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**PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
TO THE UN, OSCE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

No.: 49/24

NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Representation of the Republic of Slovenia to the UN, OSCE and other International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to all Missions and Delegations of the participating States to the OSCE and to the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre and, in accordance with the Decision 7/04 of the Forum for Security and Co-operation, has the honour to submit the reply of the Republic of Slovenia to the OSCE Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Landmines and Explosive Remnants of War for 2023.

The Permanent Representation of the Republic of Slovenia to the UN, OSCE and other International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Missions and Delegations of the participating States to the OSCE and to the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 31 May 2024



All Permanent Missions and Delegations to the OSCE
OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre

V i e n n a

REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
RESPONSES TO OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES
(31 MAY 2024)

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)?

Slovenia is a State Party 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 (CCW). Slovenia ratified the mentioned protocol on 3 December 2002.

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.

Slovenian national report on the implementation of the amended Protocol II is available on the website of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA):

<https://disarmament.unoda.org/ccw-amended-protocol-ii/national-annual-reports-and-data-base/ccw-ajii-database/>

If no:

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

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

Slovenia ratified the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction on 27 October 1998, and thus effectively and comprehensively banned anti-personnel mines, booby traps and other devices on its territory.

Slovenia inter alia adopted the following pieces of legislation:

- Criminal Code, Article 102: The use of indiscriminate weapons amounts to a war crime (adopted 2012, last amended in 2023).
- Criminal Code, Article 307: Illegal Manufacture of and Trade in Weapons or Explosive Materials (adopted 2012, last amended in 2023).

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

No need.

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

Slovenia has capacity to assist others related to this Protocol. Slovenia provides assistance for mine action activities and victim's assistance through ITF Enhancing Human Security (<https://www.itf.si>), which is based in Slovenia. So far, the ITF received 525,547 million USD for the support of mine action activities (mine clearance and clearance of explosive remnants of war, mine awareness projects, de-miners training, medical assistance of mine victims etc.) in more than 30 countries and territories around the world.

In the reporting period (2023) the Republic of Slovenia contributed USD 1 875 802 USD to the ITF.

As a member of the European Union (EU), the Republic of Slovenia supports mine action activities of the EU.

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, Slovenia is a State Party to the Convention. Slovenia presented its instrument of ratification of the Convention to the Depositary on 27 October 1998 and became its State Party on 1 March 1999, when the Convention formally entered into force.

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.

Slovenian national report on the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction is available on the website of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs:

<https://disarmament.unoda.org/ccw-amended-protocol-ii/national-annual-reports-and-data-base/ccw-apidb-database/>

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

Slovenia adopted legislation that covers all objectives and provisions of the Convention:

- Ratification of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction by the Slovenian Parliament (24 September 1998, No. 231-05/98-5/1);

- Criminal Code, Article 307: Illegal Manufacture of and Trade in Weapons or Explosive Materials (adopted 2012, last amended in 2023);
- An execution plan confirmed by the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia on the destruction of APMs in Slovenia (1 December 1998; No. 016-05-01/191) and the decision by the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia on the quantity of all anti-personnel mines retained for the development and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques in accordance with Article 3 (15 January 2002, No. 5/2002-9);
- An order of the Chief of the General Staff of the Slovenian Army about the destruction of APMs in the Slovenian Army (14 April 1999; No. Z-871-00-6/99-9).

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

Fortunately, there are no victims of anti-personnel mines in Slovenia. Nevertheless, Slovenia actively assists other countries in mine victim's assistance. In 1998, Slovenia established the International Trust Fund (ITF) Enhancing Human Security (<https://www.itf.si>), whose goal is to finance mine-action programmes, including on rehabilitation of mine victims. So far, the ITF received 525,547 million USD for the support of mine action activities (mine clearance and clearance of explosive remnants of war, mine awareness projects, de-miners training, medical assistance of mine victims etc.) in more than 30 countries and territories around the world.

University Rehabilitation Institute of the Republic of Slovenia in Ljubljana (<https://www.uri-soca.si/>), is coordinating with the ITF in organising programmes on mine victims rehabilitation.

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.

As mentioned in or response to point 6 and 9, Slovenia assists third countries on mine action mainly through International Trust Fund (ITF) Enhancing Human Security, established in March 1998.

So far, the ITF received 525,547 million USD for the support of mine action activities (mine clearance and clearance of explosive remnants of war, mine awareness projects, de-miners training, medical assistance of mine victims etc.) in more than 30 countries and territories around the world.

In the reporting period (2023) the Republic of Slovenia contributed USD 1 875 802 (1, 875 million) USD to the ITF.

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) after it entered into force?

Slovenia presented its instrument of ratification to the Depositary on its ratification of the Protocol V on 22 February 2007.

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

Slovenia fulfilled all obligations under Article 3 of the Protocol regarding clearance, removal and destruction of ERW.

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

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 answers to questions 6, 9 and 11.

Slovenian national report on the implementation of the amended Protocol V is available on the website of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA):

<https://disarmament.unoda.org/ccw-protocol-v-on-explosive-remnants-of-war/national-reporting-and-database/ccw-protocol-v-database/>.