TOTAL				

REMARKS :

3. Compulsory: Transferred for purpose of destruction (Article 3, para.2)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information: e.g. transferred from, transferred to
TOTAL	-----			

REMARKS:

Form E Status of programs for conversion or de-commissioning of APM production facilities

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
 e) The status of programs for the conversion or de-commissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities."

State [Party]: **REPUBLIC OF SERBIA** reporting for time period from **1st January 2018** to **31st December 2018**

Indicate if to "convert" or "decommission"	Status (indicate if "in process" or "completed")	Supplementary information

Form F Status of programs for destruction of APMs

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
 f) The status of programs for the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, including details of the methods which will be used in destruction, the location of all destruction sites and the applicable safety and environmental standards to be observed."

State [Party]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018

1. Status of programs for destruction of stockpiled APMs (Article 4)

Description of the status of programs including:	Details of:
Location of destruction sites Technical Repair Facility Kragujevac (TRZ) - town of Kragujevac	
Mechanical destruction of fixed components, metal and plastic parts and demilitarization (mine decomposition) with possible open-air detonations.	Methods
Internal safety measures prescribed for handling explosive materials provided for by the regulations of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia.	Applicable safety standards
Special attention to be paid to environmental concerns wherefore most of the mines will be destroyed by the way of demilitarization (mine decomposition) rather than by the way of detonation. Within preparation activities, local access roads are repaired and the existing infrastructure is adjusted to the requirements of the APMs destruction.	Applicable environmental standards

2. Status of programs for destruction of APMs in mined areas (Article 5)

Description of the status of programs including:	Details of:
Location of destruction sites	
	Methods
	Applicable safety standards
	Applicable environmental standards

Form G APMs destroyed after entry into force

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

g) The types and quantities of all anti-personnel mines destroyed after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party, to include a breakdown of the quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine destroyed, in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, respectively, along with, if possible, the lot numbers of each type anti-personnel mine in the case of destruction in accordance with Article 4"

State [Party]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018

1. Destruction of stockpiled APMs (Article 4)

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
PMA-1, 1A	294,829		
PMA-2	169,854		
PMA-3	308,469		
PMR-2, 2A	580,411		
PMR-3	5,287		
PROM-1	44,583		
VS-50	3,356		
TOTAL	1,406,789		

2. Destruction of APMs in mined areas (Article 5)

Type	Quantity	Supplementary information
TOTAL		

Form G (continued)

3. Previously unknown stockpiles of anti-personnel mines discovered and destroyed after the deadlines have passed. (Action #15 of Nairobi Action Plan)

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
TOTAL			

Form I Measures to provide warning to the population

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
 i) The measures taken to provide an immediate and effective warning to the population in relation to all areas identified under paragraph 2 of Article 5."

Remark: In accordance with Article 5, para.2: "Each State Party shall make every effort to identify all areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced and shall ensure as soon as possible that all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control are perimeter-marked, monitored and protected by fencing or other means, to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians, until all anti-personnel mines contained therein have been destroyed. The marking shall at least be to the standards set out in the 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".

State [Party]: **REPUBLIC OF SERBIA** reporting for time period from **1st January 2018** to **31st December 2018**

[Narrative:]

Form J Other relevant matters

Remark: States Parties may use this form to report voluntarily on other relevant matters, including matters pertaining to compliance and implementation not covered by the formal reporting requirements contained in Article 7. States Parties are encouraged to use this form to report on activities undertaken with respect to Article 6, and in particular to report on assistance provided for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims.

State [Party]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018

[Narrative / reference to other reports:]

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

UPDATED INFORMATION PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 7, PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

SUBMITTED 30 APRIL 2019 COVERING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2018 TO 31 DECEMBER 2018

A. National implementation measures

No additional legal, administrative and other measures were taken during the previous calendar year to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited under the Convention.

B. Stockpiled anti-personnel mines

As of 31 December 2017, the Republic of Serbia possessed 3,134 stockpiled anti-personnel mines:

Type	Quantity Possessed	Lot Numbers
PMA-1	494	Unknown
PMA-2	596	Unknown
PMA-3	540	Unknown
PMR-2A	504	Unknown
PMR-3	500	Unknown
PROM-1	500	Unknown
TOTAL	3,134	

During 2018, Serbian Armed Forces destroyed none of anti-personnel mines.

Type	Quantity Destroyed	Lot Numbers
TOTAL	0	

C. Anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for permitted purposes

As of 31 December 2018, the Republic of Serbia retained 3,134 anti-personnel mines for purposes permitted under Article 3 of the Convention:

Type	Quantity Retained	Lot Numbers
PMA-1	494	Unknown
PMA-2	596	Unknown
PMA-3	540	Unknown
PMR-2A	504	Unknown
PMR-3	500	Unknown
PROM-1	500	Unknown
TOTAL	3,134	

The Republic of Serbia has authorised Ministry of Defence (MOD) to retain anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes.

The Republic of Serbia retains anti-personnel mines for training of the demining personnel, training of mine detection dogs, testing demining machines and studying the effect of the blast of various types of anti-personnel mines on demining equipment and testing of the protection equipment.

D. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines

As of 1 April 2019, there are 8 areas in the Republic of Serbia suspected to contain anti-personnel mines totalling 1,731,520 square metres. See Annex II for complete list of these areas. Areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines remain in 4 villages in the Municipality of Bujanovac as follows:

Summary of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines as of 1 April 2018

Municipality	Village	Number of areas known to contain anti-personnel mines	Number of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines	Total number of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines	Amount of area known to contain anti-personnel mines (square metres)	Amount of area suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (square metres)	Total amount of area known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (square metres)
Bujanovac	Ravno Bučje	/	1	1	/	390,300	390,300
	Končulj	/	5	5	/	1,181,820	1,181,820
	Dobrosin	/	1	1	/	28,000	28,000
	Turija	/	1	1	/	131,400	131,400
Total	4	/	8	8	/	1,731,520	1,731,520

At the 17th Meeting of the States Parties of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Antipersonnel Mines and on their Destruction, which was held in the period 26-30 November 2018, Geneva, the Republic of Serbia was granted a 4 year extension of the deadline for fulfilment of its obligations under Article 5 of the Convention, which is 1 March 2023.

Namely, due to the fact that Serbia has been facing a number of difficulties, such as the lack of adequate financial resources, and presence of areas contaminated with cluster munitions, air bombs-rockets and other UXO in addition to mine contaminated areas, Serbia was in no position to meet their 2019 deadline and in March 2018, Serbia submitted a request for their deadline to be extended to 1 March 2023.

The remaining areas contaminated by mines do not have registries and had not been planted in specific patterns. These are groups of mines, not minefields. On most of these areas deaths of humans or animals occurred or a mine was accidentally detected.

All these circumstances aggravate survey and clearance efforts, namely survey results are subject to alterations. Survey results in previous period showed that there are not sufficient indicators for the mine suspected areas to be classified as confirmed hazardous areas, so that the area in previous period regarded as such has been classified as suspected hazardous area.

In 2018, the Government of Serbia has allocated twice the funds from the state budget for demining operations than in previous years, that is around 200,000 EUR.

We have requested from our Government to continue to allocate funds in the years of the requested extension, in particular for the 2019 we have asked the funds to be increased which the Serbian Government did and allocated 350.000 EUR for the 2019 demining operations.

As you can see, despite economic situation, the Serbian Government has taken more ownership of the problem, first by allocating at all and then by increasing the funds for demining operations.

Since March 2018, when the extension request was submitted for the remaining area of 2,354,540 sqm in the Bujanovac Municipality, in May 2018, one technical survey project was completed totalling 113,600 sqm with 5 AP mines and 2 UXO found and safely destroyed.

This project was funded by the 2017 Serbian State Budget for demining operations and, matched, through ITF, with the U.S. Department of State's Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement donation.

In October 2018, two technical survey projects were completed in the Bujanovac Municipality, totalling 216,220 sqm, with 9 AP mines found and safely destroyed.

In December 2018, two clearance projects totalling 293,200 sqm were completed in the Bujanovac Municipality, with 15 AP mines and 1,345 UXO found and safely destroyed.

These 4 above mentioned projects have been funded by the 2018 Serbian State Budget for demining operations and, matched, through ITF, with the U.S. Department of State's Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement donation and the donation of the Republic of Korea. It has been the first time the Republic of Korea has financially supported demining operations in Serbia, for which we are very grateful.

In 2019, Serbia plans to match the available national funds with donor funds through ITF. In addition, we are pleased to announce that one demining project will be implemented in 2019 thanks to Japanese donation. This is the first time Japanese Government has earmarked funds for demining operations in Serbia, for which we are very grateful and are looking forward to continuation of our cooperation until the achievement of all set goals.

The Republic of Serbia Mine Action Centre will make all their efforts to complete the Article 5 obligation, in order to primarily provide safety of local population, safe exploitation of woods, safe use of road communications, environmental protection, as well as reduction of fire risks.

Summary of projections for the amount of area (square metres) suspected to contain anti-personnel mines to be released 2019-2023

2019	Areas	2
	Area	606,210
2020	Areas	1
	Area	467,880
2021	Areas	2
	Area	316,790
2022	Areas	1
	Area	195,000
2023	Areas	2
	Area	145,640
Total	Areas	8
	Area	1,731,520

As has been stated in our Extension Request Plan, the dynamics of implementation of our demining projects might be affected by provision of funds, that is if the funds for implementation of our projects are not provided, our plan will be directly affected and more difficult to achieve. On the other hand, if funds are provided, the work plan could be implemented in due time.

The funds from the Serbian State Budget have been provided to support the on-going work of the SMAC – salaries of the staff, running costs (electricity, water, heating), office and consumption material costs, fuel costs, maintenance of vehicles, costs of the SMAC staff insurance – as well as survey activities, development of adequate project tasks for demining/clearance of locations confirmed to be contaminated by mines, cluster munitions and other UXO, follow-up of the implementation of project tasks and conduct of demining quality assurance and quality control.

On an annual basis, from the Serbian State Budget is allocated around 150.000 EUR for the work of the SMAC.

The Republic of Serbia carries out a number of efforts to ensure that the civilians from affected communities are not injured by mines, cluster munitions and other UXO including through the following methods:

-Marking;

The whole area suspected to be contaminated with various types of mines has been visibly marked with “STOP UXO” signs in Serbian and Albanian languages, given that it is an area with multiethnic population. Areas contaminated with cluster munitions, air bombs – rockets and other UXO, have been also marked correspondingly. Marking is conducted by the Serbian Mine Action Centre (SMAC) and within its regular activities the SMAC periodically visits contaminated locations making sure that these signs remain emplaced.

-Risk education;

Locals of the affected communities are being informed about demining activities through a number of means and media. Mine risk education has been conducted in schools and affected communities. In accordance with the IMAS, during demining operations, evacuation of people from houses, shops and other communal locations located within the zone of demining works is conducted. Suspension of traffic on the roads within the zone of demining operations is conducted, too. In relation to that, the SMAC coordinates activities with local authorities, school authorities and other relevant state bodies (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Transport), local media means in communities where demining operations are conducted.

The following methods have been employed in Serbia to release areas suspected to contain mines:

-Non-technical survey

-Technical survey

-Clearance

-Mechanical demining

-Canine demining

In Serbia, an initial survey which includes collection of data and analysis of available documentation on mine emplacement is employed, as well as a non - technical survey (NTS), which follows after an analysis of previously collected data, conditions in the field, statements by local population, hunters, foresters, people dealing with exploitation of wood, representatives of Civil Protection and Police, amongst others. One significant indicator has been data on accidents that have occurred.

Non – technical survey determines borders of the suspected area, coordinates of the location, type of mines and other UXO, allocation of land, impact on environment.

Technical survey is employed to additionally collect information by technical methods on a suspected area and in case when the data collected by a non – technical survey are not sufficient for suspected areas to be declared hazardous or safe. Technical survey is done by the combination of several

methods - manual detection by metal detectors and visually. Manual detection is conducted in inspections. The scheme and dimensions of a inspection depend on land configuration, and all in accordance with the IMAS.

Clearance is conducted in accordance with the IMAS. It is done by a manual method at the depth of 20 cm. Apart from a manual method, demining machines can be used, as well as dogs.

The size of the area to be cleared is determined on the basis of processed data which have been collected by a non-technical survey.

In 2018, there were no demining accidents in the Republic of Serbia.

There are a number of circumstances that present challenges for Serbia in complying with its Article 5 deadline.

Particular issues faced by Serbia are as follows:

-Unregistered mine contaminated areas (groups of mines): The remaining areas contaminated by mines do not have registries and have not been planted in specific patterns, which aggravates demining efforts, namely survey results are subject to alterations.

-Climactic conditions: Contaminated areas are inaccessible during some periods of the year causing operation delays.

-Contamination other than mines: Specificity and complexity of the problem presents the fact that apart from mines still remaining in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, Serbia also encounters with numerous challenges related to clearance of the areas contaminated with unexploded cluster munitions, air bombs – rockets and other UXO. All these unexploded ordnance are either remaining as a result of the 1999 bombing, or are caused by an explosion and fire in a military depot, or are remaining from previous wars.

E. Technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines

The Republic of Serbia has no additional information on the technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines owned or possessed.

Type	Dimensions	Fusing	Explosive content		Metallic content	Colour photo attached	Supplementary information to facilitate mine clearance.
			type	grams			
PMA-1, 1A	140 mm x 70 mm x 30 mm	UPMAH-1 (chemical)	TNT	200	/	/	Mine is plastic, without metal elements.
PMA-2	68 mm x 32 mm	UPMAH-2 (chemical)	TNT	70	/	/	Mine is plastic, without metal elements and waterproof closed.
PMA-3	103 mm x 36 mm	UPMAH-3 (chemical)	TETRYL	35	/	/	Mine is plastic, without metal elements and waterproof closed.
PMR-2, 2A	66 mm x 132 mm	UPMR-2, UPMR-2S (mechanical)	TNT	100	1,700 g	/	Its fragments are dangerous within the range of 50 m. Detection with mine detectors is possible.
PMR-3	80 mm x 150 mm	UPMR-3 (mechanical)	TNT	410	3,000 g	/	Its fragments are dangerous within the range of 100 m. Detection with mine detectors is possible.
PROM-1	80 mm x 150 mm	UPROM-1 (mechanical)	TNT	420	2,580 g	/	Its fragments are dangerous within the range of 50 m. Detection with mine detectors is possible.
VS-50	90 mm x 45 mm	UVS-50 (chemical)	RDX	43	/	/	Mine is plastic, without metal elements and waterproof closed.

F. Conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities

The Republic of Serbia has no additional information on the conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities. See the report submitted in 2018 for information that has already been provided by the Republic of Serbia on the conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities.

G. Victim assistance

There are no specific measures in place for rendering assistance to victims. Military and civilian hospitals and rehabilitation centres provide all necessary assistance to mine victims – prosthetic devices, rehabilitation and education in the field of social and legal protection (under the responsibility of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia).

Information on progress and challenges in the implementation of activities 12 – 18 Maputo Action plan

1. What mechanism is in place to collect data on casualties and to share such data with relevant stakeholders? How many casualties (men, women, boys and girls) were recorded last year?

The Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs has set up a basic system of record-keeping on persons exercising the rights as civilian invalids of war. The units of local self-government transmit to the Ministry the information on the number of beneficiaries in line with the law.

2. What assessments have been carried out over the course of the last year? What are the results of these assessments in terms of availability of and gaps in services and support to meet the needs of victims?

- Assessment of availability of, and gaps in, services, assessment of needs as a result of disability, of education in health-care, employment opportunities, growth and reduction of poverty including the goals that need to be achieved through implementation of national policies, plans and legal frameworks;
- Proposed measures to improve legal framework for the protection of victims of anti-personnel mines;
- Making sure that the legislation in force regarding protection of AP mine victims is consistent with international legislation and domestic laws;
- Proposed program and measures enabling the mine victims to participate in public life;
- Cooperation with associations included in the process of improving the situation of mine victims;

- Tracking the progress in connection with assistance extended to the victims within national plans and legal framework.

Under the strategies and plans, the competent authorities set deadlines and define measures.

3. What assessments are currently planned to be carried out?

- Proposed measures to improve the situation of AP mine victims;
- Cooperation with relevant foreign institutions, international organizations and national working groups of an equivalent or similar nature in order to exchange experiences and good practices;
- Mapping of all available services.

4. What are the current referral efforts to assist victims to access and benefit from the existing services?

In all units of local self-government in Serbia there are services providing veteran/invalidity protection that may be contacted by civilian invalids of war to exercise their rights. In all units of self-government there are departments of social protection and employment affairs, each providing relevant services aimed at improving the situation of persons with disabilities.

The Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs announces tenders aimed at promoting these affairs in order to ensure efficient services at local level and create conditions to include these persons in community life. In 2018, the priority of the Ministry was to promote social inclusion of veterans, veterans with disabilities, civilian invalids of war and families of military war casualties in the Republic of Serbia, through the development of local and inter-municipal services catering to identified population needs. Special emphasis was placed on innovative services as well as those exemplifying efficient use of local resources.

What measurable plan does your State have to achieve its Victim Assistance commitments in 2019?

Promotion of protection through codification of all regulations governing the rights of civilian invalids of war, veterans with disabilities and families of fallen service members. The codification would imply the passing of a single law that would define the rights, conditions and scope of protection for the above population categories.

In addition, there are plans to announce calls for tenders to improve the situation of civilian invalids of war.

5. What changes or enhancements have been made, if any, to plans, policies and legal frameworks to better meet the needs of mine victims?

Progress on assistance to mine victims is being constantly monitored, within national action plans and legal framework.

The Victim Assistance Group has been working with relevant ministries and institutions in order to promote Victim Assistance including monitoring of progress in the implementing of Victim Assistance within broader national plans and legal framework.

6. What budget has been allocated for the implementation of Victim Assistance?

Financial resources from the Budget of the Republic of Serbia have been allocated for these purposes on a continuous and regular basis.

7. What improvements have been made, if any, or are planned to coordination mechanisms?

In the context of raising the awareness among mine victims about their rights and services available to them, the main problem so far proved to be the flow of information at inter-sectoral level as well as between victims and relevant service providers. Due to the lack of information and coordination in the past, the victims were not included in delegations, but this will be rectified in the future. There are also plans to strengthen coordination between mine victim associations and the Government.

8. What efforts have been made to increase availability of and accessibility to rehabilitation centres, economic inclusion opportunities, psychological support and social protection measures for all mine victims, including in rural and remote areas?

The Republic of Serbia did everything in its power to support relevant activities related to meetings of experts in the fields of healthcare, rehabilitation, social services, education, employment and gender equality, including in the field of mine victims. Efforts were made to dismantle barriers, e.g. through the promotion of gender equality and anti-discrimination measures, provision of social services in remote and rural areas in order to upgrade social protection services. The state supports development of services in veteran/disability protection, social protection and employment with the aim of incorporating rural areas and thus improving service accessibility.

9. What efforts have been made to ensure the inclusion and active participation of mine victims and their representative organizations in all matters that affect them?

The development of inclusive membership in the Victim Assistance Working Group with representatives from the Ministries responsible for labour, employment, veteran and social affairs, defence, health-care, education, science and technological development as well as the Mine Action Centre. In addition to these, the Working Group also includes members from the sectors such as employment, gender equality, persons with disabilities, cooperation and inclusive education. NGO participation in the activities of the Working Group is also expected.

10. What measurable improvements have been made in the well-being and guarantee of the rights of mine victims since the adoption of the Maputo Action Plan in 2014?

The Republic of Serbia is fully committed to carrying out all its commitments under the Maputo Action Plan.

- Promotion of legislative framework for the protection of mine victims;
- Making sure that legislation in force regulating protection of mine victims is consistent with international legislation and national law;
- Programs and measures enabling mine victims to participate in public life;

- Cooperation with associations included in the process of improving the situation of mine victims;
- Monitoring progress on Victim Assistance within national plans and legal framework.

11. What challenges remain to be addressed? How will your State address them?

Media involvement should be stepped up. It is also necessary to hold more education workshops, conferences and create as soon as possible a central data base listing causes of injuries.

12. What are your State's priorities for technical or financial support for Victim Assistance?

The Republic of Serbia implements the Strategy for the promotion of position of persons with disabilities for 2007-2015 period. The draft text of the new strategy has been prepared and pending. The same as the previous strategy, this one will include measures to improve the situation of civilian victims of war and persons with disabilities.

Furthermore, the Republic of Serbia is implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. According to the Law on Professional Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities, the status of persons with disabilities is granted to servicemen/servicewomen with disabilities, veterans with disabilities and civilian invalids of war. The Law has been based on the principles regulating protection of the human rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, including all persons with disabilities on an equal footing, in all spheres of social life – in line with their professional qualifications.

Under the Law, civilian invalids of war are granted several entitlements.

The Law defining the rights of civilian invalids of war (“Official Gazette of RS”, No. 52 of 17 December 1996) provides for the following entitlements:

- 1) Individual disability allowance;
- 2) Allowance for care and assistance by another person;
- 3) Orthopaedic allowance;
- 4) Medical care and financial compensation related to the exercise of the right to medical care;
- 5) Privileged transport free of charge;
- 6) Allowance to cover food and accommodation expenses during travel and stay in another place upon the invitation of the responsible authority;
- 7) Monthly allowance
- 8) Reimbursement of funeral expenses.

The Government of Serbia finances project activities of persons with disabilities, association of invalids of war as well as associations of civilian war victims. Through these activities, the associations organize training aimed at promoting women’s and men’s capacity as well as improvement of psychological and social situation of survivors.

H. Cooperation and assistance

The Serbian Armed Forces maintain a capability to survey, search for, detect, clear and destroy landmines. This capability includes many types of detection equipment, mechanical clearance assets, disposal experts and specialist search and clearance teams.

The Republic of Serbia has the capacities for decommission of the landmines and unexploded ordnance. More detailed data were given in the report submitted in 2018.

Annex II: Areas known and suspected to contain anti-personnel mines as of 1 April 2019, and the estimated date of completion

Municipality	Village	Longitude	Latitude	Area known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (square meters)	Type and quantity of anti-personnel mines	Estimated period when mines were emplaced	Estimated date of completion (year-end)
Bujanovac	Ravno Bučje	21°47'16'' E	42°35'22'' N	390,300	Groups of mines of unknown type and quantity	2000-2001	2019-2023
	Končulj	21°41'16.08'' E	42°28'27.84'' N	1,181,820	Groups of mines of unknown type and quantity	2000-2001	2019-2023
	Dobrosin	21°38'10'' E	42°26'58'' N	28,000	Groups of mines of unknown type and quantity	2000-2001	2019-2023
	Turija	21°43'4.8'' E	42°27'18'' N	131,400	Groups of mines of unknown type and quantity	2000-2001	2019 -2023
Total	4			1,731,520			

Annex III: Areas released, 1 January 2018- 31 December 2018

Municipality	Village	Longitude	Latitude	Cancelled area (square meters)	Reduced area (square meters)	Cleared area (square meters)	Total area released (square meters)	Number of anti-personnel mines destroyed	Number of other explosive items destroyed
Bujanovac	Ravno Bučje	21 ⁰ 47'16''E	42 ⁰ 35'22'' N	/	/	184,720	184,720	9	2
	Dobrosin	21 ⁰ 38'10''E	42 ⁰ 26'58'' N	/	/	220,000	220,000	9	/
	Lučane	21 ⁰ 42'9''E	42 ⁰ 26'29.4''N	/	/	73,200	73,200	6	1,345
	Đorđevac	21 ⁰ 46'10''E	42 ⁰ 28'50'' N	/	/	145,100	145,100	5	/
TOTAL				/	/	623,020	623,020	29	1,347

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**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: Republic of Serbia

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 31/03/2019

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF
CONTACT: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sector for
Security Policy/Arms Control Unit, +381
11 306 89 36; okn@mfa.rs
(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

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

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:

Republic of Serbia

Reporting for time period

from: **1/01/2018**

to: **31/12/2018**

dd/mm/yyyy

dd/mm/yyyy

INFORMATION TO THE ARMED FORCES:

The Serbian Armed Forces have consistently applied procedures as defined in the Additional Protocol II and there are no changes in the manner of dissemination of data to members of the Serbian Armed Forces about it.

INFORMATION TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION:

The Mine Action Centre of the Republic of Serbia, as a national coordinating body in charge of humanitarian demining/mine action activities in the Republic of Serbia, carries out a number of efforts to ensure that the civilians from affected communities are not injured by mines, cluster munitions and other UXO including through the following methods:

-Marking;

The whole area suspected to be contaminated with various types of mines has been visibly marked with “STOP UXO” signs in Serbian and Albanian languages, given that it is an area with multiethnic population. Areas contaminated with cluster munitions, air bombs – rockets and other UXO, have been also marked correspondingly. Marking is conducted by the Serbian Mine Action Centre (SMAC) and within its regular activities the SMAC periodically visits contaminated locations making sure that these signs remain emplaced.

-Risk education;

Locals of the affected communities are being informed about demining activities through a number of means and media. Mine risk education has been conducted in schools and

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

affected communities. In accordance with the IMAS, during demining operations, evacuation of people from houses, shops and other communal locations located within the zone of demining works is conducted. Suspension of traffic on the roads within the zone of demining operations is conducted, too. In relation to that, the SMAC coordinates activities with local authorities, school authorities and other relevant state bodies (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Transport), local media means in communities where demining operations are conducted.

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Form B **Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes**

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

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party: Republic of Serbia

Reporting for time period
from: 01/01/2018 to: 31/12/2018
dd/mm/yyyy *dd/mm/yyyy*

MINE CLEARANCE PROGRAMMES:

The Serbian Mine Action Centre (founded in 2002) is a national coordinating body in charge of humanitarian demining/mine action activities in Serbia. SMAC develops, implements and reviews a three year program of humanitarian demining/mine action activities with an annual work plan, which is adopted by the Serbian Government.

At the 17th Meeting of the States Parties of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Antipersonnel Mines and on their Destruction, which was held in the period 26-30 November 2018, Geneva, the Republic of Serbia was granted a 4 year extension of the deadline for fulfilment of its obligations under Article 5 of the Convention, which is 1 March 2023.

As of December 2018, the remaining mine suspected hazardous area totals 1,731,520 smq in the Municipality of Bujanovac. In comparison to the 2017 reporting, when the remaining mine contamination totalled 2,354,540 sqm, the area of 623,020 was cleared of mines.

In May 2018, one technical survey project was completed totalling 113,600 sqm with 5 AP mines and 2 UXO found and safely destroyed.

This project was funded by the 2017 Serbian State Budget for demining operations and, matched, through ITF, with the U.S. Department of State's Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement donation.

In October 2018, two technical survey projects were completed in the Bujanovac Municipality, totalling 216,220 sqm, with 9 AP mines found and safely destroyed.

In December 2018, two clearance projects totalling 293,200 sqm were completed in the Bujanovac Municipality, with 15 AP mines and 1,345 UXO found and safely destroyed.

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These 4 above mentioned projects have been funded by the 2018 Serbian State Budget for demining operations and, matched, through ITF, with the U.S. Department of State's Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement donation and the donation of the Republic of Korea.

The whole area suspected to be contaminated with various types of mines and other UXO has been visibly marked with bilingual warning signs, given that it is an area with mixed ethnic population.

The Serbian Armed Forces does not possess anti-personnel (AP) mines, booby traps and other devices which are prohibited by the Ottawa Convention.

REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES:

In the Republic of Serbia, the Strategy for promoting the status of persons with disabilities, is in force. The Strategy recognized their equal rights with those of other disabled persons (the rights of disabled war veterans, peacetime disabled veterans, as well as civilian disabled veterans).

The Republic of Serbia is also implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Under the Law on professional rehabilitation and employment of person with disabilities, the status of a person with disabilities is granted to disabled war veterans, peacetime disabled veterans and civilian disabled veterans. This Law is based on the principles governing the protection of human rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, inclusion of all persons with disabilities, on an equal footing, in all spheres of social life – in accordance with their professional skills.

In accordance with the Law of Professional Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities, obligation of the employer who employs fifty (50) persons is to employ one person with disabilities

This law is based on the principles: respect for human rights and dignity of persons with disabilities; inclusion of persons with disabilities in all spheres of social life on an equal in accordance with professional skills; encourage employment of persons with disabilities in appropriate jobs and appropriate working conditions; prohibiting discrimination against persons with disabilities, in accordance with the law; equal rights and obligations; gender equality of persons with disabilities.

Based on the Rulebook on closer conditions, criteria and standards all the measures and the activities in professional rehabilitation was adopted. The Steering Committee of the National Employment Agency adopted the Rulebook on methods and criteria for the implementation of active labour market of a persons with disabilities.

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Form C Technical requirements and relevant information

Article 13,
paragraph 4 (c)

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
Depositary [...] on [...]:

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

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Republic of Serbia

Reporting for time period

from: **01/01/2018**

to: **31/12/2018**

dd/mm/yyyy

dd/mm/yyyy

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

In accordance with Article 7 of the Ottawa Convention, the Ministry of Defence and the Serbian Armed Forces has in its possession 3,134 pieces of AP mines intended for training of personnel and testing of protective equipment. Measurements taken at the level of the Ministry of Defence and the Serbian Armed Forces which contribute to meeting the technical requirements of the Convention and the supplementary protocols are reflected in the fact that the assets are not available to the unauthorized persons, that are kept in the warehouses under control, so that the possibility of their misuse is practically eliminated.

ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

Training of all professional members of the Serbian Armed Forces, as well as training of volunteers in proper and safe handling of mines and explosive ordnance within the armaments of the Serbian Armed Forces, is realized based on the existing rules and instructions aligned with the provisions of the Protocol

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Form D **Legislation**

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

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Republic of Serbia

Reporting for time period

from: **01/01/2018**

to: **31/12/2018**

dd/mm/yyyy

dd/mm/yyyy

LEGISLATION:

The Serbian Armed Forces consistently applies procedures defined in the Additional Protocol II, and there are no changes compared to the previous reporting period.

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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:

Republic of Serbia

Reporting for time period

from: 01/01/2018

to: 31/12/2018

dd/mm/yyyy

dd/mm/yyyy

INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE:

The Serbian Mine Action Centre retains vast expertise in mine clearance and cluster munitions clearance, in particular as regards survey, project tasks developing, quality control and governing of mine clearance and cluster munitions clearance project tasks.

The Serbian Armed Forces is capable of rendering necessary expert assistance to the countries accessing to Protocol II and is trained and equipped for offering assistance to other countries in organization, training and in the very process of mine detection and destruction.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON MINE CLEARANCE:

The Serbian Mine Action Centre achieves international cooperation with numerous subjects in the field of mine action.

Cooperation with the ITF, as well as regional cooperation through various forms of the work of the Southeastern Europe Mine Action Coordination Council, known as SEEMACC, give good results in the field of mine action.

After the foundation of the SMAC, ITF strongly supported the SMAC at first providing donations for training of personnel, technical equipping and survey of the mine suspected area, and in 2003 started funding our projects for humanitarian demining.

ITF and the SMAC signed the Memorandum of Understanding which further enhances cooperation between the SMAC and ITF.

SMAC also cooperates with the Russian Federal Agency "Emercom" under the

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Memorandum of Understanding.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE:

The Serbian Mine Action Centre is willing to share experience and lessons learned from the ongoing and completed operations.

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Form F **Other relevant matters**

Article 13,
paragraph 4 (f)

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
Depositary [...] on [...]:

(f) other relevant matters.”

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Republic of Serbia

Reporting for time period

from: 01/01/2018

dd/mm/yyyy

to:

31/12/2018

dd/mm/yyyy

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS:

/

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

Form G Information to the UN-database on mine clearance

Article 11,
paragraph 2,

“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.”

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Republic of Serbia

Reporting for time period

from: 01/01/2018

dd/mm/yyyy

to: 31/12/2018

dd/mm/yyyy

MEANS AND TECHNOLOGIES OF MINE CLEARANCE:

The following methods have been employed in Serbia for SMAC projects to release areas known or suspected to contain mines:

- Cancellation through survey**
- Manual demining**
- Mechanical demining**
- Canine demining**

The Serbian Armed Forces is qualified for destruction of mine fields for the purpose of reducing the risks and effects of mines and explosive ordnance in the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

LISTS OF EXPERTS AND EXPERT AGENCIES:

Sladjana Kosutic, Planning and International Cooperation Advisor- Mine Action Centre of the Republic of Serbia, Vojvode Toze 31, +381 11 30 45 280

NATIONAL POINTS OF CONTACT ON MINE CLEARANCE:

Mine Action Centre of the Republic of Serbia: czrs@czrs.gov.rs

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