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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF
CYPRUS TO THE OSCE
VIENNA

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NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus to the OSCE, presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions and Delegations of all participating States to the OSCE and to the Conflict Prevention Center and in accordance with FSC Decision 2/09, has the honor to submit the response of the Republic of Cyprus to the Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct on Politico-military Aspects of Security.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Permanent Missions and Delegations of the participating States and to the Conflict Prevention Center, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 15 April 2016.



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

QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE CODE OF CONDUCT ON POLITICO-MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY*

Section I: Inter-State elements

1. Account of measures to prevent and combat terrorism

1.1 To which agreements and arrangements (universal, regional, sub regional and bilateral) related to preventing and combating terrorism is your State a party?

A. Conventions

The Republic of Cyprus has signed and ratified the following Conventions, in the field of terrorism:

(1) Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft – Tokyo 14/09/1963 - Ratification Law No. 31/1972.

(2) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft – The Hague 16/12/1970 - Ratification Law No. 30/1972.

(3) Convention for the Suppression of the Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation – Montreal 23/09/1971 - Ratification Law No. 37/1973 and Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Aviation, complementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Aircraft – Montreal 24/02/1988 - Ratification Law No. 33(III)/01.

(4) Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, Including Diplomatic Personnel – New York 14/12/1973 - Ratification Law No. 63/1975.

(5) European Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism – Strasbourg 27/01/1977 - Ratification Law No. 5/1979 and the Protocol amending the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, Strasbourg 15.05.2003- Ratification Law No.18 (III)/2004.

(6) Convention against the Taking of Hostages – New York 17/12/1979 - Ratification Law No. 244/90.

(7) Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials – Vienna 03/03/1980 - Ratification Law No. 3(III)/98.

* Participating States are encouraged to highlight major changes or updates in their replies to the questionnaire, as appropriate

(8) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation – Rome 10/03/1988 - Ratification Law No. 17(III)/99.

(9) International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings 15/12/1997 - Ratification Law No. 19(III)/2000.

(10) International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism – New York 10/01/2000 - Ratification Law No. 29(III)/01.

(11) International Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection - Montreal 01/03/1991 – Ratification Law No. 19(III)/2002.

(12) Offences against the Safety of Civil Aviation – Montreal 23/09/1971 - Ratification Law No. 79/1973.

(13) European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes- 24/11/1983- Ratification Law No. 51(I)/1997.

(14) United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto Palermo – 12/12/2000 - Ratification Law No. 11(III)2003.

(15) International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism- New York 13.04.2005 - Ratification Law No. 44(III)/2007.

(16) European Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime - Strasbourg 8.11.1990 – Ratification Law No. 18(III)/1995.

(17) European Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds of Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism, Warsaw, 16 May 2005 - Ratification Law 51(III)/2007.

(18) European Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism, -Ratification Law 22(III)/2010.

(19) European Convention on Cybercrime – Budapest 23/11/2001 – Ratification Law No.22 (III)/2004 and the Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime, concerning the criminalization of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems – Ratification Law No.26 (III)/2004.

(20) International Convention Against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries – Ratification Law 14(III)/93.

(21) European Convention on Extradition-Paris 13.12.1957 – Ratification Law No. 95/1970, Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Extradition-Strasbourg 15.10.1975 – Ratification Law No. 23/1979, Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Extradition 17.3.1978 – Ratification Law No. 17/1984 and

Third Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Extradition, 10/11/2010- Ratification Law No 28(III)/2012.

(22) European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, Strasbourg 20.4.1959 – Ratification Law No. 2(III)/2000, Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters-Strasbourg 17.03.1978 – Ratification Law No. 2(III)/2000 and Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters -Strasbourg 8.11.2001 – Ratification Law No. 5(III)/2012.

(23) European Convention on the Transfer of Proceedings in Criminal Matters - 09/02/2000 – Ratification Law No.20(III)/2000.

B. Other commitments

(1) Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime- New York 31 May 2001, Ratification Law No. 11(III)/2003.

(2) Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms on the Continental Shelf – Rome 10/03/1988 - Ratification Law No. 17(III)/99.

(3) In June 2007, Cyprus joined the Global Initiative to Combat Acts of Nuclear Terrorism initiated by Russia and the USA.

(4) Cyprus is a member of the International Initiative for Combating Nuclear Terrorism.

C. Bilateral Agreements

The Republic of Cyprus has concluded bilateral agreements to prevent and combat terrorist activities, which, inter alia, provide for the exchange of information on terrorism, as listed below:

(1) Agreement between the Ministries of Interior of Cyprus and the Syrian Arab Republic in the fields of Crime and Illicit Trafficking and Smuggling of Drugs (4/04/1989) and its Protocols, Ratification Law 6(VII)/1992.

(2) Agreement on co-operation between the Ministry of Justice and Public Order of the Republic of Cyprus and the Ministry of the Interior of the Russian Federation (3/12/1999), Ratification Law No. 16 (VII)/1999.

(3) Agreement between Cyprus and Italy on Co-operation in the fight against terrorism, organized crime and other forms of Crime (28/06/2002), Ratification Law 22 (III)/2003.

(4) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Republic of Hungary on Cooperation in Combating Terrorism, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime (13/06/1996), Ratification Law No. 6 (VII)/1996.

(5) Agreement on Co-operation between Cyprus and Poland on co-operation in Combating Organized and other Forms of Crime (18/02/2005), Ratification Law No.34(III)/2005.

(6) Agreement on Co-operation between Cyprus and Greece on Security Matters and police cooperation (3/12/2007), Ratification Law No. 13 (III)/2008.

(7) Agreement between the Ministry of Justice and Public Order of the Republic of Cyprus and the Ministry of Public Security of the People's Republic of China on Public Security Matters, (18/10/1994) Ratification Law 24(VII)/1994.

(8) Agreement between the Ministry of Justice and Public Order of the Republic of Cyprus and the Ministry of Interior of the Arab Republic of Egypt on Security Matters (7/6/1994), Ratification Law 16(VII)/1994.

(9) Agreement on Co-operation between Cyprus and Israel in Combating Illicit Trafficking and Abuse of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Terrorism and other Serious Crimes (09/01/1995), Ratification Law 2(VII)/1995.

(10) Agreement between Cyprus and Romania on Co-operation in the Fight Against International Crime (07/06/1995), Ratification Law No. 16(VII)/1995.

(11) Agreement for Co-operation between the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Cyprus and the Federal Ministry of Interior of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and Protocol, (7/12/1992), Ratification Law No. 1(VII)/1993, which remains in force between Cyprus and the Czech Republic in accordance with the Exchange of Letters of 19 January 1999.

(12) Agreement on Co-operation between Cyprus and Malta in Combating Terrorism, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime (17/09/1999), Ratification Law No. 15(VII)/1999.

(13) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of Ireland on Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking, Money Laundering, Organised Crime, Trafficking in Persons, Terrorism and other Serious Crime (8/3/2002), Ratification Law No. 34(III)/2002.

(14) Agreement on Co-operation between Cyprus and Slovenia in the Fight Against Terrorism, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime (04/12/2002), Ratification Law No. 28 (III)/2003.

(15) Agreement on Co-operation between Cyprus and Estonia on co-operation in Combating Organized Crime and other forms of Crime (08/01/2004), Ratification Law No.13(III)/2004.

(16) Agreement between the Republic of Cyprus and the Republic of Lebanon on cooperating in combating the illicit use of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and Organized Crime (19/07/2002), Ratification Law No. 5(III)/2004.

(17) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria on Cooperation in the Fight Against Transborder and Organized Crime, Terrorism, Illegal Migration, Trade in Human Beings and Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Substances (02/12/2003), Ratification Law No. 48 (III)/2004.

(18) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of Slovak Republic on Co-operation in Combating Organised Crime, Terrorism, Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances as well as other Types of Crime (26/02/2004), Ratification Law No. 5(III)/2005.

(19) Agreement on Co-operation between the Republic of Cyprus and the Republic of France on security matters, (04/03/2005), Ratification Law No. 49(III)/2005.

(20) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Republic of Latvia on Co-operation in Combating Terrorism, Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors and Organized Crime, (11/04/2005), Ratification Law No. 48(III)/2005..

(21) Agreement between the Republic of Cyprus and the Republic of Armenia on Co-operation in Combating Organized Crime and other Forms of Crime, (23/11/2006), Ratification Law No. 42(III)/2007.

(22) Agreement between the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Republic of India on Combating Organized Crime, International Terrorism and Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, (25/05/2007), Ratification Law No. 43(III)/2007.

(23) Agreement between the Government Republic of Cyprus and the Kingdom of Spain on Cooperation in Combating Organised Crime, (30/04/2007), Ratification Law No. 41(III)/2007.

(24) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on Cooperation in Combating Crime, (16/06/2006), Ratification Law No. 20(III)/2006.

(25) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Republic of Serbia on Cooperation in Fighting Terrorism, Organized Crime, Illicit trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors, Illegal Immigration and Other Criminal Offences, (23/02/2009), Ratification Law 8(III)/2010.

(26) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Republic of South Africa on Police Cooperation. Ratification Law 20(III)/2011.

(27) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the State of Kuwait on cooperation in fighting terrorism, organized crime, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, illegal migration and other criminal offences (08/10/2013), Ratification Law No. 3(III)/2014.

(28) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Cooperation in Combating Crime, Ratification Law No. 18(III)/2014.

(29) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in Combating Terrorism – signed on 25/2/2015.

(30) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain on Cooperation in Fighting Terrorism, Organized Crime, Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors, Illegal Migration and Other Criminal Offences Stipulated in this Agreement – Signed on 9/3/2015.

(31) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of Montenegro on Cooperation in Fighting Terrorism, Organized Crime, Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors, Illegal Migration and Other Criminal Offences – Signed on 20/3/2015.

1.2 What national legislation has been adopted in your State to implement the above-mentioned agreements and arrangements?

The Ratification Laws quoted in section 1.1 (above), entail implementing provisions including the criminalization of certain acts. In addition, Cyprus enacted the following domestic laws:

- The Extradition of Fugitives Law No. 97/1970.
- The International Cooperation in Criminal Matters Law No.23(I)/2001.
- The European Arrest Warrant Law No.133(I)/2004.
- Joint Investigation Teams Law No.244(I)/2004.
- The European Police Office (Europol) Law No. 102(I)/2011

- Convention on Mutual Judicial Assistance in Criminal matters among Member States (EEC 197 of 12.7.2000) and its protocol (EEC 326 of 21.11.2001) – Ratification Law 25(III)/2004 as amended by Law No.9(III)/2008

In particular, the Combating of Terrorism Law of 2010 (No.110(I)/2010) provides with a comprehensive legal framework in the field of terrorism. This Law transposes the EU Law legal framework, "*Council Framework Decision 2002/475/JHA of 13 June 2002 on combating terrorism*" as amended by "*Framework Decision 2008/919/JHA*" and contains an extensive list of the offences constituting a terrorist act, including the definition and offences on terrorist groups and those linked to terrorist activities. It also includes provisions regarding, inter alia, (a) liability of legal persons, (b) inciting, aiding or abetting and attempting a terrorist act, (c) provision of support to terrorist groups (d) effective, proportionate and dissuasive criminal penalties, (e) extraterritorial jurisdiction, (f) protection of and assistance to victims and (g) international cooperation.

1.3 What are the roles and missions of military, paramilitary and security forces and the police in preventing and combating terrorism in your State?

The competent body for dealing with the threat of terrorism is the Cyprus Police.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice and Public Order has been appointed as the National Counter-Terrorism Coordinator (NCTC) and assigned the following tasks:

- Advising the Government on policymaking with regard to the prevention / combating terrorism.
- Representing the Government on EU and International fora
- Coordinating and supervising the implementation of the international and European obligations of the Republic on issues of terrorism, including EU Action Plans related to terrorism.
- Supervising the implementation of the National Counterterrorism Strategy.

The Counter Terrorism Office (CTO) of Cyprus Police was established, in 2001 and operates under the Criminal Investigation Department (Department C') of Police Headquarters. The CTO deals with analyzing, evaluation and exploitation of intelligence and enforcement of measures to Combating Terrorism, including those deriving from International Conventions, the United Nations Security Council Resolutions, Common Positions, as well as other primary or subsidiary legislation of the European Union.

The Assistant Chief of Police (Operations) has the authority to engage additional Police Units/Departments/Services in activities related to prevention and combating of terrorism.

The Special Antiterrorist Squad (S.A.S.) of the Cyprus Police Emergency Response Unit (E.R.U.) is specially trained in order to deal with emergency response and acts of terrorism.

1.4 Provide information on national efforts to prevent and combat terrorism not mentioned above, e.g., those pertaining *inter alia* to:

Financing of terrorism

The competent agency for Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (Law No.29(III)/2001) is the Unit for Combating Money Laundering (MOKAS). It is the Financial Intelligence Center of Cyprus which receives, requests, analyzes and disseminates information concerning suspected money laundering or financing of terrorism activities. It operates under the Attorney General of the Republic of Cyprus and is composed of representatives of the Attorney General, the Chief of Police, and the Director of the Department of Customs and Excise, as well as financial experts.

The Unit, *inter alia*, has the following main tasks:

- It cooperates and exchanges information with other FIUs.
- It Issues guidance directives and provides training to financial institutions, the Police, professionals and others.
- It issues administrative orders for the postponement of transactions.
- It applies and obtains court orders (disclosure, freezing, confiscation).
- It protects the privacy of the information it possesses.

The Prevention and Suppression of Money Laundering Activities Law provides for a mandatory reporting of suspicious transactions to MOKAS and the obligation to take the appropriate preventive measures (e.g. identification of customers, record keeping, and mandatory reporting) applied to all persons who are engaged in financial business, including lawyers and accountants.

The Head of the Unit chairs the meeting of the "Advisory Authority for Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing". The tasks of the Authority are the following:

- I. Inform the Council of Ministers of any measures taken and the general policy applied against money laundering and financing of terrorism offences;
- II. Advise the Council of Ministers about additional measures which, in its opinion, should be taken for the better implementation of this Law;
- III. Promote the Republic internationally as a country, which complies with all the conventions, resolutions and decisions of international bodies in respect of combating laundering and financing of terrorism offences.

IV. Designate the third countries outside the European Economic Area which impose procedures and take measures for preventing money laundering and financing of terrorism equivalent to those laid down by the EU Directive. For this purpose, it applies the relevant decision of the European Commission according to Article 40(4) of the EU Directive. Furthermore, it notifies the competent Supervisory Authorities who in turn notify the persons falling under their supervision of the said decision.

The Advisory Authority is composed of representatives of:

- a. The Unit of Combating Money Laundering;
- b. The Central Bank of Cyprus;
- c. All other Supervisory Authorities;
- d. The Ministry of Finance;
- e. The Ministry of Justice and Public Order;
- f. The Police;
- g. The Customs and Excise Department;
- h. The Association of Cyprus Commercial Banks;
- i. The Association of International Banks;
- j. The Cyprus Bar Association;
- k. The Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Cyprus
- l. The Registrar of Companies;
- m. Any other Organization or Service the Council of Ministers may

prescribe.

MOKAS, strongly supporting international co-operation, participates in international fora and in the CARIN (Camden Assets Recovery Inter-Agency) Network since 2005. It is also a member of the "EGMONT Group" since June 1998. The Unit co-operates with foreign counterpart Units and provides legal assistance and exchanges information with foreign counterpart Units (judicial, police, administrative). Memoranda of Understanding have been signed with the counterparts of the following countries: Belgium, France, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Israel, Ireland, Malta, Georgia, Australia, Poland, Ukraine, Albania, Bulgaria, Canada, Russian Federation, Moldova, South Africa, USA, Romania, Chile, Netherlands Antilles, Korea, Syria, Aruba, Serbia, Jordan, Japan, Armenia, Montenegro, Kazakhstan the Holy See/Vatican City State, Egypt and Sint Maartin.

The Unit has been also designated by the Council of Ministers on 18 March 2009, as the Asset Recovery Office (ARO) for the purposes of implementing the "*Council Decision 2007/845/JHA of 6 December 2007 concerning cooperation between Asset Recovery Offices of the Member States in the field of tracing and identification of proceeds from, or other property related, to crime*" and the Head of the Unit is also the Head of the Cyprus Delegation to the "Committee on the Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing" of the European Commission which elaborated the 3rd AML/CFT Directive. In implementation of the "*Council Decision 2000/642/JHA of 17 October 2000 concerning arrangements for cooperation between FIUs of Member*

States in respect of exchanging information”, MOKAS participates in the FIU.NET Task Force, which is a fully decentralized EU wide system whereby FIUs join a computer network to exchange information in a secure environment. Finally, MOKAS participates in the FIU Platform which was set up by the European Commission to enable EU FIUs to exchange views and experiences on technical issues related to relevant provisions of the 3rd AML/CFT Directive.

Regarding legislation pertaining in particular to terrorism financing, the Law Ratifying the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism which was enacted on 22.10.2001 (Ratification Law No. 29(III)/2001 as amended by Law No. 18(III)/2005) provides for:

(1) Penalties for relevant criminal acts in the fulfillment of the obligations arising from provisions of the convention.

(2) Enactment of provisions in the Convention, which are not self-implemented.

(3) Determination, with the view to facilitating conformity with the provisions of the Convention, those criminal acts defined as such by the provisions of National legislation on concealment, investigation, and confiscation of assets from certain crimes.

With regard to criminalisation of the financing of terrorism, Section 8 of the Combating of Terrorism Law of 2010 (No.110(I)/2010) criminalizes the provision of support in any way, including financing, to:

- (a) A terrorist group, or
- (b) A member of a terrorist group, or
- (c) Any other person for the benefit of a terrorist group or a member of a terrorist group, or
- (d) Any other person for the commission of a terrorist act, or
- (e) Persons included in the catalogues.

For the purposes of this Law, “catalogues” means the updated lists of persons, groups or entities for which apply the relevant EU instruments and as well as the Resolutions of the UN Security Council on the imposition of sanctions. These catalogues include:

(a) The list of persons, groups and entities referred to in Articles 2-4 of “Council Common Position of 27 December 2001 on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism (2001/931/CFSP)”.

(b) The list of persons, groups and entities referred to in Article 4 of “Council Common Position of 27 December 2001 on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism (2001/931/CFSP)”.

(c) The list established and maintained by the 1267 Committee (UN) with respect to individuals, groups, undertakings and other entities associated with Al-Qaida.

(d) The list of individuals and entities established pursuant to UN Security Council Resolution 1988 (2011).

According to the provisions of the Suppression of Terrorism Law of 2010 (No.110(I)/2010), all competent authorities and persons in the Republic are obliged to proceed with the necessary enquiries in order to identify whether persons and/or entities included in the UN and EU lists have any assets in the Republic and if such assets are identified, are frozen immediately.

In addition, and irrespective of the procedure provided for in the Suppression of Terrorism Law of 2010 (No.110(I)/2010), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs circulates the updates of the UN and EU lists to the Central Bank of Cyprus, the Police, the Ministry of Justice and Public Order, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Communications and Works, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, the Central Intelligence Service, the Cyprus Ports Authority, the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission, the Cyprus Bar Association, the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Cyprus and the FIU. Relevant notification to all the above mentioned authorities takes place regarding also the de-listing of certain persons/entities from the UN and EU lists.

It is noted that a person or entity whose funds, other financial assets or other economic resources have been frozen pursuant to the UN and EU lists, may challenge such a measure before the Supreme Court of Cyprus under Article 146 of the Constitution, acting as an Administrative Court and may claim damages or compensation for any costs or damage sustained. In particular, Article 146 of the Constitution, which is the principal provision creating competence in administrative law, provides that the Supreme Court "shall have exclusive jurisdiction to adjudicate finally on a recourse made to it on a complaint that a decision, act or omission of any organ, authority, or person exercising any executive or administrative authority is contrary to any of the provisions of this Constitution or of any law or is made in excess or in abuse of powers vested in such organ or authority or person".

With regard to the implementation of certain provisions of the EU and UN sanctions instruments, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cyprus, pursuant to a relevant proposal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, decided to establish an Advisory Committee with competency to grant specific authorisations for (a) use of frozen funds for essential human needs, (b) payments from frozen funds for specified purposes, or (c) unfreeze funds, other financial assets or other economic resources (Council of Ministers Decision No.72.222A, dated 17/6/2011). This is consistent with S/Res/1452 (2002). This Committee is chaired by the Minister of Finance and is composed of representatives from the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and

Tourism, the Ministry of Justice and Public Order, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Central Bank of Cyprus, the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission and the Unit for Combating Money Laundering (MOKAS).

It is noted that the Central Bank of Cyprus has in place a strict regulatory framework aimed at preventing abuse within the financial sector for terrorist financing purposes.

Furthermore, it should be noted that the eight Special recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) on Terrorism Financing are fully implemented in the Republic of Cyprus.

Border controls

Individuals, sanctioned for terrorist activities by the United Nations or by primary or subsidiary legislation of the European Union, are registered on the national database "Stop-list" by the Counter-Terrorism Office of Department C' and those, suspected for terrorist purposes are registered on the national database "Alert-list."

The Cyprus Police Counter Terrorism Office co-operates with the Police Aliens and Immigration Unit (Headquarters of the Department, the District Immigration Departments and the Airports and Ports) which is responsible for preventing illegal immigration and employment of aliens and controlling aliens at the entry –exit points of the Republic of Cyprus.

Border surveillance is carried out by Police Aliens and Immigration Department, Police Security Services, Port and Marine Police and the Air Aviation Unit.

Travel document security

The border control at the entry/exit points of the Republic of Cyprus is carried out by the Aliens and Immigration Unit. Within this framework, border control officers carry out checks in order to prevent and combat the use of false/falsified documents.

Any information for forged/falsified documents that may be used for terrorist activities are forwarded by the Counter-Terrorism Office to the Aliens and Immigration Unit.

Security of radioactive sources

Security of the limited number of radioactive sources that exist in the Republic of Cyprus is provided by the Ministry of Labor. This Ministry has prepared an action plan for this purpose.

Use of the Internet and other information networks for terrorist purposes

The Counter-Terrorism Office of Department C' participates in the Analytical File "Check the Web" of Europol and contributes and exchanges information for the prevention of the communication of terrorists or terrorism messages through the internet.

Legal co-operation including extradition

Please refer to point 1.1 (International cooperation)

Safe havens and shelter to terrorists and terrorist organizations

Please refer to points 1.3 and 1.4.

National Counter Terrorism Strategy

In 2015, the National Counter Terrorism Strategy was officially approved by the Council of Ministers. The strategy complies with the EU Counter Terrorism Strategy and is focused on four main pillars: prevent, protect, pursue and respond.

- Prevent

A systematic training of first line officers and NGOs on preventing radicalization is implemented with special emphasis attributed to community policing, prisons and social services.

The Republic of Cyprus continues to benefit from its participation to the Radicalization Awareness Network of the European Commission (RAN POLICE, RAN HEALTH, RAN PRISON) in gaining further knowledge and expertise in countering radicalization and recruitment.

Cyprus is also an active participant in a multilateral program on reducing the use of the internet by terrorists through the exchange of best practices with other countries.

A process has also been initiated for reviewing the national legal framework for countering terrorism in light of the recent developments and also to effectively address the phenomenon of foreign fighters.

- Protect

The exchange of information between competent national authorities through their participation in the newly established forum "Fusion Center"

has resulted in the identification of potential threats and the adoption of enhanced security measures especially to protect critical infrastructures and potential targets.

- Pursue

The aim of the third pillar is to pursue terrorists across borders and bring them to justice, in full compliance with human rights and international law.

The Cyprus Police make use of the available instruments available to obtain and analyze information, arrest and prosecute terrorist suspects.

- Respond

Contingency plans are prepared and revised accordingly by all competent authorities in order to face the consequences of a possible terrorist attack.

- Additional measures

Cyprus Police, given the recent terrorist attacks in Europe and the threat related to ISIS and foreign fighters, has implemented a number of additional measures:

- Special training programs prepared and delivered to border security and crossing points officers related with the profile and the identification of foreign fighters (jihadists).

- Existing mechanisms were upgraded, and reinforced for a rapid and direct exchange of information with other countries and institutions. [Installation of the Europol information System (EIS)].

- Increased of security measures at the entry and exit points of the Republic and at the crossing points.

- Constant guarding, patrolling and surveillance of possible targets (soft targets, critical infrastructures, embassies, airports e.t.c.).

- Strict passport scrutiny at the arrival and departure of passengers at airports and ports.

- Patrolling and surveillance of the coastal areas under the effective control of Republic of Cyprus by aerial and naval means.

- Increased monitoring of suspected illegal immigrants.

2. Stationing of armed forces on foreign territory

2.1 Provide information on stationing of your States armed forces on the territory of other participating States in accordance with freely negotiated agreements as well as in accordance with international law.

The Republic of Cyprus does not currently maintain any armed forces stationed in the territory of other participating States.

3. Implementation of other international commitments related to the Code of Conduct

3.1 Provide information on how your State ensures that commitments in the field of arms control, disarmament and confidence- and security-building as an element of indivisible security are implemented in good faith.

All actions undertaken by the Republic of Cyprus, in the context of arms control, disarmament and confidence and security building measures, are duly notified to the Member States of the OSCE, through the OSCE communications network, but also at the relevant meetings of the Forum for Security and Cooperation. Thus, in the spirit of good faith, openness and transparency, Cyprus notifies all States of its initiatives in the aforementioned areas.

The Republic of Cyprus has signed and ratified the following Conventions, in the field of disarmament:

- Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (OPCW) – Geneva, 3 September 1992, Ratification Law No. 8(III)/1998
- The Comprehensive Nuclear – Test – Ban-Treaty adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations - New York, 24 September 1996, Ratification Law No. 32(III)/2003
- Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Underwater- Moscow, 5 August 1963, Ratification Law No. 13/1965
- Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons-London, Moscow and Washington, 1 July 1968, Ratification Law No. 8/1970
- Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Seabed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil thereof-London, Moscow and Washington, 29 March 1972, Ratification Law No.63/1974

- Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and their Destruction - London, Moscow and Washington, 10 April 1972, Ratification Law No.56/1973
- Convention on Nuclear Safety-Vienna, 20 September 1994, Ratification Law No.20 (III)/98

In addition:

- An Agreement was signed between the Republic of Cyprus and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards in connection with the NPT Treaty on 26 June 1972, Ratification Law No. 3/1973 and in 1999 Cyprus signed the Additional Protocol to the Agreement.

- Cyprus co-sponsored the United Nations General Assembly Resolution No. 46/36L, as well as the subsequent ones, regarding the establishment and functioning of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms.

- Cyprus signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Development, Transfer, Production and Stockpiling of Cluster Munitions was signed in New York on the 23rd September 2009.

In the field of combating illicit trafficking of Weapons of Mass Destruction, their delivery means and related materials, Cyprus participates in 2 export control regimes, namely «The Australia Group» and «The Nuclear Suppliers Group». It also participates to the Proliferation Security Initiative and on 25 July 2005 the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and Government of the United States of America signed a bilateral agreement concerning Cooperation to suppress the proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, their delivery systems and related materials by sea, Law No. 38(III)/2005 and Finally, the Republic of Cyprus.

3.2 Provide information on how your State pursues arms control, disarmament and confidence- and security-building measures with a view to enhancing security and stability in the OSCE area.

As an active member of the OSCE, the Republic of Cyprus strives to take advantage of all opportunities, in order to achieve arms control, disarmament and confidence and security building measures.

In the context, Cyprus is engaged in the full implementation of the provisions of International Treaties and the Resolutions of International Organizations, to which is full member. In addition, Cyprus pursues an export control policy in full compliance with the EU regulations and the Policies of the Export Control Regimes in which it participates.

Confidence – building measures and transparency are promoted through reporting and exchange of information in the framework of Cyprus participation in International Organisations, Regimes and Treaties.

In the framework of OSCE, Cyprus has hosted 3 contact visits for OSCE personnel over the past years. These activities included visits to major military facilities, as well as air bases where appropriate, and are summarized as follows:

- June 2001: 42 Participants from 27 OSCE Member – States.
- June 2006: 36 Participants from 22 OSCE Member – States.
- May 2009: 29 Participants from 17 OSCE Member – States.

In the period from the 17th to the 19th of May 2016, Cyprus will host a visit to a military formation and an Air Base, according to the provisions of VD2011.

With regard to arms control and disarmament, the Republic of Cyprus, recognizing the threats from the unauthorized proliferation and use of Man Portable Air Defence Systems, proceeded with the destruction of 324 Man Portable Air Defence Systems, 2SA – 7, in the period from the 9th to the 12th of June 2009, in collaboration with the Forum for Security and Cooperation (FSC). In addition, Cyprus in cooperation with specialized companies, removed 2387 tons of obsolete ammunition of various types from its territory, which have been successfully destroyed, in the period from 2013 to 2015. The National Guard's Centre for the Laboratory Testing of Gunpowder and Ammunition, since the start of its operation, has conducted a significant number of tests on ammunition propellants. These tests are conducted according to international standards, in order to evaluate the chemical stability of ammunition and achieve their categorization based on quality. All tests are conducted on a priority basis for the ammunition which is used in training activities, whilst all testing procedures concerning the accreditation of the Centre are carried out according to the ISO 17025 standard.

As far as the antipersonnel landmines are concerned, the Republic of Cyprus cleared all minefields in the area under its effective control, including within the buffer zone, by the 1st July 2013, deadline set by the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC).

The only area in Cyprus where mined areas containing anti-personnel mines are known to exist is the part of its territory which remains under Turkish military occupation and which is not accessible to the authorities of the Republic of Cyprus. At least 20 minefields laid and maintained in the occupied areas by the Turkish forces are yet to be cleared of anti-personnel mines and one of them is situated within the buffer zone, in the vicinity of the village Deryneia.

The Republic of Cyprus, having taken concrete steps to ensure the destruction of anti-personnel mines in the areas occupied by Turkey, submitted to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) information on 28 known minefields, which were laid prior to the 1974 Turkish invasion. According to information released by

UNFICYP, those 28 minefields were subjected to a non technical survey by United Nations Mines Action Service (UNMAS) and according to its assessment only 3 of them require further technical survey.

While the Republic of Cyprus maintains jurisdiction over the whole of the island, it does not have effective control over those areas under Turkish military occupation, and is thus unable to fulfil its obligations stemming from the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) due to the fact that Turkey, forcefully denies the agents of the Republic access to the occupied areas. As a result, Cyprus requested and was granted an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines until July 1st, 2019.

Section II: Intra-State elements

1. National planning and decision-making process

1.1 What is the national planning and decision-making process in determining/ approving military posture and defence expenditures in your State?

Military Posture

According to the Constitutional Provision (Article 54), the President and the Council of Ministers exercise the executive power, in matters concerning defence and security.

The Ministry of Defence is responsible for the formation and implementation of Defence Policy. It participates in the wider Policy implemented by the Government and supports the Minister of Defence in fulfilling his responsibilities to the House of Representatives. In this framework, the Minister of Defence maintains the general oversight of the army, and is responsible for the implementation of the National Guard Law.

Additionally, the Chief of the National Guard is responsible to the Minister of Defence for the Command in general and for the supervision of the National Guard, which includes the organization, training, readiness, discipline, safety and order, in the framework of the guidelines given by the Minister of Defence or the Council of Ministers.

The House of Representatives, after consideration and discussion, passes laws concerning the operation and the responsibilities of the members of the Armed Forces.

Defence Expenditure

According to the provisions of the Constitution, the defence and the defence budget fall under the competence of the President of the Republic, the House of Representatives, the Council of Ministers and the Minister of Defence.

Funds collected by virtue of the Special Contribution (Defence of the Republic) Law (Law No. 5/85) are used for the purchase of defence equipment. According to the Law (Law No. 9(1)/2000), both the Fund for the Defence of the Republic and the Management Committee for the Fund were abolished, and thus, all the Special Contributions for the Defence of the Republic collected now, are deposited in the Consolidated Fund of the Republic.

The procurement process of defence equipment follows the procedures established by the 2011 Law and relevant Regulations, concerning Defence and Security Tenders (No.173(I)/ 2011), by virtue of which, a Defence and Security

Tenders Council is set up, in order to deal with issues concerning the procurement of military equipment.

The Ministry of Defence in cooperation with the National Guard compiles the annual defence budget and submits it to the House of Representatives for approval. The approval thereof takes place after detailed study of each item concerning the defence planning. Thus, the House of Representatives exercises immediate control over the financial issues of the National Guard.

1.2 How does your State ensure that its military capabilities take into account the legitimate security concerns of other States as well as the need to contribute to international security and stability?

The military capabilities of the Republic of Cyprus are strictly designated to provide for the following:

- To preserve peace on the island by creating the necessary level of deterrence against any kind of military threat and to reinforce the required security conditions needed for Cypriot citizens to live, prosper and contribute to the Republic's economic growth and welfare.
- To defend the Republic's territorial integrity, national independence and sovereignty and to provide for the security of its people from any armed attack or threat.

Based on the above requirements, the National Guard Units maintain a defensive arsenal, which does not provide the capabilities for the transfer and deployment of forces outside our National territory, and thus, the legitimate security concerns of other States are not challenged in any manner.

Despite the fact that the primary threat for the Republic of Cyprus is the policy of expansionism adopted by Turkey, and consequently, the Turkish occupation forces situated in the occupied, northern part of Cyprus, the Republic is completely aligned with the Common Security and Defence Policy of the European Union. In this framework, Cyprus acknowledges the following factors, as significant threats to International order and comprehensive security:

- The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.
- Terrorism.
- Regional conflicts.
- The failure of States.
- Organized Crime.
- Interruption of energy supply.
- Cyber attacks.
- Climate change.

Therefore, Cyprus, being a member of the EU that is situated in the eastern basin of the Mediterranean, which is also a particularly sensitive region, supports within her capabilities, international and regional peace and security, as follows:

- In the framework of Common Security Defence Policy, the Republic of Cyprus supports the maintenance of European Military Capabilities, is a troop contributing country to the HELBROC European Battlegroup and participates in the EU operations EUNAVFOR MED «SOPHIA» and ATALANTA, with 3 officers.
- Cyprus offers facilities to countries participating in the Maritime Task Force of the UN Peace Keeping Mission in Lebanon, as well as appropriate infrastructure for the encampment and medical treatment of their forces. In addition, 2 National Guard Officers are currently serving at the Naqoura FHQ of UNIFIL in Southern Lebanon.
- Cyprus confirms every 3 months its commitment to contribute to the United Nations Standby Arrangements System with military personnel.

It is worth noting that the Republic of Cyprus contributed to the work of the Joint Mission of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the United Nations on eliminating Syria's chemical weapons program by hosting the support base of the Joint OPCW-UN Mission and by providing support to the ships of the countries involved in maritime operations, in the framework of bilateral settlements. Moreover, during the crisis in Lebanon in the summer of 2006, Cyprus contributed by providing infrastructure and other facilities to the United Nations, for the deployment of UNIFIL personnel.

2. Existing structures and processes

2.1 What are the constitutionally established procedures for ensuring democratic political control of military, paramilitary and internal security forces, intelligence services and the police?

(a) Armed Forces

The control of the armed forces is ensured by the Constitution and the National Guard Law (2011). According to their provisions:

- The Armed Forces are under civilian control both in peacetime and during time of war.
- The President and the Council of Ministers exercise the executive power, in matters concerning defence and security. The President retains the right, to veto any Law or Decision adopted by the Parliament, provided that they concern the following:
 - The declaration of war or the stipulation of peace.

- The structure and number of the Armed Forces.
- The appointment and promotion of personnel.
- The import of military equipment.
- The provision of Bases and other facilities to friendly countries.
- Issues of security, distribution and allocation of security forces, emergency measures and Military Law.

- The Council of Ministers may issue Regulations, concerning matters of promotion, appointment, chain of command, retirement, resignation, disciplinary misconduct and other procedures.

- The Minister of Defence maintains the general oversight of the Armed Forces, as well as the responsibility, for the implementation of the National Guard Law.

- The House of Representatives pass the Laws that concern the Armed Forces.

- The Minister of Defence informs the House of Representatives on all defence issues, and may appear, if requested, before any relevant Parliamentary Committee.

(b) Paramilitary forces: Cyprus has no paramilitary forces.

(c) Internal security forces: Cyprus has no internal security forces.

(d) Intelligence Services

The Cyprus Intelligence Service is the sole intelligence Service of the Republic of Cyprus. The Service is entrusted with the task of collecting, evaluating and disseminating intelligence pertaining to the state security. The CIS was established in 1970 by a decision issued of Council of Ministers and responds directly to the President of the Republic.

(e) Police

The Cyprus Police is a governmental body and since 1993 it forms part of the Ministry of Justice and Public Order and operates on the basis of the following domestic legislation:

- The Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus
- The Police Law (73(I)/2004)
- The Police Regulations, including Promotion and Disciplinary Regulations
- The Police Standing Orders, which are issued by the Chief of Police

- The Criminal Law (Cap.154)
- The Criminal Procedure Code (Cap. 155), concerning prosecution and relevant court procedures

Police operation is also in compliance with international treaties and conventions to which the Republic of Cyprus is a party.

According to with the Constitution, the Chief of Police and the Deputy Chief of Police are appointed by the President of the Republic of Cyprus.

2.2 How is the fulfilment of these procedures ensured, and which constitutionally established authorities/institutions are responsible for exercising these procedures?

(a) Armed Forces

The Armed Forces are under political control, both during peace and wartime. The following institutions, foreseen by the Constitution, exercise their democratic control:

- The President of the Republic
- The House of Representatives
- The Council of Ministers
- The Minister of Defence

(b) Police

It is ensured through the applicable Constitutional and legislative provisions and their enforcement through the Courts of the Republic of Cyprus if required. The following institutions, foreseen by the Constitution, exercise their democratic control:

- The President of the Republic
- Attorney General
- The House of Representatives
- The Council of Ministers
- The Ministry of Justice and Public Order
- The Ombudsman that provides her consultation on the legitimacy of the administrative acts
- Independent Authority for the Investigation of allegation and complaints against the Police
- Personal and Data Protection Commissioner
- Children Rights Commissioner

Moreover, internal control is exercised by the Professional Standards and Audit Directorates.

2.3 What are the roles and missions of military, paramilitary and security forces, and how does your State control that such forces act solely within the constitutional framework?

The Cyprus Constitution Article 129 provides for the establishment of a military force, the strength of which should not exceed two thousand men, sixty per cent of which to be Greek Cypriot and forty per cent Turkish Cypriot.

The tasks and powers of the Cyprus Army are defined in the Basic Law (No. 8/1961) providing for the establishment of the Cyprus Army, as well as in the subsequent Laws amending the Basic Law (Nos. 16/1962, 51/1963, 77/1966, 46/1973, 46/1975, 80/1981, 34/1983). The above Laws were amended and unified by Law No. 33/1990.

Due to the situation in Cyprus, after the outbreak of inter - communal violence in 1963, which continued in 1964, the need to establish a separate military force to support the Cyprus Army and the Security Forces, led to the establishment of the National Guard.

The National Guard Law (2011) governs the operation of the Cyprus National Guard for conscripts and reservists, and provides that the National Guard operates under the auspices of the Ministry of Defence, with the stated mission to:

«provide assistance to the Army and the security forces of the Republic, through the adoption of all necessary measures to safeguard the defence of the Republic, in order to counter the threat of invasion or any other act directed against the independence and sovereignty of the Republic, or that threatens the security of life or property of the citizens of the Republic»

Due to the aforementioned dire situation of 1964, which was exacerbated by the subsequent Turkish invasion of 1974 and the ongoing military occupation of 36.2% of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus, the need to maintain the National Guard's operational readiness remains to this day.

3. Procedures related to different forces personnel

3.1 What kind of procedures for recruitment and call-up of personnel for service in your military, paramilitary and internal security forces does your State have?

Military Service

Compulsory military service was first introduced in 1964, by the National Guard Law (No. 20/1964). According to this Law, all the citizens of the Republic between the age of 18 and 50 are obliged to join the National Guard of the Republic.

Recruitment procedures or calling up to service in the National Guard of the Republic of Cyprus, are defined in the National Guard Law and the relevant Regulations stipulating the extent of compulsory military service, types of military service and procedures for the calling up of civilians for compulsory military service. Enlistment in the National Guard is conducted upon a decree of the Minister of Defence, which is publicized in the gazette of the Republic.

Military Service is compulsory for all male citizens and is divided into two categories that concern conscripts and reservists. The conscript service lasts 24 months, and commences in the year that individuals reach the age of 18. From then on, male citizens who complete their 24 - month compulsory conscript service, continue to serve in the armed forces as reservists until they reach the age of 50.

Rrecruitments in the Cyprus Police

Vacant positions to be filled in the Cyprus Police are published in the official gazette of the Republic of Cyprus and all Cypriot citizens may apply. All applicants have to fulfil certain criteria, related to education level and physical ability

Each member of the Police is confirmed after a probationary period of three years. The position of police officer is considered permanent which means that he/she executes his/her duties until his/her retirement unless he has been dishonourably discharged following a disciplinary proceeding.

The Chief of the Cyprus Police may discharge any member of the police who is under probation or if he decides that he is not able to become police member, after having taken into consideration evaluation reports of the Director of the Cyprus Police Academy or the Director of the Fire Service, and or/the Directors, under whose command he has/is serving.

3.2 What kind of exemptions or alternatives to military service does your State have?

Exemptions from military service, as well as alternatives, are applicable to certain categories of conscripts and are governed by the relevant provisions of the National Guard Law.

Conscripts who are recognized as conscientious objectors (law N.88 (I)/2007), can choose to serve an alternative military service (unarmed service on military ground) or an alternative communal service, within a Department of the Public Sector.

It is noteworthy to mention that the conscripts, who wish to be recognized as conscientious objectors, have the opportunity to declare this intention, through an application upon their initial enlistment.

In addition, the conscientious objectors serving an alternative communal service in the Public Sector, follow the working hours of the Department/ Division, within which they are placed.

According to the provisions of the National Guard Law, the duration of alternative communal service in the Public Sector for conscientious objectors, is increased by 7 to 9 months, in relation to the initial period that would have been served as obligatory, whilst the duration of alternative military service on military premises for conscientious objectors, is increased by 3 to 5 months, in relation to the initial period that would have been served as obligatory.

Moreover, according to the provisions of the National Guard Law, certain categories of citizens of the Republic of Cyprus are entitled to exemptions or postponements of their military service.

3.3 What are the legal and administrative procedures to protect the rights of all forces personnel as well as conscripts?

The international treaties and agreements to which the Republic of Cyprus is a party, the Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus, the National Guard Law and other legislation, ensure that all military personnel are treated fairly and equally in legal and administrative matters. Although military personnel enjoy their constitutional and legal rights during military service, certain rights are limited. In addition, the military personnel of the National Guard have established two associations (one for officers and one for non-commissioned officers).

The rights of all military personnel are protected by the military justice system, consisting mainly of the Military Court, which forms part of the judicial system of the Republic.

3.4 Issues pertaining to women, peace and security

Internal Regulations have been drawn up in the National Guard, which take into account the specific needs of women serving in the Armed Forces. All personnel are informed on these regulations accordingly. The percentage of women serving in the National Guard is as follows: Officers: 4%, Non-commissioned Officers: 20%.

The National Guard participates in the professional guidance process that takes place annually in schools, where youth is given the opportunity to be informed, on the possibilities of obtaining a military career in the Armed Forces.

Access to justice is ensured for women serving in the Armed Forces through their constitutional rights, as well as through the National Guard Law.

For issues pertaining to women and the Cyprus Police, please see attached ANNEX «A».

4. Implementation of other political norms, principles, decisions and international humanitarian law

4.1 How does your State ensure that International Humanitarian Law and Law of War are made widely available, e.g., through military training programmes and regulations?

International Humanitarian Law and the Law of War are taught within the Military Academies and schools that personnel attend, as well as within appropriate seminars and lectures that are conducted within the military service.

In addition, instructions on international humanitarian law and other international rules, conventions and commitments governing armed conflict form part of the training programmes for all military personnel. In this framework, military personnel receive training in aspects regarding the Geneva and Hague Conventions, International Law of Armed Conflict, Peaceful Settlement of international Conflicts, Sanctions against war crimes and crimes against humanity, protection of property and others.

4.2 What has been done to ensure that armed forces personnel are aware of being individually accountable under national and international law for their actions?

The issues of national and international law concerning the administration of military personnel are included within the General Training Guidelines of the National Guard, which are duly publicized to all military personnel. Furthermore, these issues are included within the training modules of all military personnel, whether conscripts or ranking officials.

4.3 How does your State ensure that armed forces are not used to limit the peaceful and lawful exercise of human and civil rights by persons as individuals or as representatives of groups nor to deprive them of national, religious, cultural, linguistic or ethnic identity?

Cyprus provides for the above mentioned issues, through the implementation of Article 28 of the Constitution of the Republic, which refers to the fundamental freedoms and rights. According to Article 28, all individuals are equal before the law, and have the right to equal protection and treatment. Everyone enjoys the rights and the freedoms provided by the Constitution, without any ill – favoured discrimination against any person, whether direct or indirect, on account of that person's community,

race, colour, religion, language, gender, political beliefs, national or social descent, birth, wealth, social status or any other reason, except if otherwise stipulated within an explicit provision of the Constitution.

4.4 What has been done to provide for the individual service member's exercise of his or her civil rights and how does your State ensure that the country's armed forces are politically neutral?

The international treaties and agreements to which the Republic of Cyprus is a party, the Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus, the National Guard Law and other legislation ensure that all military personnel are treated fairly and equally in legal and administrative matters. Although military personnel enjoy their constitutional and legal rights during military service, certain rights are subject to restrictions. Military personnel have the right to establish associations (one for officers and one for non-commissioned officers) (Law 55(I)/2005) but have no right to strikes.

The members of the armed forces are allowed to exercise their civilian rights as individuals, through the implementation of Article 31 of the Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus of 1960, which amongst other things, mentions that a citizen has the right to vote in any election, conducted according to the Constitution or other legislation.

The rights of all military personnel are protected by the military justice system consisting mainly of the Military Court, which forms part of the judicial system of the Republic.

The Ministry of Defence disseminates the text of the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security to the military personnel who are regularly familiarised with the content of the Code.

In addition, the political neutrality of the armed forces is ensured, through the "National Guard Law" (2011), which explicitly foresees that the goal of the National Guard is to 'defend the Republic'. Furthermore, in exceptional circumstances, the National Guard may take up activities to confront dangers, which threaten the life or the fortune of the civilians of the Republic.

4.5 How does your State ensure that its defence policy and doctrine are consistent with international law?

The Defence Policy of the Republic of Cyprus has developed around the following four basic pillars and targets:

- To preserve peace on the island by creating the necessary level of deterrence against any kind of military threat and to reinforce the necessary security conditions needed for Cypriot citizens to live, prosper and contribute to the Republic's economic growth and welfare.

- To defend the Republic's territorial integrity, national independence and sovereignty and the security of its people from any armed attack or threat.
- To participate in the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) of the European Union.
- To contribute towards international peace, security and stability.

In this context, the defence policy and doctrine of the Republic is always implemented in a manner that takes into account all the deriving obligations from international law.

All major International Conventions in the area have been ratified by the Republic of Cyprus and have been embodied in the domestic legal order. Cyprus complies fully with their implementation, as far as its defence policy and doctrine is concerned.

Section III: Public access and contact information

1. Public access

1.1 How is the public informed about the provisions of the Code of Conduct?

The public may receive information from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Ministry of Defence.

1.2 What additional information related to the Code of Conduct, e.g., replies to the Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct, is made publicly available in your State?

Any information concerning the Code of Conduct may be obtained from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Ministry of Defence.

1.3 How does your State ensure public access to information related to your State's armed forces?

The Government is committed by the Constitution to provide public access to information. In this respect, the Ministry of Defence provides information to the public on the role and activities of the National Guard, unless it is restricted from doing so for national security reasons.

The Ministry of Defence in cooperation with the National Guard has created an internet site, which is continuously updated, in the framework of facilitating the unimpeded dissemination of information.

2. Contact information

2.1 Provide information on the national point of contact for the implementation of the Code of Conduct.

Mr Xanthos IOANNOU
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus
Presidential Palace Avenue, Nicosia 1447, CYPRUS
Tel. +357 22 651285
Fax. +357 22 661881, 22 665313
E-mail: xioannou@mfa.gov.cy
Website: www.mfa.gov.cy

ANNEX A
CYPRUS POLICE

Indicative List of Issues Pertaining to Women, Peace and Security to be provided in the Questionnaire on the OSCE Code of Conduct

Participation in Missions

Female Members of the Cyprus Police have been seconded abroad as follow:

- Permanent Representation of Cyprus, in Brussels (1 policeman and 1 policewoman)
- EUROPOL Headquarters, The Hague (1 policeman and 2 policewomen)
- Embassy of Cyprus in Athens (1 policewoman)

All vacancies are announced to all Police members via the internal network and both, men and women officers have the right to apply.

Legislative provisions / Staffing

Cyprus Police Law (L.73(I)/2004) and Regulations' (General, Promotions and Disciplinary) provisions are applied equally to all officers (men and women). Also, men and women officers follow the same training, at all levels.

Currently, the Cyprus Police is staffed by 1228 (24,55%) women police officers. The rank distribution is illustrated in the table below:

RANK	NUMBER	%
Assist. Chief of Police	0	0
Chief Superintendent	0	0
Superintendent A'	0	0
Superintendent B'	4	0,08
Chief Inspector	1	0,02
Inspector	13	0.26
Sergeant	101	2.05
Constable	694	14.11
Ordinary Special Constables	39	0.79
Special Constables	361	7.34
TOTAL	1213	24,67

In 2015 no discrimination and sexual harassment complaints against policewomen have been recorded.

Committee for Equality between Men and Women

Based on the Council of Ministers Decision no. 66.496, dated 5/12/2007, the Cyprus Police Committee for Equality between Men and Women was established. The operation of the Committee is governed by the Police Standing Order 5/42, which is issued by the Chief of Police. Currently, the Committee is staffed by two policemen and two policewomen.

ANNEX B

Voluntary Information Sharing on Private Military and Security Companies

In Cyprus there are 134 Private Security Companies and their operation is regulated by the Law 125(1)/2007 on the Private Security Companies. According to the law:

1. The establishment of a Private Security Company presupposes authorization by the Cyprus Police Chief.

2. The services that can be provided by Private Security Companies are:

- Security and protection of physical installations, premises and buildings.
- Protection of VIPs.
- Escort of Convoys transferring valuable goods.
- Security of events.
- Electronic Surveillance of physical installations, premises and buildings