

The OSCE Secretariat bears no responsibility for the content of this document and circulates it without altering its content. The distribution by OSCE Conference Services of this document is without prejudice to OSCE decisions, as set out in documents agreed by OSCE participating States.

FSC.EMI/174/22
31 May 2022

ENGLISH only



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
TO THE OSCE
VIENNA

Ref: 24.32.020
No. OSCE: 11 /22

NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus to the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions and Delegations of all participating States to the OSCE and to the Conflict Prevention Centre and has the honour to submit the reply of the Republic of Cyprus to the OSCE Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Landmines.

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

Vienna, 31 May 2022



- Permanent Missions and Delegations of all participating States to the OSCE
- OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre

REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

(2021)

OSCE Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Mines

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

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.**

As Attachment I

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

Not Applicable

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

The Republic of Cyprus has taken the following measures:

- a. Clearance of minefields located near inhabited areas in order to secure the safety of civilians.
- b. A specialized mine clearance team was set up in 1987 and has been operating since, being responsible for demining and minefield maintenance. This team is also on call to help civilians when such a need arises.
- c. A number of mines of various types, which had been deemed dangerous, have been destroyed.
- d. Plastic mines have been fitted with metal bases in order to be traced more easily by common metal mine detectors.
- e. The exact boundaries of all minefields which are under the control of the Republic of Cyprus have been marked and relevant topographical plans have been drawn up. Also, all minefields which are under the control of the Republic have been fenced.

- f. In 2016, the Republic of Cyprus proceeded with the destruction of 60 anti – personnel mines retained under Article 3, thus reducing its stockpile to 440 mines.
- g. In 2018, the Republic of Cyprus proceeded with the destruction of 5 anti – personnel mines retained under Article 3, thus reducing its current stockpile to 435 mines.
- h. In 2021, the Republic of Cyprus proceeded with the destruction of 25 anti – personnel mines retained under Article 3, thus reducing its current stockpile to 410 mines.

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

Yes, the Republic of Cyprus could be interested in receiving assistance related to the implementation of this Protocol, although there is an active mine sweeping unit in the National Guard, with the mission of carrying out mine - sweeping, minefield re - laying and maintenance of existing National Guard minefields. Cooperation with other parties (members) for the exchange of information and know - how is welcomed.

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

Cyprus does not have the capacity to assist others related to this protocol.

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, the Republic of Cyprus deposited its instrument of ratification of the above Convention on the 1st of July 2003.

8. (a) If yes, please attach the most recent annual report submitted by your country in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention or give the appropriate electronic address for the report.

As Attachment II.

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

Not Applicable

(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?

The Republic of Cyprus does not produce, or transfer antipersonnel mines. The Ottawa Convention and the CCW II Revised Protocol provisions have been incorporated in national legislation. Regarding the storage, transfer and destruction of antipersonnel mines, specific and strict directives of the National Guard apply.

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

There have not been any victims in recent years. The Republic of Cyprus has the capacity to provide immediate and comprehensive medical assistance if needed, and maintains an active policy concerning the rehabilitation and welfare of handicapped individuals.

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

The Republic of Cyprus, in a gesture of good will, concluded a unilateral agreement, with the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), and proceeded to a demining program within the Buffer Zone.

The Buffer Zone extents between the Turkish Occupation Troops and the Armed Forces of the Republic of Cyprus.

On 20 January 2011, the clearance of all minefields laid by the National Guard located in the Buffer Zone was completed. The Turkish occupation forces have still not given authorization, for the clearance of one Turkish minefield laid in the vicinity of the village Deryneia.

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

As paragraph 6 above.

PROTOCOL ON PROHIBITION 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)

(Article 13 para 4 and Article 11 para 2)

NAME OF HIGH
CONTRACTING PARTY

REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

DATE OF SUBMISSION

27 May 2022

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF
CONTACT

This information can be made available to all interested parties and entries:



YES



NO



Partially only the following forms:

A

B

C

D

E

F

G



Form B

Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes

Article 13 / 4 / b

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository... on:

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party Cyprus reporting for time 01-01-2021 to 31-12-2021
period from _____

Mine clearance programmes

All demining operations were completed by National Guard Engineers before the 31st of July 2013, which was the set dead line for the implementation of the provisions of the OTTAWA convention. In total, by the 1st of July 2013, the Republic of Cyprus had effectively removed and destroyed 4.318 antipersonnel mines from 18 National Guard minefields. In conclusion, all the obligations of Cyprus deriving from the Ottawa Convention, in the areas under the effective control of the Republic were successfully met by the 1st of July 2013. In addition to the mine clearance operations carried out by the National Guard, another programme was successfully completed on the 20th of January 2011, which concerned the clearance of minefields located in the Buffer Zone. This program was initially funded by the European Union, in collaboration with the United Nations, and was named “Partnership for the Future”. However, one minefield laid by the Turkish occupational forces in the Buffer Zone, in the vicinity of the village Deryneia, still remains to be cleared.

The only other mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti - personnel mines under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Cyprus are located in the areas north of the buffer zone, which are occupied by the Turkish Armed Forces. As reported within the request submitted by Cyprus for an extension of the deadline to fulfill its obligations under Article 5.1, 21 minefields (**one of them is situated within the buffer zone, in the vicinity of the village Deryneia**) laid by Turkey’s occupation forces are known not yet to be cleared of anti - personnel mines. These are overwhelmingly situated adjacent to the buffer zone. Precise information on their size, composition (whether they include mines other than anti - personnel mines) and on how much land can be safely treated as arable when these mines have been cleared is unknown.

Furthermore, before and during the invasion of 1974, the National Guard laid 28 minefields north of Nicosia towards the Pentadaktylos mountain range, which are located today in the Turkish - occupied areas. The latter minefields included 1006 anti - personnel mines. The Republic of Cyprus gave the technical details of these 28 minefields to the UNFICYP in May 2015. Concerning these minefields, UNFICYP initially informed the Republic of Cyprus that only 3 required further technical surveys, whilst according to the latest assessment of UNMAS, these minefields are now accepted as free from Explosive Hazards.

The Government of Cyprus does not possess any further information, regarding the progress in the clearance of mined areas under the control of the Turkish occupational forces. 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 due to the fact that Turkey, forcefully denies the authorities 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 by the 1st of July 2022. On the 9th of February 2021, Cyprus submitted to the Chair of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation, a request for extension of its 1st of July 2022 deadline. Cyprus request is for 3 years, until the 1st of July 2025, since the circumstances that made it necessary for Cyprus to request an extension in 2012 remain unchanged.

Rehabilitation programmes

The Republic of Cyprus has already adopted the relevant legislation and laws, regarding the provisions required for the allocation of indemnities to mine victims.

Form D

Legislation

Article 13 / 4 / d

"The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary... on:

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;

Remark:

High Contracting Party **Cyprus** reporting for time 01-01-2021 to 31-12-2021
period from

Legislation

The Republic of Cyprus has ratified the amended Protocol II and the additional Protocol IV of CCW (11th July 2003), as well as the Ottawa Convention (17th January 2003), and incorporated them into law.

The 2 Protocols have entered into force from the 22nd of January 2004.

Form F

Other relevant matters

Article 13 / 4 / f

"The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary...on:

(f) other relevant matters.

Remark:

High Contracting Party

Cyprus

reporting for time 01-01-2021 to 31-12-2021
period from

Other relevant matters

NIL

Form G

Information to the UN-Database on mine clearance

High Contracting Party Cyprus reporting for time 01-01-2021 to 31-12-2021
period from _____

The National Guard strives to keep informed on international practices and standards, equipment and methodologies, in regards to modern mine clearance operations and technologies.

Lists of experts and expert agencies

For details please contact the point of contact listed below.

National points of contact on mine clearance

For further details and information please contact:

email: othellos4@cytanet.com.cy
Cyprus, 00357 - 22807727, Fax: 00357 - 22429392.

**CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF
ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

Reporting Formats for Article 7

STATE [PARTY]:

REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

POINT OF CONTACT:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Presidential Palace Avenue, 1447 Nicosia, Cyprus.

Tel.: + 357 22 401000, Fax: + 357 22 661881 , E-mail: minforeign1@mfa.gov.cy

Form A National implementation measures

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
a) The national implementation measures referred to in Article 9."

Remark: In accordance with Article 9, "Each State Party shall take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control".

State [Party]: REPUBLIC of CYPRUS reporting for time period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

Measures	Supplementary information (e.g., effective date of implementation & text of legislation attached).
Unchanged from last reporting	

Form B Stockpiled anti-personnel mines

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

b) The total of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed by it, or under its jurisdiction or control, to include a breakdown of the type, quantity and, if possible, lot numbers of each type of anti-personnel mine stockpiled."

State [Party]: **REPUBLIC of CYPRUS** reporting for time period from **1 January 2021** to **31 December 2021**

1. Total of stockpiled anti-personnel mines

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
Since July 2007, the Republic of Cyprus is a country free from stockpiled antipersonnel mines.			
TOTAL			

2. Previously unknown stockpiles of anti-personnel mines discovered after the deadlines have passed. *(Action #15 of Nairobi Action Plan)* ^{1*}

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
TOTAL			

* Pursuant to the decision of the 8MSP, as contained in paragraph 29 of the Final Report of the Meeting, document APLC/MSP.8/2007/6.

Form C Location of mined areas

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

c) To the extent possible, the location of all mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines under its jurisdiction or control, to include as much detail as possible regarding the type and quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine in each mined area and when they were emplaced."

State [Party]: REPUBLIC of CYPRUS reporting for time period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

1. Areas that contain mines*

Location	Type	Quantity	Date of emplacement	Supplementary information
				Since July 2013, there are no antipersonnel mines laid in the minefields of the National Guard, in the territories under the effective control of the Republic of Cyprus.
TOTAL				

* If necessary, a separate table for each mined area may be provided

Form C (continued)

2. Areas suspected to contain mines*

Location	Type	Quantity	Date of emplacement	Supplementary information
<p>The only other mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Cyprus are located in the areas north of the buffer zone, which are occupied by Turkey. As reported within the request submitted by Cyprus for an extension of the deadline to fulfill its obligations under Article 5.1, 21 minefields (one of them is situated within the buffer zone, in the vicinity of the village Deryneia) laid by Turkey's occupational forces are known not yet to be cleared of anti - personnel mines. These are overwhelmingly situated adjacent to the buffer zone. Precise information on their size, on their composition (whether they include mines other than anti - personnel mines) and on how much land can be safely treated as arable when these mines have been cleared is unknown. Furthermore, before and during the invasion of 1974, the National Guard laid 28 minefields north of Nicosia towards the Pentadaktylos mountain range, which are today located in the Turkish - occupied areas. The latter minefields included 1006 anti - personnel mines. The Republic of Cyprus gave the technical details of these 28 minefields to the UNFICYP in May 2015. Concerning these minefields, UNFICYP initially informed the Republic of Cyprus that only 3 required further technical surveys, whilst according to the latest assessment of UNMAS, these minefields are now accepted as free from Explosive Hazards.</p> <p>The Government of Cyprus does not possess any further information regarding the progress in the clearance of mined areas under the control of the Turkish occupational forces. Mine clearance in the occupied part of the Republic involves the legal responsibility of Turkey as a State Party to the Ottawa Convention and to the CCW and its Protocols.</p>				

Form D APMs retained or transferred

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
 d) The types, quantities and, if possible, lot numbers of all anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques, or transferred for the purpose of destruction, as well as the institutions authorized by a State Party to retain or transfer anti-personnel mines, in accordance with Article 3"

State [Party]: REPUBLIC of CYPRUS reporting for time period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

1a. **Compulsory:** Retained for development of and training in (*Article 3, para.1*)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
Unchanged from last reporting				
TOTAL	-----			

1b. **Voluntary information** (*Action #54 of Nairobi Action Plan*)

Objectives	Activity / Project	Supplementary information
NIL	NIL	<i>(Description of programs or activities, their objectives and progress, types of mines, time period if and when appropriate...)</i>
NIL	NIL	"Information on the plans requiring the retention of mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques and report on the actual use of retained mines and the results of such use"

NOTE: Each State Party should provide information on plans and future activities if and when appropriate and reserves the right to modify it at any time

Form D (continued)

2. **Compulsory:** Transferred for development of and training in (*Article 3, para.1*)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information: e.g. transferred from, transferred to
NIL				
TOTAL				

3. **Compulsory:** Transferred for the purpose of destruction (*Article 3, para.2*)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type of A/P Mines	Quantity of A/P Mines until 7/10/2010	Quantity of A/P Mines destroyed on 08/10/2010	Quantity of A/P Mines destroyed in 2016	Quantity of A/P Mines destroyed in 2018	Quantity of A/P Mines destroyed in 2021	Current Balance	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information: e.g. transferred from, transferred to
NATIONAL GUARD	M2A1	100	50	10	0	5	35		In 2021, THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS PROCEEDED WITH THE DESTRUCTION OF 25 ANTI – PERSONNEL MINES RETAINED UNDER ARTICLE 3. THE REMAINING STOCKPILE OF ANTI – PERSONNEL MINES AMOUNTS TO 410
	M2A3	100	50	10	0	3	37		
	M16	200	100	10	0	5	85		
	M16A1	100	50	0	0	0	50		
	M16A2	100	50	10	0	2	38		
	M16E3	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	VS50	197	97	10	5	5	80		
	GLD112	197	97	10	0	5	85		
TOTAL		994	494	60	5	25	410		

Form E Status of programs for conversion or de-commissioning of APM production facilities

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
 e) The status of programs for the conversion or de-commissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities."

State [Party]: REPUBLIC of CYPRUS reporting for time period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

Indicate if to "convert" or "decommission"	Status (indicate if "in process" or "completed")	Supplementary information
Unchanged from last reporting		

Form F Status of programs for destruction of APMs

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
 f) The status of programs for the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, including details of the methods which will be used in destruction, the location of all destruction sites and the applicable safety and environmental standards to be observed."

State [Party]: REPUBLIC of CYPRUS reporting for time period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

1. Status of programs for destruction of stockpiled APMs (*Article 4*)

Description of the status of programs including:	
Location of destruction sites	Details of:
Unchanged from last reporting	Methods
	Applicable safety standards
	Applicable environmental standards

2. Status of programs for destruction of APMs in mined areas (*Article 5*)

Description of the status of programs including:	
Location of destruction sites	Details of:
Unchanged from last reporting	Methods
	Applicable safety standards
	Applicable environmental standards

Form G APMs destroyed after entry into force

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

g) The types and quantities of all anti-personnel mines destroyed after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party, to include a breakdown of the quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine destroyed, in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, respectively, along with, if possible, the lot numbers of each type anti-personnel mine in the case of destruction in accordance with Article 4"

State [Party]: REPUBLIC of CYPRUS reporting for time period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

1. Destruction of stockpiled APMs (*Article 4*)

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
M2A1	0	---	
M2A3			
M16			
M16A1		---	
M16A2		---	
VS-50		---	
GLD 112		---	
TOTAL		0	---

2. Destruction of APMs in mined areas (*Article 5*)

Type	Quantity	Supplementary information
NIL	NIL	All demining operations were completed before the 31st of July 2013, which was the set dead line for the completion of Cyprus' obligations under the OTTAWA Convention.
TOTAL		

Form G (continued)

3. Previously unknown stockpiles of anti-personnel mines discovered and destroyed after the deadlines have passed. *(Action #15 of Nairobi Action Plan)**

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
NIL	NIL	NIL	
TOTAL			

* Pursuant to the decision of the 8MSP, as contained in paragraph 29 of the Final Report of the Meeting, document APLC/MSP.8/2007/6.

Form H Technical characteristics of each type produced/owned or possessed

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

h) The technical characteristics of each type of anti-personnel mine produced, to the extent known, and those currently owned or possessed by a State Party, giving, where reasonably possible, such categories of information as may facilitate identification and clearance of anti-personnel mines; at a minimum, this information shall include the dimensions, fusing, explosive content, metallic content, colour photographs and other information which may facilitate mine clearance"

State [Party]: REPUBLIC of CYPRUS reporting for time period from 1 January 2021 To 31 December 2021

1. Technical characteristics of each APM-type produced

Type	Dimensions	Fusing	Explosive content		Metallic Content	Colour photo attached	Supplementary information to facilitate mine clearance.
			type	grams			
Unchanged from last reporting							

2. Technical characteristics of each APM-type currently owned or possessed

Type	Dimensions	Fusing	Explosive content		Metallic Content	Colour photo attached	Supplementary information to facilitate mine clearance.
			type	grams			
Unchanged from last reporting							

Form I Measures to provide warning to the population

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
 i) The measures taken to provide an immediate and effective warning to the population in relation to all areas identified under paragraph 2 of Article 5."

Remark: In accordance with Article 5, para.2: "Each State Party shall make every effort to identify all areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced and shall ensure as soon as possible that all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control are perimeter-marked, monitored and protected by fencing or other means, to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians, until all anti-personnel mines contained therein have been destroyed. The marking shall at least be to the standards set out in the 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".

State [Party]: REPUBLIC of CYPRUS reporting for time period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

Unchanged from last reporting

Form J Other relevant matters

Remark: States Parties may use this form to report voluntarily on other relevant matters, including matters pertaining to compliance and implementation not covered by the formal reporting requirements contained in Article 7. States Parties are encouraged to use this form to report on activities undertaken with respect to Article 6, and in particular to report on assistance provided for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims.

State [Party]: REPUBLIC of CYPRUS reporting for time period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

[Narrative / reference to other reports:]

NIL