

**FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE
STATES 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**

CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/NAR.21
20 October 2003

ENGLISH ONLY

Geneva, 26 November 2003

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

National annual report

Submitted in accordance with Article 13, para. 4 of the
Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines,
Booby-Traps and Other Devices
as Amended on 3 May 1996 to the CCW

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)

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

NAME OF HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY	<u>REPUBLIC OF KOREA</u>
DATE OF SUBMISSION	<u>October 2003</u>
NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT	Disarmament and Nuclear Energy Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (e-mail: disarmament@mofat.go.kr) Tel : 82-2-2100-7244 Fax : 82-2-2100-7933

(Organization, telephones, fax, email)

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

☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ Partially, only the following form:

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐

Form A Dissemination of information

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

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

Remark:

High Contracting Party	<u>Republic of Korea</u>	reporting for time period from	<u>October 2002</u>	to	<u>October 2003</u>
------------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------------	----	---------------------

Information to the armed forces

In February 2003, the Ministry of National Defense (MND) disseminated instructions to subordinate units on the measures set out in this Protocol. On the basis of these instructions, ROK Army and Air Force units operated landmine training programs focusing on the provision of knowledge of the Protocol; each unit has been educating its soldiers on the detailed content of the Protocol. Most ROK soldiers are therefore well aware of the dangers of landmines and what they have to do to protect civilians.

Information to the civilian population

The MND has publicized the information regarding this Protocol through its internet website, allowing the Korean public to acquire information at any time. Also, the MND is providing information regarding this Protocol through the National Defense Newspaper on a regular basis.

Form B Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes

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

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party	Republic of Korea	reporting for time period from	October 2002	to	October 2003
------------------------------	----------------------	-----------------------------------	--------------	----	--------------

Mine clearance programmes

The Republic of Korea has cleared 11,000 landmines from the periphery of twelve military camps and air force bases of the rear areas in 2003. These landmines were buried to protect these facilities from infiltration by North Korean special forces. According to the demining schedule, the ROK is supposed to clear all landmines completely in those areas by 2006. In addition, the Armed Forces detected and cleared 31 landmines moved by flooding.

The ROK Army also completed demining operations in the De-Militarized Zone (DMZ) for the reconnection of cross-border railways and roads of the “Gyeongui” and “Donghae” line respectively in December 2002 (“Gyeongui” line) and May 2003 (“Donghae” line).

Rehabilitation programmes

The Korean government pays compensation to the civilian victims of landmines through the State Compensation Act. The National Medical Insurance System covers the medical bills. Depending upon the degree of their injury, the government provides preferential treatment to soldiers wounded while on duty, including tax cuts and employment advantages for their children.

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;*Remark:*High
Contracting
Party

	reporting for time	October	
<u>Republic of Korea</u>	period from	<u>2002</u>	to <u>October 2003</u>

Technical requirements

The ROK has not used any anti-personnel mines that operate contrary to the provisions of the Protocol on self-destruction and/or self-deactivation or self-neutralization since January 1997.

With respect to anti-personnel mines produced prior to January 1997, the ROK had already attached 8 grams of iron to all undetectable M14 anti-personnel mines. The attaching of these iron pieces was completed by July 1999. The mines are to be detected by commonly-available mine detection equipment.

Regarding the restriction on the use of mines other than anti-personnel mines, the ROK basically supports the U.S. suggestion that strengthened technical requirements should be applied to these mines.

Any other relevant information

Nil

Form D Legislation

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

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;

Remark:

High Contracting Republic of reporting for time October
Party Korea period from October 2002 to 2003

Legislation

On April 26, 2001, pursuant to the request of the Executive Branch of the Republic of Korea, the ROK National Assembly adopted Public Law 6476 on prohibitions or restrictions on the use and transfer of certain conventional weapons such as mines, booby-traps and other devices which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects.

The ROK Armed Forces have implemented the requirements of this law. For example, the ROK Army produced a new field manual and gave instruction on the content of Public Law to officers managing mine fields in each unit. Units located near the border line amended a significant amount of mine field and mine areas signs to increase the visibility of theses areas and improve recognition of these areas by the civilian population.

The ROK Air Force updated 8,000 signs that identify minefields and mined areas as dangerous areas based on international standards, and constructed wire entanglements with a total length of about 80 km around bases.

Form E International technical information exchange, cooperation on mine clearance, technical cooperation and assistance

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

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

Remark:

High Contracting Party	Republic of Korea	reporting for time period from	<u>October 2002</u>	to	<u>October 2003</u>
------------------------	-------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------	----	---------------------

International technical information exchange

At the Humanitarian Demining Workshop held by the US Army Communications Electronics Command in the USA from July 13-17, the ROK delegation demonstrated their unique demining practices. All participants shared information on mine clearance through discussion and demonstration of equipment testing. The ROK delegation raised the necessity of equipment for detecting and removing mines appropriate for the features of the Korean terrain. The necessary qualities are as follows :

1. Reinforced excavator
 - Mobility
 - Strength of tracks
 - Driver's seat moving up and down
 - Expanding length of arm
- 2 MD-1
 - Strength of oil pressure and power
 - Function of cutting trees
 - Bulletproof glass

International cooperation on mine clearance

Nil

International co-operation on technical co-operation and assistance

In support of global efforts to limit the inhumane effects of anti-personnel mines, the Korean government has made annual contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance.

Form F	Other relevant matters
Article 13 / 4 / f	“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on: (f) other relevant matters.
	<i>Remark:</i>
High Contracting Party	Republic of Korea reporting for time period from October 2002 to October 2003
<div><u>Other relevant matters</u> Nil</div>	

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

Republic of
Korea

reporting for time
period from

October 2002 to October 2003

Means and technologies of mine clearance

(Basic policy for constructing the “Donghae” railway and highway)

This operation is mainly done by an equipment-oriented team. The ROK government regards safety as a matter of the highest priority.

Our operation area consists of 70% wooded area, 30% sandy or scrub area. We had to use various methods and equipment depending on the conditions of land.

First, in a wooded area, we developed a 4-step demining method.

- ① The first step is to get rid of trees. It was important to remove trees in a specific manner. We used reinforced excavators, dozers, and an MD-1. Trees are rooted up by the excavator and the MD-1 moved it out of the area.
- ② In the second step, the reinforced excavator scratches out topsoil carefully. EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) collects or exposes mines. When mines or explosives were detected, they were collected immediately.
- ③ After removing trees and topsoil, we use the new demining equipment: Rhino or MK-4.
- ④ Finally, mine detectors with EOD conduct a final and deliberate detection.

These detectors find any mines within 50 cm of the surface.

Second, in a sandy or scrub area, we developed a 3-step demining method as follows :

- ① First, the HDK (Handy Demolition Kit) is used. The HDK is made of poly vinyl chloride pipe, 4 meters long and 5 centimeters in diameter. The HDK, filled with 10 kg of dynamite, can de-mine an area 2 meters in width and 4 meters in length.
- ② The reinforced excavators and dozers remove topsoil.
- ③ Finally, EOD with mine detectors carefully checks for any mines remaining within 50 cm of the surface.

In conclusion, we applied 2 types of demining methods. We finished without any casualties, developing one of the most effective demining methods on the Korean Peninsula. The reinforced excavator and MD-1 resolved the difficulty with tree removal, as these two pieces of equipment are very suitable to this work, and drivers were protected by bulletproof steel and glass.

Using these two methods, the ROK Army has successfully cleared all mines in the “Donghae” railway and highway construction site without any accidents or casualties.

Lists of experts and experts agencies

Nil

National points of contact on mine clearance

Disarmament and Nuclear Energy Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (e-mail: disarmament@mofat.go.kr)