

24 April 2020

ENGLISH only



PERMANENT MISSION
OF ICELAND
to the OSCE

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The Permanent Mission of Iceland to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) presents its compliments to all Delegations and Permanent Missions of OSCE participating States and to the Conflict Prevention Centre and, with reference to Decision 7/04 of the Forum for Security Co-operation, has the honour to submit the response of Iceland to the Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Mines and Explosive Remnants of War.

The Permanent Mission of Iceland to the OSCE avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Delegations and Permanent Missions of OSCE participating states and to the Conflict Prevention Centre the assurances of its highest consideration.

Permanent Mission of Iceland
to the OSCE
Vienna, 24 April 2020



To all Delegations / Permanent Missions of OSCE participating States
and to the Conflict Prevention Centre
V i e n n a

OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

FSC DECISION/7/04

Response from ICELAND

April 2020

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)?

Iceland ratified the Protocol on 22 August 2008.

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.

No report has yet been submitted.

If no:

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

N/A.

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

The use of mines, booby-traps and similar devices is prohibited in Iceland. The mines at sea in Iceland date mostly from World War II, as the waters around Iceland were extensively mined by both parties to the conflict. But there are also explosive remnants on land from firing ranges and military exercise areas dating from World War II and onwards.

The Icelandic Coast Guard Bomb Disposal Unit (ICG) locates and destroys hazardous explosives in Iceland. The Unit is trained and operates according to NATO standards, has a great deal of specialised knowledge regarding bomb disposal and is equipped with specialised devices including remotely operated vehicles, which can be used in a variety of roles in bomb disposal operations.

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

Iceland does not require such assistance.

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

Iceland has carried out several demining operations in Iraq and Lebanon. Demining training exercises are held annually in Iceland under the auspices of NATO.

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?

Iceland ratified the Convention on 5 May 1999.

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 the 2008 report here:

[http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/\(httpAssets\)/BFBC1A615E0E7680C12574AD0029B28D/\\$file/Iceland+2007.pdf](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/(httpAssets)/BFBC1A615E0E7680C12574AD0029B28D/$file/Iceland+2007.pdf)

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

N/A.

(c) Has your country adopted legislation to address the humanitarian objectives of the convention, or taken any specific measures regarding the use, production, storage, transfer and destruction of anti-personnel landmines? In case a moratorium has been introduced, what is its scope and duration and when was it introduced?

Iceland has passed the Implementation Act for the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, No. 26 of 7 May 2001.

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

Iceland has given assistance to victims of landmines through various programs such as providing prosthetic, including in Bosnia and Iraq.

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

Iceland does not require such assistance.

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

Iceland has such capacity, see item 6 above.

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?

Iceland ratified the Protocol on 22 August 2008.

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

See item 1 above.

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

Iceland does not require such assistance.

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

Iceland has such capacity, see item 6 in previous chapter.