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)

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: 16/04/2018
(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):

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¹ Please indicate individually for the CCW and each Protocol (if different).
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.

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 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017

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:) 2010

Form D: Technical cooperation and assistance:
• changed
• unchanged
(last reporting year:) 2016

Form E: Other relevant matters:
• changed
• unchanged
(last reporting year:) 2010

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 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017

☒ 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: 2017

☒ 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: 2017

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 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 expands and gets 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 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 regularly updated.

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, 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), 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 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017

☒ 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: 2017

☒ 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: 2017

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 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 ordnance, 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 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017

☐ 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 2017

☒ 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: 2017

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 25 March 2002 (Official Gazette 33/2002). The law regulates safety and protection of methods of producing and refitting arms and military equipment.

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 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017

☒ 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: 2017

☒ 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: 2017

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

During March and April, 2017 - Regional Senior Managers’ Course in ERW and Mine Action was held in Croatia, organised jointly by the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery at James Madison University (JMU) USA, the Government Office for Mine Action of the Republic of Croatia and Croatian Mine Action Centre - Centre for Testing, Development and Training, funded by the Office for Weapons Removal and Abatement of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Political - Military Affairs. The Course gathered 20 participants, attending from CWD programs in Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kosovo, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey and Ukraine. Three participants from Colombia also joined the course to take advantage of the excellent working relationship already established between the Croatian and Colombian mine action authorities and to learn about the programs in Europe and Eurasia. The course strengthened regional partnerships and collaboration and focused on issues critical to the region, including program sustainability, small arms and light weapons, physical security and stockpile management, and managing programs through transitional phases.

In April, 2017 - Croatian Mine Action Centre, HCR-CTRO d.o.o. and Government Office for Mine Action co-organized the 14th International Symposium "MINE ACTION 2017" which was held in the City of Biograd, Croatia, gathering more than 150 mine action experts from all around the world.

In November, 2017 - CROMAC and HCR-CTRO d.o.o. hosted a delegation of the Saudi Arabia which included representatives from the Engineering Command, Infantry Command, Armed Forces Command, Office of the Chief of Staff and the Navy Command of the Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Guests were presented with the activities of all mine action authorities in the Republic of Croatia, with a special emphasis on a system of the airborne non-technical survey from a drone, training courses and quality management.

In December, 2017 - CROMAC and HCR-CTRO d.o.o. delegation visited Ukraine. The visit was organized under the auspices of the Working Group on cooperation between Croatia and Ukraine about the exchange of experiences in demining and their possible adaptation / implementation in Ukraine.
International technical assistance:

In May, 2017 - At the HCR-CTRO d.o.o. Benkovac testing polygon, a research team from the University of Manchester conducted a trial of experimental detection equipment. The aim of the project is to help counter the problems of discrimination of targets in uncooperative (highly mineralised) soils and to research more advanced electromagnetic detectors to the benefit of the international mine action community. The trial is financed by the British charity "Find a Better Way".

During September, 2017 - HCR-CTRO d.o.o. provided testing of a Zone Depollution System (SDZ) machine owned by a French company CEFA. The test took four weeks and was conducted in accordance with the IMAS Test and Evaluation Protocol for machines (CWA 15044).

During October, 2017 - HCR-CTRO d.o.o. conducted training for 18 employees of the Russian company EMERCOM DEMINING on the subject of mine clearance management. EMERCOM DEMINING employees gained qualifications for project managers, site managers, group leaders and internal control inspectors.

In November, 2017 – beginning of the project entitled “Biological Methods (Bees) for Explosive Detection” financed by the NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme. The participants of the project are: HCR-CTRO d.o.o. - project coordinator, Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences from the University of Zagreb, University from Banja Luka and University from St. Andrews. Duration of the project is three years, and its goal is to develop innovative methods and technologies for landmine detection through the advancement and integration of current state of the art techniques – honeybees in combination with explosive vapour sensors and advanced imaging techniques.

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 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017

☐ 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: 2017

☐ additional relevant information is contained in the National Report provided pursuant to paragraph 2 (b) of Article 10 of Protocol V for the year: 2017

Other relevant matters:

n/a