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FSC.EMI/177/20  
29 May 2020

ENGLISH only



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the OSCE, the  
United Nations and other International Organizations in  
Vienna

Note 28/2020-OSCE

The Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the OSCE, the United Nations and other International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions/Delegations of Participating States to the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation in Vienna and to the Secretariat of the Conflict Prevention Centre and has the honour, with reference to the FSC.DEC/7/04 to enclose the following information:

**OSCE / Questionnaire on ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES  
and Questionnaire on EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR  
for the calendar year 2019 (incl. two annexes)**

The Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the OSCE, the United Nations and other International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all other Delegations to the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation in Vienna and to the Secretariat of the Conflict Prevention Centre the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 28 May 2020



To all Delegations to the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation  
To the Secretariat of the Conflict Prevention Centre

V i e n n a

# OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

FSC.DEC/7/04, 24 November 2004, Annex 1

To be submitted no later than 31 May 2020

## Switzerland

May 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)?

**Switzerland notified the consent to be bound by the 1996 Amended Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices on 24 March 1998. The Protocol entered into force for Switzerland on 03 December 1998.**

#### 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.

#### **Annexed:**

- **National Report for the calendar year 2019 by Switzerland to the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 03 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, dated 31 March 2020**

#### 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?  
N/A
5. Would your country be interested in receiving assistance related to the implementation of this Protocol? If so, please describe.  
N/A
6. Does your country have the capacity to assist others related to this Protocol? **If so**, please describe.  
N/A

## 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?

**Switzerland signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction on 03 December 1997. It deposited the instrument of ratification on 24 March 1998. The Convention entered into force for Switzerland on 01 March 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.

**Annexed:**

- **Annual update for the calendar year 2019 by Switzerland to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, dated 30 April 2020**

- (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?

**Switzerland adapted its legislation in order to prohibit the development, production, brokering, acquisition, transfer (including import, transit and export) or stockpiling of anti-personnel landmines (Article 8 War Material Act), as well as financial support to those activities (Article 33, paragraph 1, letter f War Material Act). In the context of Switzerland's ratification of the Convention on Cluster Munitions in 2012, Switzerland included a prohibition of financing prohibited weapons (including anti-personnel mines) into its legislation; see articles 8b, 8c and 35b of the Federal Act on War Material, Status as on 01 February 2013. Additionally, the Swiss Criminal Procedure Code was amended in this regard.**

**The retention or transfer of anti-personnel mines for the development of procedures in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques and for training in such procedures is permitted according to the provision of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention; the quantity retained or transferred shall not exceed the necessary minimum (Article 8, paragraph 2 War Material Act). Violations of the above-mentioned rules are sanctioned under Swiss law (Article 35 War Material Act).**

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

**Switzerland has developed a strategic concept on the protection of civilians that is based on a comprehensive approach, in conjunction with namely the ICRC, the**

**WHO and UNICEF. It aims at contributing to the protection of the civilian population against the humanitarian consequences of armed conflicts - anti-personnel mines and explosive remnants of war being one of them. In the framework of the mine action strategy 2016-2022, Switzerland commits itself to support relevant projects aiming at providing assistance to victims of mines (and ERW) in the countries where Switzerland is active in the domain of development cooperation. The objective is to alleviate the victims' suffering by securing better access to medical care, supporting their socio-economic reintegration, and promoting observance of their rights.**

**At the operational level, Switzerland financed various projects in the field of victim assistance, social and economic reintegration, as well as risk prevention in countries such as Bosnia-Herzegovina, Colombia, Libya, Myanmar, Syria and Ukraine in collaboration with the local authorities and the following partners: the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and Handicap International.**

10. Does your country require assistance in mine clearance, stockpile destruction, mine awareness and/or victim assistance? If so, please describe.  
N/A
11. Does your country have the capacity to assist others in mine action? **If so**, please describe.

***A) Policy Guidelines***

**The Swiss policy on Mine Action follows a holistic approach that is based on all relevant regimes; it addresses the negative impact of mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), as well as of cluster munitions.**

**In the framework of its Mine Action Strategy, over the last years Switzerland has been able to commit 16 to 18 million Swiss francs per year for assistance in mine action (2019: 18 million Swiss Francs). The Strategy is implemented by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and by the Political Directorate / Human Security Division of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) as well as by the Swiss Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (DDPS) in an interministerial whole-of-government approach.**

**At the policy level, projects and activities supported by Switzerland aim at improving the implementation of the conventions, whereas at the field level concrete assistance to mine / ERW / cluster munitions affected countries through funding, material and personnel is given. The Mine Action Strategy 2016-2022 defines the priorities and guiding principles of Switzerland's support. Switzerland's engagement focuses in priority countries, where it is engaged in the fields of development co-operation, humanitarian assistance and/or peacebuilding endeavours.**

***B) Operational activities***

**(For operational activities in the domain of victim assistance, please see response to question 9 of this questionnaire.)**

**Switzerland provides assistance to mine / cluster munitions / ERW affected countries in the form of funds, material and personnel:**

- **Support mine action, in particular clearance, mine risk education and victim assistance in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Libya, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Syria and Ukraine as well as the activities of Geneva Call, ICBL and the ICRC in this area.**
- **Political and financial support to the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD): during the reporting period, Switzerland contributed CHF 9.1 million to the GICHD. The organisation acts as a facilitator, strategic advisor, research body and think tank in the field of mine action (including ERW). The Implementation Support Units (ISU), which serve the States Parties to the APMBC and to the CCM, are hosted by the GICHD which covers the rental, administrative, and logistical costs. This in-kind contribution (about CHF 0.5 million per annum) is covered by Switzerland's core contribution to the GICHD.**
- **Provision of experts in the fields of EOD, logistics, finance and information management, training and security to UN mine action programmes. During the reporting period, experts were deployed to programmes in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, Mali, South Sudan, and Western Sahara as well as to UNOPS and UNMAS HQ in New York. During the reporting period, CHF 3.55 million have been spent for the secondment of personnel, the organisation of training courses and different other activities. Switzerland further developed and updated its specific training courses for future experts to be sent to international mine action programmes with its partners, the GICHD, UNMAS; UNICEF, and UNOPS.**

**Since 2000, Switzerland has been offering international training courses on the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) via the channels of the Partnership for Peace Program (PfP). Switzerland annually offers a series of courses in different fields of mine action. During the reporting period, Switzerland along with such partners as the GICHD, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNMAS and UNDP offered eleven courses with the following topics: "Non-technical survey course", "Integrated Mine Action for Better Results", "Mine/ERW Risk Education Course", "IMAS and Compliance", "Results Based Management in Mine Action", one "A1 IMSMA-Training-Courses", one "A2 IMSMA Training-Course", one "IMSMA-Core Training Course", two basic "Support Service Officers Courses" and one senior "Support Service Officers Course". The courses took place in Spiez and Stans (NTS). During the reporting period, Switzerland spent some CHF 0.3 million for the training courses.**

## OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR

FSC.DEC/7/04, 24 November 2004, Annex 2

To be submitted on a voluntary basis along with the OSCE Questionnaire on  
Anti-personnel Mines no later than 31 May 2020

### Switzerland

May 2020

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 - Switzerland notified the Depositary and is bound by the Protocol.**

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

**Switzerland notified its consent to be bound by CCW Protocol V on 12 May 2006. The Protocol entered into force for Switzerland on 12 November 2006.**

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 (Switzerland is not an ERW-affected country)**

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

**The Swiss humanitarian demining policy including its instruments (policy work, financial support, the provision of training, material and expertise) addresses also the negative impacts of explosive remnants of war.**

**With the entry into force of Protocol V (12 November 2006), Switzerland assessed the situation with the objective of better allocating the resources devoted to assist others in clearing and minimising the risks and effects of ERW. The close link between the provisions of the APMBC, CCM and Protocol V of the CCW has been taken into account. Switzerland's Mine Action Strategy for the period 2016-2022 serves again as a holistic approach and considers the APMBC, the CCM as well as Amended Protocol II and Protocol V of the CCW.**

**For a detailed reporting on Switzerland's activities supporting victim assistance, please see the OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTI PERSONNEL MINES, response to question 9.**

**For a detailed reporting on Switzerland's policy guidelines on and operational activities in humanitarian mine action, which include implementation of the provisions of CCW Protocol V, please see the OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTI PERSONNEL MINES, response to question 11.**

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  
(PROTOCOL II AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996)

Reporting Formats for Article 13 para 2 and Article 11 para 2.

NAME OF HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY	SWITZERLAND
DATE OF SUBMISSION	<b>31.03.2020</b>
NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT	<hr/> <i>Dr. Vincent Choffat</i> <i>Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (DDPS)</i> <i>Armed Forces Staff</i> <i>International Relations Defence</i> <i>Kasernenstrasse 7, CH-3003 Bern</i> <i>Phone: ++41 58 464 64 31</i> <i>Fax: ++41 58 465 30 40</i> <i>E-mail: <a href="mailto:vincent.choffat@vtg.admin.ch">vincent.choffat@vtg.admin.ch</a></i> <hr/>

This information can be made available to other interested parties and relevant organisations

X YES

... NO

... Partially, only the following forms:

A  B  C  D  E  F  G

### Summary Sheet

(Pursuant to the decision of the Fifth Annual Conference of the States Parties to CCW  
Amended Protocol II as stipulated in paragraph 20 of its Final Report,  
CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/2)

<b>Reporting Period: 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016</b>	
Form A: Dissemination of information	<input type="checkbox"/> changed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unchanged
Form B: Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes:	<input type="checkbox"/> changed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unchanged (last reporting: <b>2003</b> )
Form C: Technical requirements and relevant information:	<input type="checkbox"/> changed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unchanged
Form D: Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/> changed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unchanged
Form E: International technical information exchange, co-operation on mine clearance, technical co-operation and assistance:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> changed <input type="checkbox"/> unchanged
Form F: Other relevant matters:	<input type="checkbox"/> changed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unchanged
Form G: Information to the UN-database on mine clearance:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> changed <input type="checkbox"/> unchanged



**Form A**                      **Dissemination of information**

Article 13 / 4 / a            ”The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository ... on:

(a) dissemination of information on this Protocol to their armed forces and to the civilian population;”

High Contracting Party    SWITZERLAND

reporting for time period from **1 January 2019** to **31 December 2019**

Information to the armed forces

*[From the Annual Report of Switzerland on the CCW and its Protocols, Form A]*

The protection of persons who are not or are no longer taking part in hostilities as well as the limitation of means and methods of warfare, including notably the prohibition of means and methods of warfare which are of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering to combatants, have always been priorities for Switzerland. Our country puts therefore every effort in the strict implementation and strengthening of the standards set by international humanitarian law (IHL) with regard to all parties involved.

Swiss military doctrine, along with the respective regulations and manuals, reflect the law of armed conflict and its principles including the norms and regulations of the CCW and its Protocols, including amended Protocol II.

Armed Forces personnel are educated in IHL during basic training (recruit school) and in all military cadre schools; IHL is part of the curriculum of the Swiss Armed Forces College, which includes the Military Academy and is responsible for all cadre courses, including courses for General Staff Officers, as well as for legal advisors. Legal advisors attend the relevant course on International Humanitarian Law at the International Institute of Humanitarian Law in San Remo (Italy), and members of the Armed Forces participating in peace operations receive an instruction on specific Rules of Engagement as part of the pre-deployment training.

Officers are also regularly instructed in the Armed Forces College, Command and Staff Officer School on arms control issues, the norms and regulations of IHL, as well as on the CCW and its Protocols (including amended Protocol II). Dissemination of the law of armed conflict to a wider public is promoted by interactive CD-ROMs and an internet web-site ([www.loac.ch](http://www.loac.ch)). Switzerland also organises biannually the international course "Central Role of the Commander" for commanders and legal advisors.

Every member of the Swiss Armed Forces, independently of the kind of performed duty (i.e. national defence, support to civilian authorities, peace operations or training) has to respect the law (including IHL norms). Illegal orders, especially when their execution is resulting in a violation of IHL or international human rights law (HR), must not be carried out. Commanders are obliged to respect and ensure respect of IHL and HR within their sphere of responsibility.

Members of the Swiss Armed Forces are instructed and trained to use weapons and munitions only according to authorised design and manuals.

*[continued]*

The Swiss Armed Forces International Command SWISSINT is responsible for the pre-deployment training and preparation of members of the Armed Forces. These instructions (e.g. Mine Risk Education) raise awareness and assure the correct behaviour regarding mines, unexploded remnants of war and booby traps. The Swiss EOD Center (Competence center for explosive ordnance disposal, military and humanitarian demining) provides its internationally deployed experts with information on the CCW and its Protocols (including amended Protocol II) as part of the internal humanitarian demining course.

Information to the civilian population

The civilian population has been informed on several occasions on the results of the Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the amended Protocol II by public statements of government representatives and annual public reports on the implementation of the Mine Action Strategy of the Swiss Confederation. At the occasion of the internal ratification process of amended Protocol II and the Mine Ban Treaty as well as during the introduction of the Swiss Federal Act on War Material, the Swiss Parliament and the civilian population have been informed repeatedly about the new obligations arising from the said legal instruments.

**Form B**

**Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes**

Article 13 / 4 / b ”The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

*Remark: The territory of Switzerland contains neither mined areas nor areas suspected to contain mines.*

High Contracting Party SWITZERLAND reporting for time period from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

Mine clearance programs

not applicable

Rehabilitation programs

not applicable

**Form C**

**Technical requirements and relevant information**

Article 13 / 4 / c

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

(c) steps taken to meet technical requirements of this Protocol and any other relevant information pertaining thereto;

High Contracting Party

SWITZERLAND

reporting for time period from

1 January 2019

to

31 December 2019

Technical requirements

Switzerland destroyed all its anti-personnel mines by 1999 and its anti-tank mines by 2013.

Any other relevant information

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**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;

High Contracting Party

SWITZERLAND

reporting for time period from

1 January 2019

to

31 December 2019**Legislation**

On 13 December 1996, the Swiss Parliament enacted national legislation prohibiting the development, production, brokerage, acquisition, import, export, transfer, stockpiling, use and possession of and any other activity relating to anti-personnel mines - APM (Swiss Federal Law on War Material). The only activities permitted are those which are directly related to the destruction of or the protection against APM. With entry into force of the amended Protocol II on 3 December 1998 and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction of 1997 (Mine Ban Treaty) on 1 March 1999 for Switzerland, these international legal instruments became integral parts of the Swiss legislation. The definition of "APM" applied in the Swiss Federal Law on War Material was extended to the definition used in the Mine Ban Treaty and the amended Protocol II. According to the modified Article 8 of the Swiss Federal Law on War Material, "APM" is defined as any explosive device that is placed in or on the ground or any other surface or in their proximity and is designed or modified to explode by the presence, proximity or contact of a person and that is intended to incapacitate, injure or kill one or more persons. Mines designed to be detonated by the presence, proximity or contact of a vehicle as opposed to a person that are equipped with anti-handling devices, are not considered anti-personnel mines as a result of being so equipped. This amendment entered into force on 1 March 1999. In addition, the Swiss Parliament adapted art. 8 of the Swiss Federal Law on War Material to the exact wording of art. 2 (3) and art. 3 (1) of the Mine Ban Treaty. This amendment entered into force on 1 June 2004.

Finally, the Swiss Criminal Code (Title Twelve, esp. Art. 264h and 264j, see <https://www.admin.ch/opc/en/classified-compilation/19370083/index.html>) and the Military Criminal Code (Title Six, Art. 112d and 114, see <https://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/classified-compilation/19270018/index.html> - French only) criminalise the use of prohibited weapons as a war crime.

**Form E**                      **International technical information exchange, co-operation on mine clearance, technical co-operation and assistance**

Article 13 / 4 / e                      ”The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository ... on:

(e) measures taken on international technical information exchange, on international co-operation on mine clearance, and on technical co-operation and assistance;

High Contracting Party      SWITZERLAND                      reporting for time period from      1 January 2019      to      31 December 2019

International technical information exchange  
Switzerland participated in international information exchanges in various ways, among others, by providing technical information and practical demonstrations on Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) systems for the contact-free disposal of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) and mines, but also by organising training courses with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), UNICEF, and UNOPS for Mine Action Specialists within the EAPC/PfP framework.

International co-operation on mine clearance / Technical cooperation  
*[Please refer to Form D of Switzerland CCW Compliance Report available on the Convention’s Website:  
[https://www.unog.ch/80256EE600585943/\(httpPages\)/4DAAC823AA644F5FC1257F9C0032C5C6?OpenDocument](https://www.unog.ch/80256EE600585943/(httpPages)/4DAAC823AA644F5FC1257F9C0032C5C6?OpenDocument)]*

**Form F**                      **Other relevant matters**

Article 13 / 4 / f                      ”The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository ... on:

(f) other relevant matters.

High Contracting Party      SWITZERLAND                      reporting for time period from      1 January 2019      to      31 December 2019

Other relevant matters  
=

**Form G****Information to the UN-database on mine clearance**

Article 11 para 2 "The High Contracting Parties shall provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations System, especially on:

- information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance

High Contracting Party SWITZERLAND reporting for time period from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

<u>Means and technologies of mine clearance</u>	
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<u>Lists of experts and experts agencies</u>	
Swiss EOD Centre (Komp Zen ABC-KAMIR) Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport ABC Zentrum CH-3700 Spiez	<i>Experts of the Swiss EOD Centre:</i> Mr. Franz Bär Phone: +41 58 468 46 12 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:FranzOtto.Baer@vtg.admin.ch">FranzOtto.Baer@vtg.admin.ch</a>
<u>National points of contact on mine clearance</u>	
Mr. Jens Malte Amrhein Federal Department of Defence Armed Forces Staff, International Relations Defence Head of Mine Action Unit Kasernenstrasse 7 CH-3003 Bern Phone: +41 58 467 04 25 Cell: +41 79 155 74 52 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:Jens-Malte.Amrhein@vtg.admin.ch">Jens-Malte.Amrhein@vtg.admin.ch</a>	Mr. Alessandro Palmoso Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Human Security Division Humanitarian Policy Section Bundesgasse 32 CH-3003 Bern Phone: +41 58 461 15 35 Cell: +41 79 224 56 37 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Alessandro.Palmoso@eda.admin.ch">Alessandro.Palmoso@eda.admin.ch</a>



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

**(OTTAWA CONVENTION)**

**Updated information provided in accordance  
with article 7, paragraph 2**

**Switzerland**

**Date of submission: 30.04.2020**



## **0. Point of Contact**

Federal Department of Defense, Civil Protection and Sports  
International Relations, Defense  
Euro-Atlantic Security Cooperation  
Papiermühlestrasse 20  
3003 Bern  
Phone: +41 58 464 64 31  
Fax: +41 58 465 30 40

## **1. National implementation measures**

No additional legal, administrative and other measures were taken during the previous calendar year to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited under the Convention. See Switzerland's report submitted in 2015 for the latest information.

## **2. Stockpiled anti-personnel mines**

This matter is not applicable since Switzerland destroyed all stockpiled anti-personnel mines.

## **3. Anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for permitted purposes**

Switzerland does not retain or transfer anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes.

## **4. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines**

The territory of Switzerland contains neither mined areas nor areas suspected to contain mines.

## **5. Technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines**

Not applicable.

## **6. Conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities**

Not applicable.

## **7. Victim assistance**

Not applicable.

## **8. Cooperation and assistance**

In 2019, Switzerland invested approximately CHF 18 million in the mine action area. These resources were spent to clear mines, assist victims, raise awareness, strengthen local capacities, and make sure that international commitments are respected.

Switzerland's engagement in international co-operation and assistance is based on its latest Mine Action Strategy, which covers the period 2016-2022. This strategy was published in July 2016 and initially valid until 2019. In 2018, it was prolonged until 2022. It represents the fourth subsequent national strategy in this domain. It defines a whole of government approach and is meant to address the threats posed by anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions and explosive remnants of war. Switzerland is active both at policy and operational level.

On this basis, Switzerland provides assistance to mine / cluster munitions / ERW affected countries in the form of funds, material and personnel:

- Support mine action, in particular clearance, mine risk education and victim assistance in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Libya, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Syria and Ukraine as well as the activities of Geneva Call, ICBL and the ICRC in this area.
- Political and financial support to the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD): during the reporting period, Switzerland contributed CHF 9.1 million to the GICHD. The organisation acts as a facilitator, strategic advisor, research body and think tank in the field of mine action (including ERW). The Implementation Support Units (ISU), which serve the States Parties to the APMBBC and to the CCM, are hosted by the GICHD, which covers the rental, administrative, and logistical costs. This in-kind contribution (about CHF 0.5 million per annum) is covered by Switzerland's core contribution to the GICHD.
- Provision of experts in the fields of EOD, logistics, finance and information management, training and security to UN mine action programmes. During the reporting period, experts were deployed to programmes in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, Mali, South Sudan, and Western Sahara as well as to UNOPS and UNMAS HQ in New York. During the reporting period, CHF 3.55 million have been spent for the secondment of personnel, the organisation of training courses and different other activities. Switzerland further developed and updated its specific training courses for future experts to be sent to international mine action programmes with its partners, the GICHD, UNMAS; UNICEF, and UNOPS.

Since 2000, Switzerland has been offering international training courses on the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) via the channels of the Partnership for Peace Program (PfP). Switzerland annually offers a series of courses in different fields of mine action. During the reporting period, Switzerland along with such partners as the GICHD, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNMAS and UNDP offered eleven courses with the following topics: "Non-technical survey course", "Integrated Mine Action for Better Results", "Mine/ERW Risk Education Course", "IMAS and Compliance", "Results Based Management in Mine Action", one "A1 IMSMA-Training-Courses", one "A2 IMSMA Training-Course", one "IMSMA-Core Training Course", two basic "Support Service Officers Courses" and one senior "Support Service Officers Course". The courses took place in Spiez and Stans (NTS). During the reporting period, Switzerland spent some CHF 0.3 million for the training courses.

#### Any other relevant information

Further information is included in the annual exchange of the OSCE Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Mines.