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6 July 2022

ENGLISH only



**Permanent Representation of the
Kingdom of the Netherlands to
the Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)**

OVSE 16 - 2022

NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe presents its compliments to all Delegations and Permanent Missions to the OSCE and to the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE, and has the honour to provide the Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Landmines.

The Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Delegations and Permanent Missions to the OSCE and to the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 6 July 2022



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

437th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 443, Agenda item 6

**DECISION No. 7/04
UPDATING THE OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTI-PERSONNEL
MINES AND EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR**

The Forum for Security Co-operation,

Recalling the aims 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; of the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction; and of the 2003 Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War annexed to the 1980 Convention on Conventional Weapons,

Recognizing the enduring value of a substantial information exchange in the OSCE on the subject of anti-personnel mines,

Acknowledging that the existing information exchange (FSC.DEC/14/97/Corr., 3 December 1997) is out-of-date,

Decides:

- That this Decision and its Annexes will fully replace FSC Decision No.14/97/Corr. and its Annex;
- To begin the first annual information exchange on 31 May 2005;
- To request the CPC to take into account this information exchange in its periodical surveys;
- To keep this issue under consideration, including through a special discussion in appropriate FSC fora.

OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

**To be submitted no later than 31 May of each year
(starting in May 2005)**

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

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.

<https://geneva-s3.unoda.org/ccw-apis-database-dump/Netherlands/Netherlands%202021.pdf>

If no:

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

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

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

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

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

- 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.

<https://geneva-s3.unoda.org/artvii-database-dump/Netherlands/NL%202021.pdf>

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

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

YES. The Netherlands supports all five pillars of Mine Action and contributes to Victim Assistance through its funding towards several programmes, including the multiannual, multi-country ‘Mine Action and Cluster Munitions Programme 2016-2020’ (HALO, MAG, DCA), and contributions to UNMAS and GICHD. Its successor, the current MACM programme 2020-2024, also includes VA.

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.

YES. See also question 9.

Through its ‘Mine Action and Cluster Munitions II’ multi-annual programme (MACM II, 2020-2024), the Netherlands is contributing a total of €51 million Euro to NGO partners Mines Advisory Group, Danish Demining Group, the HALO Trust, Humanity & Inclusion and the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) for mine action activities in 9 different countries: Iraq, Lebanon, South Sudan, Libya, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Somalia, Syria and Laos. Of this total, an amount of € 10 million Euro is reserved for emergency response by the same partners.

In addition, the Netherlands provides an annual (unearmarked) contribution to the UNMAS Voluntary Trust Fund. In 2021, the Netherlands also continued its support to the UNDP Mine Action Programme in Yemen and the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). The total contribution in 2021 from The Kingdom of the Netherlands to NGO’s and multilateral organisations for Humanitarian Mine Action was EUR 28,444,792.

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?

YES, Protocol V of the CCW entered into force on 12 november 2006. The Netherlands had ratified Protocol V even before that date and thus belongs to the first group of States Parties to have done so.

See here for our most recent annual report:

<https://geneva-s3.unoda.org/ccw-pv-database-dump/Netherlands/2021.pdf>

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

N/A

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

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 also question 9 in Annex 1. The Netherlands provides support for Mine Action through its programmatic funding, including activities focused on Survey and Clearance of ERW and ERW related Risk education activities. In 2020 this accounted to EUR 28,444,792.