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United Kingdom Delegation to the OSCE

NOTE NO 10/19

The United Kingdom Delegation to the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Vienna presents its compliments to all the Permanent Missions and Delegations to the OSCE and to the Conflict Prevention Centre and, in accordance with FSC.DEC/7/04 herewith attach the United Kingdom's completed Questionnaire on anti-personnel landmines.

The United Kingdom Delegation avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the delegations, and to the Conflict Prevention Centre, the assurance of its highest consideration.

UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATION VIENNA

31 May 2019

To all Delegations/Permanent Missions to the OSCE To the Conflict Prevention Centre



FSC.EMI/175/19 31 May 2019

ENGLISH only

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OSCE Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Mines (31 May 2019)

Part I

 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)?

Yes.

If yes:

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.

https://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/(httpAssets)/6685E31833D69D34C12583DD0037AD17 /\$file/UK+AP+II+Transparency+Report++Summary+Sheet+2018.pdf

3. If no:

Is your country considering ratification/accession to the Amended Protocol II? N/A.

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

The UK does not use, stockpile, produce or transfer anti-personnel landmines, in accordance with its obligations under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. The UK acts in accordance with the prohibitions and restrictions on the use of mines, booby-traps, and other devices as required by Amended Protocol II of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. Armed Services doctrine and training reflect Convention requirements. Specifically, as part of the annual military training programme, the UK's military receives instruction and updates on all aspects of IHL to which the UK is a signatory.

- Would your country be interested in receiving assistance related to the implementation of this Protocol? If so, please describe.
 No.
- 6. Does your country have the capacity to assist others related to this Protocol? If so, please describe. As well as leading by example through our national demining programme (currently worth £27 million between 2016 and 2020), the UK supports other states to meet their Convention obligations. The UK's "mine action" programmes collectively cover the clearance of cluster munitions, landmines and other explosive remnants of war, alongside risk education and other activities. These projects are funded through the Department for International Development's Global Mine Action Programme, and the UK Government's Conflict, Security and Stability Fund (CSSF).

The UK's Global Mine Action Programme provides funds worth £100 million between 2017 and 2020 allocated to support work in fifteen countries to:

- (1) <u>Remove the risk of harm by clearing contaminated land</u> and reducing the size of suspected hazardous areas, both legacy contamination and "new" landmine and improvised explosive device (IED) contamination;
- (2) <u>Reduce the risk of harm through mine risk education</u>; reaching 371 thousand people, including many women and children in 2018;
- (3) <u>Build the capacity of national and provincial authorities to regulate and manage their mine action</u> programmes, promoting effective, efficient and safer mine action.

In addition, the UK Government's Conflict, Security and Stability Fund (CSSF) had an allocated budget of over £8 million for demining activity for the last year. Mine action has taken place in countries including Ukraine, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Sri Lanka, Yemen and Afghanistan.

The UK has also provided a voluntary donation to the Implementation Support Units of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Cluster Munitions to support their implementation by other States Parties.

Part II

- 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? Yes.
- 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.
 The UK's report is available at this web address:

https://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/(httpAssets)/573902CCC9977D0FC12583EB0054F822/ \$file/UK+2018.pdf

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

(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?

Yes. The UK adopted The Landmines Act in 1998.

Does your country have any specific measures in place to provide assistance to victims?
 The UK is fully committed to improving the quality of life for people affected by anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war. The UK believes that needs are

best met through the development of strong, accessible and sustainable health systems and through support to people with disabilities. This includes ensuring development programmes adequately include disabled people throughout programme design, delivery and monitoring. UK support does not discriminate against or among victims of anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions, armed conflict generally, or other persons with disabilities.

- Does your country require assistance in mine clearance, stockpile destruction, mine awareness and/or victim assistance? If so, please describe.
 No.
- 11. Does your country have the capacity to assist others in mine action? If so, please describe. Yes. Please see Q6 above. In addition, the UK shares information on technical cooperation and assistance on mine action. The UK hosted an international conference at Wilton Park in May 2018 on the challenges in realising the aspiration for a mine-free world set out in the Maputo Declaration made by States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. The UK hosted a side event at the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention's Meeting of State Parties in November 2018 to share the findings of the recent evaluation of the Global Mine Action Programme, and how that informed the Global Mine Action Programme 2.

OSCE Questionnaire on Explosive Remnants of War

- 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? The UK is not currently a High Contracting Party (HCP) to Protocol V of the CCW, but this issue remains under regular review by the UK government.
- If yes, at what stage is the process?
 This issue remains under regular review by the UK government.
- Would your country be interested in receiving assistance in clearing or otherwise minimizing the risks and effects of ERW? If so, please describe.
 No.
- 4. Does your country have the capacity to assist others in clearing and minimizing the risks and effects of ERW? If so, please describe.

Yes. Please see Q6 above.