

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

**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 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2

NAME OF THE HIGH
CONTRACTING PARTY: **Georgia**

DATE OF SUBMISSION: _____

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF
CONTACT:

Explosive remnants of War Coordination
Center (ERWCC) of Georgia
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Ministry of Defense of Georgia
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(Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail)

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

YES

NO

Partially, only the following forms:

A B C D E F G

Form A	Dissemination of Information
Article 13, paragraph 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;”
<i>Remark:</i>	

High Contracting Party:

Georgia

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from:

dd/mm/yyyy

to:

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INFORMATION TO THE ARMED FORCES:

IHL 5 days course for the officers -train of trainers is available on permanent base (3 times a year) in cooperation with ICRC TB, that includes the issues of CCW Convention. Also, with the support of ICRC the Reminders For Officers on IHL Issues has been issued.

INFORMATION TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION:

During 2010 there were two (2) organizations actively conducting Community Liaison and Mine Risk Education (MRE)/Mine Awareness in Georgia. These are the iMMAP-supported Explosive Remnants of War Coordination Center (ERWCC/iMMAP) and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines Georgia (ICBL Georgia). ICBL Georgia is working in the Gori-Tskhinvali corridor. ERWCC/iMMAP is working in the Gori-Tskhinvali corridor and the Georgian region bordering Abkhazia. ERWCC/iMMAP is also

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conducting training-of-trainers of teachers in the areas bordering Abkhazia. ERWCC/iMMAP is implementing Community Liaison in areas where the entity is conducting Quality Assurance/Quality Control activities. The Georgian Ministry of Education and other stakeholders plan to gradually introduce Mine Awareness as part of the national school curriculum during 2010.

Form B	Mine Clearance and Rehabilitation Programmes
Article 13, paragraph 4 (b)	“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository [...] on [...]:
	(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”
<i>Remark:</i>	

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MINE CLEARANCE PROGRAMMES:

The extent of the landmine problem in Georgia is not fully defined. It is reported that all former Soviet/Russian military bases and installations were protected with landmines, and that these legacy minefields were left in place when Soviet/Russian military departed Georgia. Additionally, there are Suspected Hazardous Areas (landmines) in the autonomous region of Abkhazia in Sokhumi, Ochamchire and Gali Districts, the Gumisit River coast, and the Tskhinvali region (Tsveriakho Mountain). There are Suspected Hazardous Areas along the border with Dagestan, as well as along the borders with Azerbaijan and Armenia. It is expected that these legacy minefields contain a variety of landmine types, though the types and quantities are not known.

An initial survey by The HALO Trust following the Georgian-Russian conflict in August 2008 reported that Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) hazards primarily affected the area between Gori and Tskhinvali, though other populated places in Georgia that were exposed to the conflict were also affected. Clearance activities in contaminated areas in Georgia were primarily conducted by The MOD, The HALO Trust and Norwegian People's Aid (NPA).

The Georgian Ministry of Defence (MOD) signed a Memorandum of Understanding

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(MOU) with the Information Management and Mine Action Programs (iMMAP) to establish the ERWCC. IMMAP is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) that was asked to assist in establishing a governmental entity responsible for coordination of all Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA) and ERW mitigation activities in Georgia, and ensuring that HMA activities are conducted in accordance with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). Establishment and operations of the ERWCC was funded by the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA), U.S. Department of State and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada (DFAIT).

A nationwide General Mine Action Assessment (GMAA) commenced in November 2009 and was completed in early 2010. The GMAA was implemented by NPA, with support provided by MOD and the ERWCC. The GMAA indicates a total of eight (8) Suspected Hazardous Areas (SHA) and seven (7) Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHA) in 13 districts. The GMAA was funded by the governments of Hungary and the Czech Republic through the International Trust Fund for Mine Action and Victim Assistance (ITF).

NPA conducted an underwater survey of Poti Harbor during 3-4 weeks starting in January 2010. A team of Norwegian Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) divers made 44 dives for (28 hours underwater time) to identify the extent of the contamination in the harbor. The total area surveyed was 10,700 square-meters, with Quality Assurance performed on 925 square-meters. Total Abandoned Ordnance/Hazardous Ordnance (AO/HO) located included 57 30mm projectiles, three (3) 67mm projectiles. No cluster munitions were located. This activity was funded by PM/WRA, U.S. Department of State.

The HALO Trust began demining activities in February 2010. More than 70 deminers have been trained, and more than 3,300 square-meters cleared with 22 landmines found, at the time of this report. The HALO Trust and NPA began Battle Area Clearance (BAC) activities shortly after the August 2008 conflict ended, and have completed BAC work and coordinated with ERWCC to provide Quality Assurance/Quality Control oversight. Total BAC surface area cleared is approximately 32,500,000 square-meters. Total BAC sub-surface area cleared is approximately 9,000,000 square-meters. Total number of ERW items discovered is 3239. The ERWCC has provided Quality Assurance/Quality Control coverage of 801,000 square-meters.

MRE and marking of Suspected Hazardous Areas in the territories of Georgia has been a priority by local, national and international HMA entities in addressing ERW-contaminated areas. ICRC, The HALO Trust and NPA have been active in providing information and marking support directly, primarily during the establishment phases of their operations. Since the August 2008 conflict, MRE training has been provided at all 180 schools in Shida kartli corridor, reaching more than 50,000 recipients and distributing 6,000 MRE documents. Due to the large number of civilians migrating out of the conflict areas, 9,000 MRE documents were distributed in 44 villages, with an additional 10,000 documents distributed in 300 Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) centers. Georgian police have televised MRE warnings and printed and distributed flyers that provide a „hotline“ telephone number through which Georgian civilians may report contamination.

Due to the current international situation, MRE and other related HMA activities are limited in areas of Georgia occupied by the Armed Forces of Russian Federation. The ICRC has been able to implement MRE in these areas on a limited scale.

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All HMA survey and mitigation activities have been documented and recorded in the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) by the ERWCC.

REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES:

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Georgian Red Cross, with support from the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs, ERWCC and other organizations, conducted a Landmine/ERW Victim Survey of Georgia. Survey data results are currently being generated into the IMSMA database at ERWCC. In order to address needs identified by this survey, the ERWCC has increased its staff capacity by adding a dedicated MRE/Victim Assistance Technical Advisor (TA).

ICBL Georgia is developing another victim survey (reflecting the instrument and protocols utilized by the ICRC survey). Results of this activity will be used to update the IMSMA database at ERWCC.

The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the Ministries of Education and Science and Internal Affairs have undertaken efforts to include MRE for students as part of the national safety curriculum in all Georgian schools.

The ERWCC MRE/Victim Assistance team is working in concert with ERWCC Quality Assurance/Quality Control teams in the field to deliver MRE in areas where these ERWCC elements are operating.

Currently, Ministry of Defence of Georgia is working on development of mine action capabilities within the Armed Forces. For these purposes, Georgian military personnel have undergone several different types of trainings in Georgia and abroad. It is planned to start implementing NAMS project in 2010 that includes training and equipment of EOD company from engineering battalion of Armed Forces of Georgia.

Form C	Technical Requirements and Relevant Information
Article 13, paragraph 4 (c)	“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository [...] on [...]:
	(c) steps taken to meet technical requirements of this Protocol and any other relevant information pertaining thereto;”
<i>Remark:</i>	

High Contracting Party: _____

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TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Georgia has taken all necessary steps to comply with the technical requirement for this Protocol. The Georgian Armed Forces are currently in the process of implementing North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) norms and standards in the area of landmine and explosive ordnance storage and safekeeping.

ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

The Georgian government takes into account all principles described by the CCW and its protocols, and other internationally recognized norms. Following to Protocol II, the Ministry of Defence of Georgia and its partner organizations, including iMMAP, are developing relevant procedural documents. The Georgian Technical Guidelines and Mine Action Standards have been drafted.

Form D	Legislation
Article 13, paragraph 4 (d)	“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository [...] on [...]:
	(d) legislation related to this Protocol;”
<i>Remark:</i>	

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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON MINE CLEARANCE:

International cooperation concerning mine clearance has been limited. The primary activities in this category have been training and personnel exchange provided by the Azerbaijan National Mine Action Authority (ANAMA). Georgian MOD personnel have been trained by ANAMA concerning humanitarian demining field operations and management. Besides, in cooperation with International Trust Fund, Georgia has hosted several workshops and seminars on the regional bases related to mine action and victim assistance involving all the stakeholders from Georgia and HMA related specialists from Azerbaijan, Armenia and other countries.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE:

The ERWCC Information Management Department staff possess sufficient skill sets to support IMSMA and other information management needs of HMA implementers in Georgia, as well as on the international stage. The ERWCC has provided Information Management Department staff to support HMA information management activities in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Form F	Other relevant matters
Article 13, paragraph 4 (f)	“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository [...] on [...]:
	(f) other relevant matters.”
<i>Remark:</i>	

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OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS:

Georgia does not manufacture, import or export landmines. Humanitarian Mine action in Georgia is funded primarily by the international community, with funding support from the Government of Georgia currently increasing.

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Form G	Information to the UN Database on Mine Clearance
Article 11, paragraph 2,	“2. Each High Contracting Party undertakes to provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations System, especially information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance.”
<i>Remark:</i>	

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MEANS AND TECHNOLOGIES OF MINE CLEARANCE:

The means and technologies currently used in Georgia include manual and mechanical clearance. Mechanical clearance is implemented through a process of excavation followed by manual clearance. Demining process is conducted by The HALO Trust and external Quality Assurance/Quality Control is provided by ERWCC on behalf of the Government of Georgia. A Minewolf is available in Georgia, but is not currently used for clearance.

LISTS OF EXPERTS AND EXPERT AGENCIES:

Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Internal Affairs

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

iMMAP

The HALO Trust

Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)

International Campaign to Ban Landmines Georgia (ICBL Georgia)

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Georgian Red Cross Society (GRCS)

International Trust Fund for Mine Action and Victim Assistance (ITF)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

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NATIONAL POINTS OF CONTACT ON MINE CLEARANCE:

Explosive Remnants of War Coordination

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