



**Permanent Representation of the
Kingdom of the Netherlands to
the Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)**

OVSE 18 - 2025

NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe presents its compliments to all Delegations and Permanent Missions to the OSCE and to the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE, and has the honour to provide the Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Mines and Explosive Remnants of War 2024, the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Annual Article 7 Reporting, the Amended Protocol II report as well as the Protocol V report.

The Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe takes the opportunity to apologize for the delayed delivery and avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Delegations and Permanent Missions to the OSCE and to the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 21 May 2025



To: all Delegations and Permanent Missions to the OSCE
Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE



437th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 443, Agenda item 6

DECISION No. 7/04
UPDATING THE OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTI-PERSONNEL
MINES AND EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR

The Forum for Security Co-operation,

Recalling the aims of 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; of the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction; and of the 2003 Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War annexed to the 1980 Convention on Conventional Weapons,

Recognizing the enduring value of a substantial information exchange in the OSCE on the subject of anti-personnel mines,

Acknowledging that the existing information exchange (FSC.DEC/14/97/Corr., 3 December 1997) is out-of-date,

Decides:

- That this Decision and its Annexes will fully replace FSC Decision No.14/97/Corr. and its Annex;
- To begin the first annual information exchange on 31 May 2005;
- To request the CPC to take into account this information exchange in its periodical surveys;
- To keep this issue under consideration, including through a special discussion in appropriate FSC fora.

OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

**To be submitted no later than 31 May of each year
(starting in May 2005)**

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)?

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.

[See attached.](#)

If no:

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

4. What measures have been taken to prevent 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.

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

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?

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.

[See attached.](#)

- (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?

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

YES. The Netherlands supports all five pillars of Mine Action and contributes to Victim Assistance through its funding towards several programmes, including the multiannual, multi-country 'Mine Action and Cluster Munitions Programme II 2020-2024' (HALO, MAG, DRC, HI), and contributions to UNOPS.

10. 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. See also question 9.

With the view of reducing the yearly amount of victims of accidents resulting from explosives and increasing socioeconomic development in post-conflict area, the destruction of landmines and Explosive Remnants of War, including cluster munitions, are part of the integrated Dutch policy on rebuilding after conflict. The Netherlands has for many years allocated large amounts of funds to mine action programmes on survey, clearance, risk education, victim assistance and local capacity building. Through its 'Mine Action and Cluster Munitions II' multi-annual programme (MACM II, 2020-2024), the Netherlands is contributing a total of € 62,3 million Euro to NGO partners Mines Advisory Group, Danish Demining Group, the HALO Trust, Humanity & Inclusion and the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) for mine action activities in 16 different countries: Iraq, Lebanon, South Sudan, Libya, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Somalia, Syria, Lao PDR, Nigeria, Palestinian territories, Zimbabwe, Yemen, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau and Colombia.

In addition, in 2024 the Netherlands has provided a contribution to UNOPS Ukraine Support to SSTS of € 14 million. Also, in 2024 the Netherlands has donated €40,000 to the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) of the APMBC and € 10,000 to the Sponsorship Fund.

The total contribution in 2024 from the Netherlands to NGO's and multilateral organisations for Humanitarian Mine Action was € 26,214,622.

OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR

To be submitted on a voluntary basis along with the OSCE Questionnaire on Anti-personnel Mines no later than 31 May each year.

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?

YES, Protocol V of the CCW entered into force on 12 november 2006. The Netherlands had ratified Protocol V even before that date and thus belongs to the first group of States Parties to have done so.

Most recent annual report: [See attached.](#)

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.

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. See also questions 9 and 11 in Annex 1. The Netherlands provides support for Mine Action through its programmatic funding, including activities focused on Survey and Clearance of ERW and ERW related Risk education activities. In 2024 this accounted in total to EUR 26,214,622.

Article 7 Report - 1 January to 31 December 2024

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Annual Article 7 Reporting

Welcome to the online reporting platform,

- The online reporting platform has been established to support your reporting efforts in accordance with the Guide to Reporting.
- In accordance with Article 7, your report is required to be submitted to the depository of the Convention by **30 April** each year.
- Please fill out your contact information first and then proceed to the summary report. For every section of the summary report, please indicate if the information is "changed", "unchanged" or "not applicable". Once you have filled out the summary report, you will only be allowed to fill out forms where you indicated that information has "changed" in the summary report.
- For guidance on reporting, please refer to the Guide to Reporting available under 'My Reports'.
- You may attach files where relevant. Please note that all attachments together should not exceed the size limit of 5MB.
- You will be able to save, edit and view your report before you submit it. You may return to previous questions, save and logout at any time.
 - To save your report, click on the '**SAVE**' button which you will find at the bottom of each page.
 - To edit your report, go to 'My Reports', select the report you want to edit, and click '**EDIT**'.
 - To view your report, click on the '**PDF**' button which you will find at the bottom of each page.
 - To submit your report, first save your report. You will then be directed to "My Reports" where you can click on the '**SUBMIT**' button.
- When you submit your report, it will be sent directly to the depository and copied to the ISU. You will receive a confirmation email that your report has been submitted.
- Once submitted, you will be able to view but not edit your report.
- Should you encounter any difficulty while using the online reporting platform, please contact the ISU at isu@apminebanconvention.org



Contact information

Please fill out your contact information (mandatory).

State Party

Netherlands

Reporting Period

1 January - 31 December 2024

Name of Responsible Authority

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Point of Contact

Erik van Oudheusden

E-mail

erik-van.oudheusden@minbuza.nl

Phone number

+31655227188

Address

Rijnstraat 8, 2515XP, The Hague, The Netherlands



Summary report

For every section of the summary report, please indicate if the information is "changed", "unchanged" or "not applicable".

The option to fill out the detailed form(s) will only be available for the section(s) where you have indicated information has "changed". If an indication is made in the summary report that the information to be provided with respect to a particular form is "unchanged" in relationship to a previous year's form, the date of submission of the previous form should be clearly indicated. The option to fill out the detailed form will not appear.

The summary report can be used as a substitute for submitting the detailed report only if all of the information to be provided in the annual report is the same as in past reports.

A. National implementation measures:

- ☐ changed
☒ unchanged

Last reporting year:

2009

B. Stockpiled anti-personnel mines:

- ☐ changed
☐ unchanged
☒ non applicable

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

- ☒ changed
☐ unchanged
☐ non applicable

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

- ☐ changed
☐ unchanged
☒ non applicable

E. Mine risk education and reduction efforts

- ☐ changed
☐ unchanged
☒ non applicable

F. Technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines:

- ☐ changed
☐ unchanged
☒ non applicable

G. Conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities:

- ☐ changed
☐ unchanged
☒ non applicable

H. Victim assistance:

- ☐ changed
☐ unchanged
☒ non applicable

I. Cooperation and assistance:

- ☒ changed
☐ unchanged
☐ non applicable

J. Other relevant matters:

- ☐ changed
☐ unchanged
☒ non applicable

Add any additional information**Attachments (eg. Note Verbale)**

No attachment.



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

1. Retained anti-personnel mines

Insert information on anti-personnel mines retained for permitted purposes as of 31 December of the previous year.

Institution authorised by the State Party	Type	Quantity Retained	Lot Numbers
The Netherlands Ministry of Defence	AP 22	68	
The Netherlands Ministry of Defence	DM 31	102	

Total

170

2. Anti-personnel mines used for permitted purposes

Insert information on anti-personnel mines used during the reporting period for permitted purposes (e.g. training mine detection dogs, testing demining machines and studying the effect of the blast of various types of anti-personnel mines on demining equipment).

Type	Quantity Used	Authorised Institution	Lot Numbers	Actual use

Total

0

3. Transferred anti-personnel mines

Insert information on anti-personnel mines transferred for permitted purposes (e.g. development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques or for the purpose of destruction).

Type	Quantity Transferred	Authorised Institution	Lot Numbers	Recipient State	Purpose of transfer

Total

0

4. Additional information

Insert additional information on anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for permitted purposes (e.g. future planned use of retained mines, receipt of anti-personnel mines, any increase or decrease in the number of retained anti-personnel mines.)

5. Efforts to annually review the number of mines retained for permitted purposes

Insert information on efforts to annually review the number of mines retained to ensure that they do not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for permitted purposes.

6. Efforts to explore alternatives

Insert information on efforts to explore alternatives to using live anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes.

I. Cooperation and assistance

1. Cooperation

Insert information on cooperation (e.g. cooperation and assistance provided by your State, requirements for cooperation and assistance and cooperation received (e.g. financial, technical advice, exchange of experiences, etc.) and partnerships for completion forged.

With the view of reducing the yearly amount of victims of accidents resulting from explosives and increasing socioeconomic development in post-conflict area, the destruction of landmines and Explosive Remnants of War, including cluster munitions, are part of the integrated Dutch policy on rebuilding after conflict. The Netherlands has for many years allocated large amounts of funds to mine action programmes on survey, clearance, risk education, victim assistance and local capacity building. Through its 'Mine Action and Cluster Munitions II' multi-annual programme (MACM II, 2020-2024), the Netherlands is contributing a total of € 62,3 million Euro to NGO partners Mines Advisory Group, Danish Demining Group, the HALO Trust, Humanity & Inclusion and the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) for mine action activities in 16 different countries: Iraq, Lebanon, South Sudan, Libya, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Somalia, Syria, Lao PDR, Nigeria, Palestinian territories, Zimbabwe, Yemen, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau and Colombia.

In addition, in 2024 the Netherlands has provided a contribution to UNOPS Ukraine Support to SSTS of € 14 million. Also, in 2024 the Netherlands has donated € 40,000 to the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) of the APMBC and € 10,000 to the Sponsorship Fund.

The total contribution in 2024 from the Netherlands to NGO's and multilateral organisations for Humanitarian Mine Action was € 26,214,622.

2. Efforts to strengthen national coordination

Insert information on efforts undertaken by your State to strengthen national coordination including by ensuring regular dialogue with national and international stakeholders on progress, challenges and support for implementation of your State's obligations under the Convention including through, where relevant, the establishment of an appropriate national platform for regular dialogue among all stakeholders.

n/a

3. Efforts to integrate mine action activities

If your State is a beneficiary of assistance, insert information on efforts to integrate mine action activities into other frameworks (e.g. humanitarian response plans, strategies for the inclusion of persons with disabilities) and the financial commitment of your State to implementation.

n/a

4. Gender and diversity

If your State is a provider of assistance, insert information on how the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men, including mine survivors and affected communities, is considered in the provision of cooperation and assistance.

The Netherlands ensures that the different needs and perspectives of men and boys, women and girls, including mine survivors and affected communities are considered in the projects funded by The Netherlands. Gender is a cross-cutting aspect of all humanitarian and development activities including mine action activities supported by the Netherlands.

In 2024, the Netherlands has served as a Gender Focal Point of the *Committee on the Enhancement of International Cooperation and Assistance* and of the *Victim Assistance Committee*. The APMBC Gender Focal Points the Netherlands, Japan, Peru and Thailand have initiated a joint cross-regional statement on Gender and Diversity, linking it to the Women, Peace and Security Agenda and the Sustainable Development Agenda.

5. Efforts to develop and promote cooperation

Insert information on efforts undertaken to develop and promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation and sharing of best practices.

The Netherlands, together with the United Kingdom and Switzerland, has funded the sector-wide Theory of Change for Mine Action to better align the donor community around shared mine action objectives and indicators, bringing greater coherence to the sector overall.

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

**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: Kingdom of the Netherlands

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 20-03-2025

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF
CONTACT: Ms. Dina Marges, Ministry of Foreign
Affairs
+31 6 25 72 50 98
Dvb-wo@minbuza.nl
(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:

Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period

from: 01/01/2024

dd/mm/yyyy

to: 31/12/2024

dd/mm/yyyy

INFORMATION TO THE ARMED FORCES:

The content and the meaning of this Protocol are an integrated part of the basic training of all armed forces in the Netherlands. It is part of the instruction in humanitarian law. Specific groups receive extended instructions.

INFORMATION TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION:

The contents of this amended Protocol have been published in the Bulletin of Treaties and the legislation for approval has been published in the Bulletin of Acts and Decrees. Therefore, both are available to the civilian population.

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

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:

Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period

from: 01/01/2024

dd/mm/yyyy

to: 31/12/2024

dd/mm/yyyy

MINE CLEARANCE PROGRAMMES:

**Since the Netherlands is not a mine-affected country, there are no mine action
programmes conducted in the Netherlands.**

REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES:

**Since the Netherlands is not a mine-affected country, there is no specific rehabilitation
programme for mine victims in the Netherlands.**

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

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:

Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period

from: **01/01/2024**

dd/mm/yyyy

to:

31/12/2024

dd/mm/yyyy

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

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ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

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AMENDED PROTOCOL II

Form D

Legislation

Article 13,
paragraph 4 (d)

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

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period

from: **01/01/2024**

dd/mm/yyyy

to:

31/12/2024

dd/mm/yyyy

LEGISLATION:

The Amended Protocol II is implemented on the basis of existing legislation, such as the Import and Export Act, the Weapons and Munitions Act and the Military Penal Code.

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

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:

Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period

from: 01/01/2024

dd/mm/yyyy

to: 31/12/2024

dd/mm/yyyy

INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE:

Currently no military personnel is deployed abroad for the purpose of humanitarian
mine clearance assistance.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON MINE CLEARANCE:

The Netherlands continues to be an important donor in the field of international Mine Action. Through its ‘Mine Action and Cluster Munitions II’ multi-annual programme (MACM II, 2020-2024), the Netherlands is contributing a total of € 65,4 million to NGO partners Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), the HALO Trust, Humanity & Inclusion (HI) and the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) for mine action activities in 16 different countries: Iraq, Lebanon, South Sudan, Libya, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Somalia, Syria, Lao PDR, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Yemen, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, Sudan and Colombia. Funds are intended for all pillars of mine action: mine clearing operations, mine risk education, victim assistance, stockpile destruction, advocacy and for capacity building.

In addition, in 2024 the Netherlands has provided a contribution to UNOPS Ukraine Support to SSTS of € 14 million. Also, in 2024 the Netherlands has donated € 40,000 to the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) of the APMBC and € 10,000 to the Sponsorship Fund.

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

The total contribution in 2024 from the Netherlands to NGO's and multilateral organisations for Humanitarian Mine Action was € 26,214,622.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE:

n.t.r.

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

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:

Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period

from: 01/01/2024

dd/mm/yyyy

to:

31/12/2024

dd/mm/yyyy

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS:

None

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:

Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period

from: 01/01/2024

dd/mm/yyyy

to: 31/12/2024

dd/mm/yyyy

MEANS AND TECHNOLOGIES OF MINE CLEARANCE:

See national points of contact

LISTS OF EXPERTS AND EXPERT AGENCIES:

See national points of contact

NATIONAL POINTS OF CONTACT ON MINE CLEARANCE:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, DVB/WO
Ms. Dina Marges
PO Box 20061
NL - 2500 EB The Hague
The Netherlands
Tel. +31 6 25 72 50 98
E-mail: dvb-wo@minbuza.nl

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, DSH/SV
Mr. Erik van Oudheusden
PO Box 20061
NL - 2500 EB The Hague
The Netherlands

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

Tel: +31 6 5522 7159

E-mail: erik-van.oudheusden@minbuza.nl

Ministry of Defence, Military Engineering Centre/Knowledge Centre

PO Box 90004

NL - 3509 AA Utrecht

The Netherlands

Tel: +31 73 688 1707

E-mail: KCGenie@mindef.nl

- PROTOCOL V -

**REPORTING FORMS
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 10, PARAGRAPH 2 (b) OF THE PROTOCOL AND THE
DECISION OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING
PARTIES TO PROTOCOL V**

(As adopted by the First Conference at its second plenary meeting on 5 November 2007)

HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: Kingdom of the Netherlands

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT (Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail):

Ms. Dina Marges
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
+31 6 25 72 50 98
Dvb-wo@minbuza.nl

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 20-03-2025
(dd/mm/yyyy)

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 ☐ H ☐ I ☐

- PROTOCOL V -

FORM A: Steps taken to implement Article 3 of the Protocol: Clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 3:

In the reporting period elements of the Netherlands armed forces were part of Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR) in Iraq. Next to that the Netherlands supported NATO in the east of Europe to deter the Russian Federation during their invasion and unprovoked operations against Ukraine by providing input to NATO's Enhanced forward Presence (eFP). This NATO presence in the Baltic states and Poland serves as a reassuring measure for these countries. The Netherlands supplies 270 soldiers for a multinational battle group in eFP, with a maximum of 350 personnel. The Netherlands also contributed to the Assault Sapper Course within the framework of EUMAM. Through eight trainings of four weeks, Ukrainian personnel was trained on handling ERW.

Starting mid 2023 the Netherlands supported EU's mission EUFOR Althea at the Western Balkans, operating from Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina with an Infantry company Royal Netherlands Marine Corps (100 - 150 mil. starting from October 2023 to October 2024), and NLD will also deploy a Human Intelligence (HUMINT) team of 10 from Jun 3, 2023 until Jul 2025.

The Netherlands armed forces on mission did not exercise control over any territory.

Clearance, removal and destruction of ERW are reflected in Standard Operating Procedures and other internal directives of the Netherlands armed forces. The Netherlands incorporates Explosives Ordnance Disposal personnel in their expeditionary units/task forces. The EOD personnel will clear, remove and/or destroy conventional explosives and improvised explosives devices.

Additionally they will dispose of enemy stocks of ammunition to prevent it from being used against NL/coalition forces. Moreover, this personnel as a matter of policy fulfils mentioned tasks in order to minimize the risks for the civilian population.

Any other relevant information:

None

- PROTOCOL V -

FORM B: Steps taken to implement Article 4 of the Protocol: Recording, retaining and transmission of information

High Contracting Party: Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 4 and the Technical Annex:

The information on the use of explosive ordnance or abandonment of explosive ordnance must be preserved according to national law (Archiefwet). Within the Ministry of Defence several instructions are in force on recording and retaining of information on the use of explosive ordnance: the reports Troops in Contact (TIC), mission reports, After Action Reports (AAR) and logbooks. These instructions apply to all missions performed by the Netherlands Armed Forces.

Procedures for ensuring the release and transmission of information in accordance with this article are in place. A central database has been set up to store all the recorded information on the use of explosive ordnance. The information is recorded in the 'Article 4 generic electronic template'. This will make it easier to retrieve and, at the appropriate time, transmit the information on ERW.

Every commanding officer of a mission receives (if applicable) an instruction on Protocol V (including Article 4 and on how to use the generic electronic template) and will bear the responsibility for recording the information. The Defence Staff of the Netherlands Ministry of Defence is responsible for compiling the recorded information, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for its international transmission.

Any other relevant information:

None

- PROTOCOL V -

FORM C: Steps taken to implement Article 5 of the Protocol: Other precautions for the protection of the civilian population, individual civilians and civilian objects from the risks and effects of explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2024 **to** 31/12/2024
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 5 and the Technical Annex:

All military personnel is trained and obliged to take feasible precautions in the territory of their operation. Standing Operating Procedures cover the detection, marking, fencing, monitoring and active dissemination of information on any ERW. Ignoring these SOPs can result in criminal prosecution. These precautions have been taken in practice by the Netherlands Armed Forces in areas of operations, including Mali and Iraq.

When actually clearing, removing or destroying ERW, EOD specialists of the Netherlands Armed Forces provide protection for the civilian population by means of protective constructions, by applying smart explosive techniques and ordering diversions or evacuations.

Any other relevant information:

None

- **PROTOCOL V** -

FORM D: Steps taken to implement Article 6 of the Protocol: Provisions for the protection of humanitarian missions and organizations from the effects of explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2024 **to** 31/12/2024
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 6:

Mutatis mutandis in accordance with the information provided in Form C.

Any other relevant information:

None

- PROTOCOL V -

FORM E: Steps taken to implement Article 7 of the Protocol: Assistance with respect to existing explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 7:

In order to reduce the yearly number of victims of mines and ERW, as well as to promote socio-economic development in post-conflict areas, the Netherlands has included Mine Action in its integrated post-conflict reconstruction policy. Victim assistance (including medical care, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of mines and ERW), is part of the Dutch policy on mine action. Under the Convention on Anti-Personnel Mines the Netherlands has committed itself to provide assistance in mine-affected areas of other States Parties. This includes mine clearance, mine risk education and victim assistance, as well as destruction of storage facilities.

The Netherlands continues to be an important donor in the field of international Mine Action. Through its 'Mine Action and Cluster Munitions II' multi-annual programme (MACM II, 2020-2024), the Netherlands is contributing a total of € 65,4 million to NGO partners Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), the HALO Trust, Humanity & Inclusion (HI) and the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) for mine action activities in 16 different countries: Iraq, Lebanon, South Sudan, Libya, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Somalia, Syria, Lao PDR, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Yemen, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, Sudan and Colombia. Funds are intended for all pillars of mine action: mine clearing operations, mine risk education, victim assistance, stockpile destruction, advocacy and for capacity building.

In addition, in 2024 the Netherlands has provided a contribution to UNOPS Ukraine Support to SSTS of € 14 million. Also, in 2024 the Netherlands has donated € 40,000 to the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) of the APMBC and € 10,000 to the Sponsorship Fund.

The total contribution in 2024 from the Netherlands to NGO's and multilateral organisations for Humanitarian Mine Action was € 26,214,622.

Any other relevant information:

None

- PROTOCOL V -

FORM F: Steps taken to implement Article 8 of the Protocol: Co-operation and assistance

High Contracting Party: Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 8:

Mutatis mutandis in accordance with the information provided in Form E.

Any other relevant information:

None

FORM F(a): Steps taken by States which have ERW victims to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2): Victim Assistance

High Contracting Party: Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2):

In order to reduce the yearly number of victims of mines and ERW, as well as to promote socio-economic development in post-conflict areas, the Netherlands has included Mine Action in its integrated post-conflict reconstruction policy. Victim assistance (including medical care, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of mines and ERW), is part of the Dutch policy on mine action.

Other relevant information, guided by the Plan of Action on Victim Assistance:

None

- PROTOCOL V -

FORM G: Steps taken to implement Article 9 of the Protocol: Generic preventive measures

High Contracting Party: Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 9 and the Technical Annex:

Amongst others, prevention of the occurrence of explosive remnants of war starts with preventive measures taken under normal, that is, peacetime circumstances. The paragraphs below describe in general wording the steps taken by the Netherlands (NLD) emphasizing prevention of explosive remnants of war. Generally speaking, NATO rules or Standing agreements (STANAGs) do apply.

A. Munitions manufacturing/procurement management

- (1) NLD has virtually no ammunition production capability. Therefore, during procurement, all necessary steps are taken so as to guarantee the highest possible reliability of munitions. This is achieved by the incorporation of specific requirements of generally adopted standards and norms in this so-called Programme of Requirements (POR, NLD-MOD/DMO) (Netherlands MOD/Defence Materiel Organization).
- (2) In the POR, requirements are incorporated to guarantee that production processes are subject to certified quality control measures like AQAP and/or ISO 9000.
- (3) The same POR also requires the supplier to prove his AQAP (Allied Quality Assurance Publication) and/or ISO 9000 certification.
- (4) Explosive ordnance is only introduced in the armed forces after successful completion of a series of acceptance tests, including live-firings according to a prescribed standard and the programme agreed upon with the manufacturer (included in the POR, varies with type of ammunition).
- (5) For explosive ordnance transactions and transfers, sound protocols exist for classification, CA (Competent Authority) certification and Qualification of Explosives used in a certain store. The permission to fire a specific munition with a specific weapon is regulated by NLD national regulations.
- (6) The Netherlands evaluates every new munitions-configuration according the NATO AAS3P documents for safety and suitability for service and will only be released for use after successful evaluation.
- (7) The Netherlands strive for so-called 'insensitive ammunition' wherever possible and available.

B. Munitions management

- (1) The storage of explosive ordnance is regulated in a national obligatory document.
- (2) Transportation of ammunition is regulated in a National document so as to guarantee minimal damage to the explosive ordnance and minimal impact on the surroundings in case of a mishap.
- (3) The containers / buildings for the storage of ammunition have to fulfil certain requirements. For the transportation of explosive ordnance, only qualified vehicles may be used.
- (4) The risk of explosions in stockpiles is regulated in quantity-distance requirements for stockpile arrangements.

- PROTOCOL V -

(5) All ammunition is characterized by a number of data, visible on the (packaging of the) explosive ordnance (barcode). In some cases data logging is used to show the exact history (storage conditions, locations where the munition has been and environmental factors it has been exposed to) of the ammunition.

(6) Surveillance testing is carried out at regular intervals (depending on the type of ammunition) according to the Programme for Periodic Inspection.

(7) Sub-assemblies, in particular (rocket-)propellants are under constant laboratory coverage.

(8) In the Programme for Periodic Inspection, mandatory indications are given for (extension of) the expected shelf-life and actions to be taken to maintain the reliability of the product(s).

C. Training

Each (type of) ammunition may only be used after an intensive training. For that purpose special training aids and practice ordnance is procured.

D. Transfer

Both national and international transfer of ammunition is subjected to strict rules.

E. Future Production/Procurement

In the near future, more emphasis will be laid on procurement of "less sensitive" (IM) ammunition with more attention to procurement of so called "green ammunition". Future procurement will generally follow the same lines, where measures are taken to guarantee the highest possible reliability for functioning and safety. Included are "lessons learned" from mandatory reports after unwanted situations with ammunition.

Any other relevant information:

None

- PROTOCOL V -

FORM H: Steps taken to implement Article 11 of the Protocol: Compliance

High Contracting Party: Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2024 **to** 31/12/2024
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 11:

All military personnel receive training on the provisions of Protocol V of the CCW on Explosive Remnants of War, specified to the various levels (Officers, NCOs and soldiers).

Every commanding officer of a mission receives (if applicable) an instruction on Protocol V (including Article 4 and how to use the generic electronic template) and will bear the responsibility for recording the information. The Defence Staff of the Netherlands Ministry of Defence is responsible for compiling the recorded information; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for its international transmission.

Any other relevant information:

None

- PROTOCOL V -

FORM I: Other relevant matters

High Contracting Party: Kingdom of the Netherlands

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2024 to 01/12/2024
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Any other relevant information:

None