

FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES CCW/AP.II/CONF.4/NAR.21
TO AMENDED PROTOCOL II TO THE CONVENTION ON 6 November 2002
PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE
OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY
BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS
OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS ENGLISH only

Geneva, 11 December 2002

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)**

Proposed Reporting Formats for Article 13 para. 4 and Article 11 para. 2

NAME OF HIGH
CONTRACTING PARTY

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

DATE OF SUBMISSION

OCTOBER 2002

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF
CONTACT

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

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

Republic of Korea

Report for the time period from

1 Jan 2002 to 31 Dec 2002

Information to the Armed Forces

In January 2002, the Ministry of National Defense 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

Korean government published in the Official Gazette a public law implementing the Amended Protocol ? in May 2001.

Form B**Mine Clearance and Rehabilitation Programs**

Article 13/4/b

"The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
Depositary...on:

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programs;"

Remark:

High Contraction Party

Republic of KoreaReport for the time period from: **1 Jan 2002** to **31 Dec 2002**Mine Clearance Programs

In 2002, the Republic of Korea cleared 6,019 landmines from the periphery of seven rear military camps and air force bases. These mines were buried to protect these facilities from infiltration by North Korean special forces in a war situation. The Korean army plans to clear all mines from those areas by 2006. In addition, the Armed Forces detected and cleared 45 landmines swept away by torrential rains during the summer season.

On September 19, 2002, the ROK army also launched demining operations in the Demilitarized Zone(DMZ) for the purposes of the reconnection of cross-border railways and roads (the "Gyeongui" and "Donghae" projects). The two Koreas simultaneously commenced mine clearing operations in accordance with the agreement signed and effectuated at the military working-level talks held to facilitate the pursuit of inter-Korean cooperative projects. The ROK estimates that there are 1,500 rounds of landmines within the 225,800 square meters area of the Gyeongui line, and 400 rounds of landmines within the 25,800 square meters area of the Donghae line. The first inter-Korean military hot line was established to ensure the safety of troops and workers while demining work is underway.

The international campaign to ban landmines(ICBL) welcomed these DMZ demining activities.

Rehabilitation Programs

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 treatments to soldiers wounded while on duty such as 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 Depository...on:
(c) steps taken to meet technical requirements of this Protocol and other relevant information pertaining thereto;"

Remark:

High Contracting Party

Republic of Korea

Report for the time period from

1 Jan 2002 to 31 Dec 2002

Technical Requirements

The ROK has not used any anti-personnel mines which are 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 equipments.

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 13/4/d

"The High contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
Depository...on:
(d) legislation related to this Protocol; "

Remark:

High contracting Party

Republic of KoreaReport for the time period from: **1 Jan 2002 to 31 Dec****2002**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.

ROK Armed Forces have implemented the requirements of this Law. For example, the ROK Air Force has produced a new technical manual and updated 12,443 signs for minefields and mined areas following the international standards, and also constructed wire-entanglements with a total length of about 116km around bases.

The ROK Army has provided instructions to officers, who manage mine fields in each unit, on the content of the Public Law. In particular, units located near the borderline have amended a significant amount of mine field and mine area signs to enhance their visibility and recognition by the civilian population.

Form E **International Technical Information Exchange, International Cooperation on Mine Clearance, Technical Cooperation and Assistance**

Article 13/4/d "The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository...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**

Report for the time period from: **1 Jan 2002 to 31 Dec 2002**

International Technical Information Exchange

At the two Demining Workshops held in Bangkok on March 4-8, and in Washington D.C. on August 20-23, 2002 respectively, the ROK delegation presented a unique demining technique, a so called six-step demining procedure. All participants shared information on mine clearance through frank discussions and the test demonstration of US-produced equipments.

The ROK delegation requested equipment for the detection and removal of mines appropriate for the nature of the Korean terrain. The requested equipments are as follows :

1. Equipment for detecting non-metal mines ;
2. Equipment for cutting trees(over ø30cm) in mine areas ;
3. Equipment for mine removal in sloping grounds and swamps ;
4. Low-price equipment ; and
5. Equipment for unmanned systems to remove mines.

International Cooperation on Mine Clearance

The ROK imported two pieces of mine clearing equipment (the Mine Breaker and Rhino) from Germany, and one (MK-4) from England in late 2000. Through their use, the Republic of Korea has cleared several hundred landmines from the Gyeongui railroad construction site. Of these three pieces of equipment, the MK-4 is due to be lent to North Korea to assist its mine clearing operations during the 2002 work period.

Technical Cooperation and Assistance

In support of global efforts to limit the inhuman 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
Depository...on:
(f) other relevant matters. "

Remark:

High Contracting Party

Republic of Korea

Report for the time period from

1 Jan 2002 to 31 Dec 2002

Other Relevant Matters

Nil

Form G

Information to the UN-database on Mine Clearance

Article 11 para. 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 expert, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance. "

High Contracting Party

Republic of Korea

Report for the time period from

1 Jan 2002 to 31 Dec 2002

Means and Technologies of Mine Clearance

In 2001, the ROK army has cleared 850,000 square meters of minefields in the process of constructing the Gyeongui railway and highway. Given the steep and rocky terrain, the ROK army has generally used the six-step clearing process.

This method is as follows:

- A. Blast specially designed PVC pipes filled with dynamite so as to detonate mines buried 10-20cm below the surface ;
- B. Remove soil and identify the unexploded mines through the use of a water sprinkler and compressor, and then collect the identified mines using specially designed 2-meter long mine claws and detonate them ;
- C. Detect unexploded mines through the use of mine detecting equipment ;
- D. Identify unexploded mines by digging 10-20cm below the surface with excavators ;
- E. Re-identify unexploded mines by digging 30-50cm below the surface with bulldozers ;
- F. Finally, detect unexploded mines by deploying skilled mine detecting soldiers and EOD teams.

The ROK army also used new mine clearing equipments in other terrain in which the conditions were more favorable. In this case, the ROK army used a four-stage process.

The said method is as follows:

- A. Blast specially designed PVC pipes filled with dynamite so as to detonate mines buried 10-20cm below the surface ;
- B. Remove soil and identify unexploded mines through the use of a water sprinkler and compressor, and then collect the identified mines using specially designed 2-meter long mine claws and detonate them;
- C. Use new mine clearing equipment such as the Mine Breaker and Rhino to remove mines ;
- D. Finally, detect unexploded mines by deploying skilled detecting soldiers and EOD teams.

Using these two methods, the ROK army has successfully cleared all mines from the Gyeongui railway and highway construction site south of the DMZ as of November 20, 2001 without any accidents or casualties.

The ROK army will continue to clear mines in the transportation corridor within the Western and Eastern part of the DMZ in accordance with the 2002 military assurance agreement for the construction work.

Lists of Experts and Expert 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)