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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Armenia to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe presents its compliments to the Permanent Delegations of the Participating States to the OSCE and to the OSCE Conflict Prevention Center, and has the honor to submit the reply of the Republic of Armenia to the OSCE Questionnaire on Anti- Personnel Mines for 2018.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Armenia to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Delegations of the Participating States to the OSCE and to the OSCE Conflict Prevention Center the assurances of its highest consideration.

Attachment: 3 pages.

Vienna, 25 May 2018



To All Permanent Delegations to the OSCE and the CPC  
VIENNA

## REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

### OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES 2018

#### **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)?**

Armenia has not yet signed the Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May, 1996 due to unconstructive position of Azerbaijan not to join 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?**

Armenia's accession to the Amended Protocol II is contingent upon the readiness of Azerbaijan to adhere to the Convention and comply with its regime.

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

Since signing of the 1994 tripartite ceasefire agreement Armenia has seized mining activities along the state borders with Azerbaijan.

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

Armenia is interested in developing of its demining capacities and modernization of existing equipment.

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

Within the capacities of its engineer units the Armed Forces of the Republic of Armenia stand ready to extend assistance to other countries in their demining activities.

Humanitarian demining capacities in the field of identification and deactivation of self-made explosive devices are limited, however, the engineer units stand ready to assist within its capacities.

## **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?**

Armenia has not signed yet the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. Armenia's accession to the Ottawa Convention, as it is in the above mentioned case of the CCW Amended Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, is contingent upon the readiness of Azerbaijan to adhere to the Convention and comply with its regime.

### **8. (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?**

Since signing of the 1994 tripartite ceasefire agreement Armenia has not unilaterally conducted any mining activities. The Armed Forces of the Republic of Armenia are not engaged in production, use or transfer to other countries of anti-personnel landmines. National standards of mine action have been defined by the Government Decree No. 454-N, dated April 23, 2014. In case of existence of 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 under government contracts as well as financing of prosthetic care are also ensured by the Government.

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

By the U.S. assistance the Republic of Armenia has established a national demining center. The Centre needs 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, which will reduce the risk of explosion while defusing mines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices.

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

The Republic of Armenia within its capacities stands ready to extend assistance to other countries in the field of humanitarian demining.

Assistance to other countries is also provided by the National Center for Humanitarian Demining and Expertise of Armenia which is designed, among other things, to train neighboring countries' engineers.

Since the establishment of the National Center for Humanitarian Demining and Expertise, Armenia has expressed its readiness to participate in various humanitarian missions, and the Armenian engineer platoon took part in the stabilization and post-war rehabilitation efforts in Iraq till November 2008.

It is worth mentioning that the Center was co-operating with the OSCE Yerevan Office. The co-operation was aimed at improvement of capacities and professional skills of the Center. Unfortunately, as a result of Azerbaijan policy aimed at cessation of the humanitarian demining activities of the OSCE Yerevan Office and eventual closure of the Yerevan Office, humanitarian demining activities of the Office were ceased.

## **OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR**

**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 signed the Convention on Conventional Weapons and its Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War.

**3. Would your country be interested in receiving assistance in clearing or otherwise minimizing the risks and effects of ERW?**

In order to mitigate the risks and effects of explosive remnants of war the Ministry of Defense of Armenia conducts demining activities in border regions of Armenia, which have been theatre of military operations. Four regions of Armenia still face risk of ERW, namely Syunik, Tavush, Gegharkunik and Vayots Dzor. The overall size of affected territory is 17 km<sup>2</sup>. The population of the ERW affected territory is 35,000.

**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 Republic of Armenia within its capacities stands ready to extend assistance to other countries.