

Twenty-sixth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II 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

26 November 2024

Original: English

Geneva, 12 November 2024

Agenda item 14

Consideration and adoption of the final document

Final document

I. Introduction

1. Article 13 of the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996 (Amended Protocol II), 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 (CCW), provides for a conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol to be held annually for the purpose of consultations and cooperation on all issues related to the operation of the Protocol.
2. The Twenty-fifth Annual Conference, held on 14 November 2023, decided to recommend to the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference a provisional agenda, as contained in its final document (CCW/AP.II/CONF.25/5, annex II). It also adopted the estimated costs of the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference (CCW/AP.II/CONF.25/4).
3. The Twentieth Annual Conference, in paragraph 31 of its final document (CCW/AP.II/CONF.20/5) decided that each future President-designate may select one or several of the articles of Amended Protocol II which would then, upon the approval by High Contracting Parties, be addressed during the Annual Conference under his/her authority, without prejudice to a comprehensive and balanced discussion on the Amended Protocol II and the Convention.
4. The Twenty-fifth Annual Conference decided, in paragraph 24 of its final document (CCW/AP.II/CONF.25/5), that the Group of Experts would review the operation and status of the Protocol, including matters arising from reports by High Contracting Parties according to Article 13 (4) of Amended Protocol II, under the overall responsibility of the President-designate; and the issue of improvised explosive devices (IED), under the overall responsibility of the IED Coordinators. The Conference also decided that the work of the Group of Experts would be considered by the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference.
5. The Twenty-fifth Annual Conference decided to nominate a representative of the Eastern European Group (EEG) as President-designate of the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference. The EEG subsequently decided to renounce this right.
6. The High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II endorsed, through a written silence procedure, Ms. Tsholofelo Tsheole of South Africa, nominated by the Group of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), as President-designate of the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference.
7. The 2023 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention decided in its final report (CCW/MSP/2023/7, paragraph 24 (e)) that the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II would be held on 12 November 2024 in Geneva.

8. The Twenty-sixth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II was prepared for by a Group of Experts, which took place for two days from 3 to 4 September 2024 in Geneva, as decided by the 2023 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention in its final report (CCW/MSP/2023/7, paragraph 24 (b)).

II. Organization of the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference

9. The Twenty-sixth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II was convened on 12 November 2024 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

10. The following High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II participated in the work of the Conference: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, Hungary, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lithuania, Madagascar, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela.

11. The following High Contracting Parties to the Convention participated as observers: Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Qatar, Singapore, Uganda, and United Arab Emirates.

12. The representatives of the following organizations also took part in the work of the Conference as observers: European Union, Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS).

13. The representatives of the following non-governmental organizations and other entities also took part in the work of the Conference as observers: APOPO, Human Rights Watch, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights, and PROTECTION.

III. Work of the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference

14. The Twenty-sixth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II was opened on 12 November 2024 by Ambassador Ib Petersen of Denmark as President of the Twenty-fifth Annual Conference, who presided over the confirmation of the nomination of Ms. Tsholofelo Tsheole of South Africa as President of the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference.

15. The Conference held two plenary meetings. At its first plenary meeting, the Conference also confirmed the nominations of Mr. DING Tongbing of China, Mr. Jason Robinson of Ireland, and Mr. Tamás Talpai of Hungary as Vice-Presidents.

16. At the same plenary meeting, the Conference adopted its agenda, as contained in CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/1. The High Contracting Parties were not able to confirm the Rules of Procedure as contained in CCW/AP.II/CONF.15/7 and its corrigendum (CCW/AP.II/CONF.15/7/Corr.1), as no consensus was reached.

17. During the course of the meeting, the Conference considered documents CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/1 to CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/4. The documents of the Conference are available in all official languages on the CCW website (<https://meetings.unoda.org/node/70965>), as well as through the United Nations Official Document System (ODS), at <http://documents.un.org>.

18. In accordance with Article 13, paragraph 4 of the Protocol, the Conference had before it national annual reports from the following High Contracting Parties: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Holy See, Hungary, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Montenegro, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

The reports contained information on:

- (a) Dissemination of information on the Protocol to armed forces and to the civilian population;
- (b) Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;
- (c) Steps taken to meet technical requirements of the Protocol and any other relevant information pertaining thereto;
- (d) Legislation related to the Protocol;
- (e) Measures taken on international technical information exchange, on international cooperation on mine clearance, and on technical cooperation and assistance;
- (f) Other relevant matters; and
- (g) Information provided to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations System.

A synopsis of national annual reports submitted for the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference is contained in annex III of this report.

IV. Follow-up

19. The Conference decided that the 2025 session of the Group of Experts would be for a duration of two days and the dates are to be decided by the Meeting of High Contracting Parties to the Convention, to be held on 13 to 15 November 2024. The Conference also adopted the estimated costs of the 2025 Group of Experts, as contained in CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/3.

20. The Conference decided that the Group of Experts would review the operation and status of the Protocol, including matters arising from reports by High Contracting Parties according to Article 13 (4) of Amended Protocol II, under the overall responsibility of the President-designate; and the issue of IED, under the overall responsibility of the IED Coordinators. The work of the Group of Experts will be considered by the Twenty-seventh Annual Conference.

21. The Conference decided that the Twenty-seventh Annual Conference would be convened in 2025 on the dates to be decided by the Meeting of High Contracting Parties to the Convention, to be held on 13 to 15 November 2024. The Conference decided to recommend to the Twenty-seventh Annual Conference a provisional agenda, as contained in annex II. It also adopted the estimated costs of the Twenty-seventh Annual Conference, as contained in CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/4.

22. The Conference decided to nominate Ambassador Carlos Mario Foradori of Argentina as President-designate of the Twenty-seventh Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II to be held in 2025, and representatives of China, the Eastern European Group (EEG) and the Group of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) as Vice-Presidents-designates.

23. At its second plenary meeting, the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference adopted its final document as contained in CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/CRP.1/Rev.1, which will be issued as document CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/5.

Annex I

An appeal by the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II

(as adopted at the second plenary meeting on 12 November 2024)

We, the High Contracting Parties which have notified the Depositary of our consent to be bound by Amended Protocol II to the CCW, meeting in Geneva on 12 November 2024 for our Twenty-sixth Annual Conference:

Bearing in mind the important contribution of Amended Protocol II to international efforts to alleviate the suffering caused by certain conventional weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects,

Noting that Amended Protocol II is the only international legal instrument which covers all types of mines, booby-traps and other devices,

Having reviewed the operation and status of Amended Protocol II, in accordance with paragraph 3 (a) of Article 13,

Having considered the national annual reports presented by High Contracting Parties which have notified the Depositary of their consent to be bound by Amended Protocol II,

1. *Welcome* the fact that 106 High Contracting Parties have notified the Depositary of their consent to be bound by Amended Protocol II;
2. *Emphasize* the importance of achieving universalization of Amended Protocol II, including widest possible adherence to it;
3. *Urge* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to accede to Amended Protocol II as soon as possible.

Annex II

Provisional agenda of the Twenty-seventh Annual Conference

(as recommended by the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference at its second plenary meeting on 12 November 2024)

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Confirmation of the nomination of the President and other officers
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Confirmation of the rules of procedure
5. Appointment of the Secretary-General of the Conference
6. Organization of work including that of any subsidiary bodies of the Conference
7. General exchange of views
8. Review of the operation and status of the Protocol
9. Consideration of matters arising from reports by High Contracting Parties according to Article 13 (4) of the amended Protocol
10. Improvised Explosive Devices (IED)
11. Report(s) of any subsidiary organ(s)
12. Adoption of the estimated costs for 2026
13. Other matters
14. Consideration and adoption of the final document

Annex III

Synopsis of National Annual Reports submitted for the Twenty-sixth Annual Conference

Forms used

- Form A:** Dissemination of information
- Form B:** Mine clearance and rehabilitation program
- Form C:** Technical requirements and relevant information
- Form D:** Legislation
- Form E:** International technical information exchange, co-operation on mine clearance, technical co-operation and assistance
- Form F:** Other relevant matters
- Form G:** Information to the UN database on mine clearance

Notes

- Standard:** Standard or normal reporting format provided
- Summary:** Summary sheet provided with (or without) the Form(s) that have changed relative to the previous report attached

High Contracting Party	Date of submission	Use of the reporting format	Information can be made available to other High Contracting Parties	Substance of the reporting items: Forms used							Language
				A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
Afghanistan	-										
Albania	08.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Argentina	28.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Spanish
Australia	19.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Austria	03.11.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Bangladesh	-										
Belarus	05.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Russian
Belgium	04.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Benin											
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	-										
Bosnia and Herzegovina	17.06.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Brazil	22.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Bulgaria	02.04.2024	Summary	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	English
Burkina Faso	-										
Cabo Verde	-										
Cambodia	30.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Cameroon	-										
Canada	03.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Chile	27.03.2024	Summary	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Spanish
China	27.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Chinese
Colombia	30.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Spanish
Costa Rica	-										
Croatia	25.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓			✓		✓	English
Cyprus	02.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Czech Republic	28.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Denmark	20.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Dominican Republic	-										
Ecuador	13.05.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Spanish
El Salvador	-										
Estonia	07.06.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Finland	26.03.2024	Standard	Yes		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
France	03.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	French

<i>High Contracting Party</i>	<i>Date of submission</i>	<i>Use of the reporting format</i>	<i>Information can be made available to other High Contracting Parties</i>	<i>Substance of the reporting items: Forms used</i>							<i>Language</i>
				A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
Gabon	-										
Georgia	04.04.2024	Standard	Yes	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	English
Germany	27.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Greece	02.06.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Grenada	-										
Guatemala	-										
Guinea-Bissau	-										
Holy See	14.02.2024	Summary	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	English
Honduras	-										
Hungary	11.04.2024	Standard	No	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Iceland	-										
India	31.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Iraq	16.03.2024	Standard	No	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Arabic
Ireland	22.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Israel	08.01.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Italy	15.05.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Jamaica	-										
Japan	29.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Jordan	-										
Kuwait	-										
Latvia	26.03.2024	Summary	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	English
Lebanon	04.10.2024	Summary	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Arabic
Liberia	-										
Liechtenstein	13.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Lithuania	02.04.2024	Standard	Yes	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	English
Luxembourg	25.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	French
Madagascar	-										
Maldives	-										
Mali	-										
Malta	-										
Mauritius	19.04.2024	Standard	No	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Monaco	-										
Montenegro	05.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English

<i>High Contracting Party</i>	<i>Date of submission</i>	<i>Use of the reporting format</i>	<i>Information can be made available to other High Contracting Parties</i>	<i>Substance of the reporting items: Forms used</i>							<i>Language</i>
				A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
Morocco	-										
Nauru	-										
Netherlands	29.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
New Zealand	28.03.2024	Standard	Yes	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	English
Nicaragua	22.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Spanish
Niger	-										
North Macedonia	-										
Norway	-										
Pakistan	-										
Panama	-										
Paraguay	-										
Peru	09.04.24	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Spanish
Philippines	-										
Poland	24.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓			✓			English
Portugal	12.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Republic of Korea	15.04.2024	Standard	No	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Republic of Moldova	29.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Romania	-										
Russian Federation	27.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Russian
Senegal	-										
Serbia	01.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Seychelles	-										
Sierra Leone	-										
Slovakia	28.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Slovenia	15.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
South Africa	-										
Spain	-										
Sri Lanka	-										
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	-										
Sweden	28.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Switzerland	11.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Tajikistan	29.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Russian
Tunisia	02.05.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Arabic

<i>High Contracting Party</i>	<i>Date of submission</i>	<i>Use of the reporting format</i>	<i>Information can be made available to other High Contracting Parties</i>	<i>Substance of the reporting items: Forms used</i>							<i>Language</i>
				A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
Türkiye	02.04.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Turkmenistan	-										
Ukraine	29.03.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	28.03.2024	Standard	Yes	-	✓	-	-	✓	-	✓	English
United States of America	08.11.2024	Standard	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	English
Uruguay	-										
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	-										
Zambia	-										

Annex IV

List of High Contracting Parties which have notified the Depositary of their consent to be bound by the Amended Protocol II (as of 12 November 2024)

<i>High Contracting Party</i>	<i>Date of notification of consent to be bound</i>
Afghanistan	9 August 2017
Albania	28 August 2002
Argentina	21 October 1998
Australia	22 August 1997
Austria	27 July 1998
Bangladesh	6 September 2000
Belarus	2 March 2004
Belgium	10 March 1999
Benin	27 September 2019
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	21 September 2001
Bosnia and Herzegovina	7 September 2000
Brazil	4 October 1999
Bulgaria	3 December 1998
Burkina Faso	26 November 2003
Cabo Verde	16 September 1997
Cambodia	25 March 1997
Cameroon	7 December 2006
Canada	5 January 1998
Chile	15 October 2003
China	4 November 1998
Colombia	6 March 2000
Costa Rica	17 December 1998
Croatia	25 April 2002
Cyprus	22 July 2003
Czech Republic	10 August 1998
Denmark	30 April 1997
Dominican Republic	21 June 2010
Ecuador	14 August 2000
El Salvador	26 January 2000
Estonia	20 April 2000

<i>High Contracting Party</i>	<i>Date of notification of consent to be bound</i>
Finland	3 April 1998
France	23 July 1998
Gabon	22 September 2010
Georgia	8 June 2009
Germany	2 May 1997
Greece	20 January 1999
Grenada	10 December 2014
Guatemala	29 October 2001
Guinea-Bissau	6 August 2008
Holy See	22 July 1997
Honduras	30 October 2003
Hungary	30 January 1998
Iceland	22 August 2008
India	2 September 1999
Iraq	24 September 2014
Ireland	27 March 1997
Israel	30 October 2000
Italy	13 January 1999
Jamaica	25 September 2008
Japan	10 June 1997
Jordan	6 September 2000
Kuwait	24 May 2013
Latvia	22 August 2002
Lebanon	5 April 2017
Liberia	16 September 2005
Liechtenstein	19 November 1997
Lithuania	3 June 1998
Luxembourg	5 August 1999
Madagascar	14 March 2008
Maldives	7 September 2000
Mali	24 October 2001
Malta	24 September 2004
Mauritius	2 November 2018
Monaco	12 August 1997

<i>High Contracting Party</i>	<i>Date of notification of consent to be bound</i>
Montenegro	30 December 2011
Morocco	19 March 2002
Nauru	12 November 2001
Netherlands	25 March 1999
New Zealand	8 January 1998
Nicaragua	5 December 2000
Niger	18 September 2007
North Macedonia	31 May 2005
Norway	20 April 1998
Pakistan	9 March 1999
Panama	3 November 1999
Paraguay	22 September 2004
Peru	3 July 1997
Philippines	12 June 1997
Poland	14 October 2003
Portugal	31 March 1999
Republic of Korea	9 May 2001
Republic of Moldova	16 July 2001
Romania	25 August 2003
Russian Federation	2 March 2005
Senegal	29 November 1999
Serbia	14 February 2011
Seychelles	8 June 2000
Sierra Leone	30 September 2004
Slovakia	30 November 1999
Slovenia	3 December 2002
South Africa	26 June 1998
Spain	27 January 1998
Sri Lanka	24 September 2004
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	6 December 2010
Sweden	16 July 1997
Switzerland	24 March 1998
Tajikistan	12 October 1999
Tunisia	23 March 2006

<i>High Contracting Party</i>	<i>Date of notification of consent to be bound</i>
Türkiye	2 March 2005
Turkmenistan	19 March 2004
Ukraine	15 December 1999
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	11 February 1999
United States of America	24 May 1999
Uruguay	18 August 1998
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	19 April 2005
Zambia	25 September 2013

Annex V

List of documents

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/1	Provisional agenda
CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/2	Report on improvised explosive devices. Submitted by Coordinators
CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/3	Estimated Costs 2025 Group of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II
CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/4	Estimated Costs 2025 Twenty-seventh Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II
CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/5	Final document
CCW/AP.II/CONF.26/INF.1	List of participants