CONVENTION ON CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS

– COMPLIANCE –

REPORTING FORMS

pursuant to the Decision of the Third CCW Review Conference on the establishment of a Compliance mechanism applicable to the Convention, as contained in its Final Declaration, Annex II, Paragraph 5 (CCW/CONF.III/11, Part II)

COVER PAGE

NAME OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

PARTY TO:
☒ Protocol I (Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments)
☒ Protocol II (Protocol on Mines Booby-Traps and Other Devices)
☒ Amended Protocol II (amended Protocol on Mines Booby-Traps and Other Devices)
☒ Protocol III (Protocol on Incendiary Weapons)
☒ Protocol IV (Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons)
☒ Protocol V (Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War)

ACCEDED TO:
☒ The amendment to Article 1 of the Convention

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 31/03/2020 (dd/mm/yyyy)

(NOTE: the recommended deadline for submission of the national reports was fixed by the 2007 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties at 1 October of each calendar year)

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT¹ (Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil Protection Directorate</td>
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<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:hcr@civilna-zastita.hr">hcr@civilna-zastita.hr</a></td>
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<th>MINISTRY OF DEFENCE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Defence Policy Directorate</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This information can be available to other interested parties and relevant organizations

☒ NO

☒ Partially, only the following forms: A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

NOTE: unless otherwise indicated all reports will be made public.

¹ Please indicate individually for the CCW and each Protocol (if different).
Note: Pursuant to paragraph 5 of the above Decision the High Contracting Parties have agreed “to provide information to the Secretary-General in advance of the Meeting, which will be circulated by the Secretary-General to all the High Contracting Parties, on any of the following matters:

(a) Dissemination of information on the Convention and its annexed Protocols to their armed forces and to the civilian population;

(b) Steps taken to meet the relevant technical requirements of the Convention and its annexed Protocols and any other relevant information pertaining thereto;

(c) Legislation related to the Convention and its annexed Protocols;

(d) Measures taken on technical co-operation and assistance; and

(e) Other relevant matters.”

Each of the items listed above are provided as separate individual forms to be filled out by each High Contracting Party accordingly.
– COMPLIANCE –

SUMMARY SHEET

Reporting period: from 01/01/2019 to 31/12/2019

Form A: Dissemination of information:
☐ changed
☒ unchanged
(last reporting year:) 2011

Form B: Technical requirements and relevant information:
☐ changed
☒ unchanged
(last reporting year:) 2010

Form C: Legislation:
☐ changed
☒ unchanged
(last reporting year:) 2015

Form D: Technical cooperation and assistance:
☒ changed
☐ unchanged
(last reporting year:) 2018

Form E: Other relevant matters:
☒ changed
☐ unchanged
(last reporting year:) 2018

NOTE: This Summary Sheet may be used only after the High Contracting Party has submitted its first national report pursuant to the Decision of the Third CCW Review Conference. Only the reporting forms which are indicated as „changed“ have to be submitted thereafter together with the Cover page and the Summary Sheet.
FORM A: Dissemination of information

Paragraph 5 of the Decision on Compliance:

“The High Contracting Parties will provide information [...] on:

(a) Dissemination of information on the Convention and its annexed Protocols to their armed forces and to the civilian population;”

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting period: from 01/01/2019 to 31/12/2019

☐ additional information of dissemination of information on CCW Amended Protocol II to armed forces and civilian population is contained in the National Annual Report provided in accordance with paragraph 4(a) of Article 13 of Amended Protocol II for the year: 2019

☐ additional information on dissemination of information on CCW Protocol V is contained in the National Report provided pursuant to paragraph 2 (b) of Article 10 of Protocol V for the year: 2019

Information to the armed forces, including the extent to which the CCW and its Protocols are part of military manuals and the training curriculum of its armed forces:

The introduction of the signed Convention on Cluster Munitions to the Armed Forces at the Croatian Defense Academy was used to reshape and expand the curriculum time dedicated at all levels of education on the agreements, treaties and conventions signed and ratified by the Republic of Croatia. Starting at basic, advance and senior NCO courses it expanded and got more in-depth coverage all the way up to the War College level. This is particularly important today, as Croatia is a NATO member and its armed forces have to be well informed on the obligations and implications stemming from the many signed agreements and conventions that affect their actions during stability operations and other international deployments. The new expanded curriculum is being implemented from the beginning of September 2011 and is being updated all the time.

Information to the civilian population, including information on any programs, courses or documentation to disseminate the CCW to non-military audiences:

Dissemination of information about the CCW and its protocols to civilian population is performed through mine risk education (MRE) activities. Croatian Ministries, Offices of the Government and State Administrative Offices as well as NGOs and international organizations, pass specific training according to their role in the national implementation of the Convention and Protocols. Croatian Red Cross with its local branches (in local communities), Civil Protection Directorate (sector - Croatian Mine Action Centre - CROMAC), Ministry of Interior and the Association of Civil Victims of Homeland War are active in events and lectures where MRE messages are given.

Any other relevant information:

N/A
FORM B: Technical requirements and relevant information

Paragraph 5 of the Decision on Compliance:

“The High Contracting Parties will provide information [...] on:

(b) Steps taken to meet the relevant technical requirements of the Convention and its annexed Protocols and any other relevant information pertaining thereto;”

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting period: from 01/01/2019 to 31/12/2019

☑ additional information on steps taken to meet technical requirements of Amended Protocol II and other relevant information pertaining thereto is contained in the National Annual Report provided pursuant to paragraph 4(c) of Article 13 of Amended Protocol II for the year: 2019

☑ additional information on steps taken to meet technical requirements of Protocol V and other relevant information pertaining thereto is contained in the National Report provided pursuant to paragraph 2 (b) of Article 10 of Protocol V for the year: 2019

Steps taken to meet the relevant technical requirements of the Convention and its annexed Protocols:

In order to ensure the best possible long-term reliability of explosive ordnance, Republic Croatia applies best practices and operating procedures with respect to its storage, transport, field storage and handling in accordance with the following: Management of explosive ordnance in Armed Forces is regulated by Ministry of Defence and General Staff of Armed Forces of Republic of Croatia with;

- Directive on storage protection and handling of explosive ordinance, MoD Zagreb dated 1998
- Decree on transport of explosive ordnance, MoD dated 2006
- Directive on chemical balance of gunpowder dated 2000
- Directive on explosive ordnance quality control in MoD and AF dated 2005
- Directive on maintaining of explosive ordnance in AF dated 2004
- Directive on record keeping of out of date and faulty explosive ordnance dated 2005
- Directive on managing with the existing quantities of explosive ordnance in AF dated 1997

Currently in the Croatian Armed Forces, process of implementation of NATO norms and standards in the area of explosive ordnance safekeeping is going on. Decision of the Defence Minister for the planning period to year 2018 defined:

- Types and quantities of usable explosive ordnance, their storage and maintenance;
- Types and quantities of usable and perspective classical rocket ammo that could be used for live-firing, quality control, life cycle oversight and its extension;
- Types and quantities of explosive ordnance that are not longer usable and needs to be removed by delaboration and destruction

Any other relevant information:

N/A
FORM C: Legislation

Paragraph 5 of the Decision on Compliance:

“The High Contracting Parties will provide information [...] on:

(c) Legislation related to the Convention and its annexed Protocols;”

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting period: from 01/01/2019 to 31/12/2019

Additional information of legislation related to Amended Protocol II is contained in the National Annual Report provided pursuant to paragraph 4(d) of Article 13 of Amended Protocol II for the year 2019.

Additional information on legislation related to Protocol V is contained in the National Report provided pursuant to paragraph 2 (b) of Article 10 of Protocol V for the year: 2019

Legislation, including the status and content of national legislation to prevent and suppress violations of amended Protocol II:

Production of all types of arms and military equipment in the Republic of Croatia is regulated by the law on the Production, Overhaul and Trade in Arms and Military Equipment, adopted on 25 March 2002 (Official Gazette 33/2002). The law regulates safety and protection of methods of producing and refitting arms and military equipments.

Any other relevant information, including the regulations and policies (other than national legislation) adopted to implement the CCW's obligations and ensure compliance with its Protocols:

N/A
FORM D: Technical cooperation and assistance

Paragraph 5 of the Decision on Compliance:

“The High Contracting Parties will provide information […] on:

(d) Measures taken on technical co-operation and assistance;”

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting period: from 01/01/2019 to 31/12/2019

☒ additional information of measures taken on international technical information exchange, on international cooperation on mine clearance, and on technical cooperation and assistance is contained in the National Annual Report provided in accordance with paragraph 4(e) of Article 13 of Amended Protocol II for the year: 2019

☒ additional information on measures taken on international technical cooperation and assistance is contained in the National Report provided pursuant to paragraph 2 (b) of Article 10 of Protocol V for the year: 2019

International technical co-operation, including relevant experiences in seeking or providing technical assistance and cooperation:

During January 2019, representatives of the Libyan Ministry of Defense visited Civil Protection Directorate and HCR-CTRO. The Libyan delegation included four Ministry of Defense officials from the Directorate of Engineering, and representatives of the Libyan Embassy in the Republic of Croatia which have also participated in the talks about knowledge exchange in the field of Mine action.

In March 2019, a representative of HCR-CTRO participated in a Round Table on Humanitarian Mine Action Challenges and Best Practices in Teheran, Iran, organized by the Iranian Mine Action Centre and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

During April 2019, in Dubrovnik-Neretva County, in Slano, the 16th International Symposium "Mine Action 2019" was held in organization of the Ministry of the Interior (Civil Protection Directorate) and CROMAC-Center for Testing, Development and Training, Ltd. At the mentioned Symposium, some 150 participants from 31 countries of the world were exchanging knowledge about the relevant Mine Action topics.

Among other things, the representatives of the Civil Protection Directorate officials participated at the:
• the 9th Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), held in Geneva in September 2019.
• the Global Conference on Assistance to Victims of Anti-Personnel Mines and Other Explosive Remnants of War and Disability Rights held in September in Jordan
• the 4th Review Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (APMBC), held in Oslo in late November 2019. This conference adopted the Oslo Action Plan 2020 - 2024, which accurately identifies the challenges ahead, while offering practical and applicable solutions for the implementation of the Convention.

In addition, Civil Protection Directorate officials continuously provided thorough support towards the international partners and organizations regarding the APMBC, CCM and CCW Conventions as well as Mine Action review (NPA), EU institutions Mine Action focal points and all other interested foreign Embassies and officials.
International technical assistance:

HCR-CTRO participates in a NATO SPS Project G5355 “Biological methods (bees) for explosive detection”, where it has a managing role. It is a three-year project which ends in November 2020. The project aims to develop innovative methods and technologies for detection of landmines. This will be achieved through advancement and integration of current state-of-the-art techniques, namely, trained bee colonies, in conjunction with organic semiconductor-based explosive vapour sensing films, UAVs with high-definition and thermal imaging cameras and image processing and analysis software. The combination of these two methods will enable passive sampling of an area to confirm the presence of explosive materials, but also active pinpointing of landmine locations.

In January 2019, HCR-CTRO held a training course for MRE instructors for representatives of the Serbian-Russian Humanitarian Center from Serbia.

During September 2019, HCR-CTRO held a training course for the staff of the Serbian-Russian Humanitarian Center and the Mine Action Center of Serbia. The training included planning, prioritization, project development and quality management in mine action.

During September 2019, the research team of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, University of Zagreb (FER), in cooperation with Vallon GmbH, conducted field tests at the HCR-CTRO test site in Benkovac. The tests were carried out as part of the METASHAPE research project, funded by the UK's Sir Bobby Charlton Foundation. The aim of the project is to develop and implement advanced methods for recognizing the shape of buried metal objects using commercial metal detectors for use in humanitarian mine action.

Any other relevant information:

N/A
FORM E: Other relevant matters

Paragraph 5 of the Decision on Compliance:

“The High Contracting Parties will provide information […] on:

(e) Other relevant matters.”

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting period: from 01/01/2019 to 31/12/2019

Additional relevant information is contained in the National Annual Report provided pursuant to paragraph 4(a) of Article 13 of Amended Protocol II for the year: 2019

Additional relevant information is contained in the National Report provided pursuant to paragraph 2 (b) of Article 10 of Protocol V for the year: 2019

Other relevant matters:

As of August 2018, the Government of the Republic of Croatia had issued a Conclusion to integrate some 54 government agencies, including CROMAC and GOMA, within existing State administration bodies. This meant CROMAC and GOMA ceased to exist as a legal entity/Government Office from 1 January 2019 and were integrated into the Ministry of the Interior. The intentions of this formal Conclusion were formalized through the Act on Amendments to the Act on Mine Action (OG No. 118/2018) and Act on amendment to the Act on the Government (OG No. 116/2018), enacted in December 2018, entered into force on 1 January 2019 where CROMAC became an operational sector within the Civil Protection Directorate – under the Ministry of the Interior.

CROMAC-CTRO Ltd continued in 2019 to conduct testing and certification of mine detection and mine clearance equipment; research and development of new mine detection and mine clearance methods and technology; and providing expert education and training in the field of mine action.