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NOTE VERBAL

The Embassy of Georgia to the Republic of Austria, Permanent Representation of Georgia to the OSCE and other International Organizations in Vienna presents its complements to the Missions/Delegations of the participating States to the OSCE and to the Conflict Prevention Centre and in accordance with the FSC Decision 7/04, has the honor to submit Georgia's response to the Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Landmines and Explosive Remnants of War.

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

Attachment: 2 pages.

Vienna, 31 May, 2024

To: OSCE Missions and Delegations Conflict Prevention Centre Vienna



OSCE Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Mines

Part I

- Georgia is 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 Conviction in Conventional Weapons (CCW).
- 2. Below is the electronic address of the year 2023: https://disarmament.unoda.org/ccw-amended-protocol-ii/national-annual-reports-and-data-base/ccw-apii-database/

Part II

- 7. Georgia has not acceded to the 1997 Convention on the prohibition of the use stockpiling, production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;
- 8. <u>a) -</u>
 - b) -
 - c) Upon request of Georgian government different demining organizations (Halo Trust, NPA) were invited to conduct demining activities in the war affected areas as well as on the soviet legacy minefields including assistance (iMMAP, ITF, NSPA) in relevant trainings and institutionalization of mine action in Georgia (in accordance with IMAS and IATG). As a result of the works, most of the mine and ERW contaminated areas in the country have been cleared, however demining works are still ongoing.
 - HALO Trust continuous the demining operations in the occupied Abkhazia region, however the coordination, monitoring of clearance operation as well as external QA/QC cannot be conducted by HDCD.
 - LEPL DELTA of the MOD is a main mine action coordination authority in Georgia. It coordinates Humanitarian mine action in the country that among others includes conduction of QA/QC and creation and implementation of Georgian National Mine Action Standards and National Technical Standards Guidelines (in accordance with IMAS and IATG).
- 9. ERW and mine victims are not differentiated from other persons with disabilities. They are included along with other disabled people in the same governmental programs and projects and enjoy the similar benefits. There is a Law on Social Protection of Disabled person (1995) approved by the Parliament of Georgia (last amendment was made in March, 2017).
 - Medical rehabilitation capabilities were developed at the Military Hospital named after Giorgi Abramishvili in Gori (within the NATO/PfP Trust Fund project "Georgia III",) to also assist ERW wounded military and civilian personnel. In addition, in 2018, the building of new Military Hospital was completed in Kutaisi. Moreover, Refurbishment and development of the Military Hospital named after Giorgi Abramishvili in Gori and Kutaisi as well as development of prosthetic rehabilitation capabilities in Georgia are ongoing thought the EU and bilateral support.

In 2023, the MoD of Georgia continued further development of warrior care capabilities to ensure physical and mental well-being of wounded soldiers. The aim is to improve medical and rehabilitation services, integration and re-socialization of wounded/injured warriors.

Besides, International Humanitarian Organizations such as ICRC, ITF and IOM provided assistance to mine victims in order to facilitate their social reintegration (including micro credits program, provision of prosthesis and etc.).

- 10. <u>Ministry of Defence</u> continues developing mine action and stockpile destruction capacity with partners support, however, DELTA/HDCD requires assistance with financial means, relevant equipment and subject matter expertise related to development of Georgian National Mine Action Standards and National Technical Standards Guidelines (in accordance with IMAS and IATG), also <u>in conducting the GMAA (General Mine Action Assessment)</u> as well as staff trainings on EOD level 1, 2, 3; Technical/Non-Technical survey; Management; IMSMA database and IMAS skills.
- 11. <u>Ministry of Defence</u> continues developing mine action capacity; <u>In this regard, GDF Combat Engineer Battalion has organic Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) Company. EOD Company Personnel has received 1st and 2nd level training according to the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). <u>EOD Company is trained to conduct disposal of the conventional explosive materials/munitions.</u></u>

OSCE Questionnaire on Explosive Remnants of War

- 1. Yes.
- 2. 2003 CCW Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) was ratified by the Parliament of Georgia in 2008.
- 3. HDCD requires assistance with financial means, relevant equipment and subject matter expertise related to development of Georgian National Mine Action Standards and National Technical Standards Guidelines (in accordance with IMAS and IATG) in conducting the GMAA (General Mine Action Assessment) as well as staff trainings on EOD level 1, 2, 3; Technical/Non-Technical survey; Management; IMSMA database and IMAS skills.
- 4. <u>Ministry of Defence</u> does not have the full capacity to support others in clearing and minimizing the risks and effects of ERW.