

**FIFTH 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**

CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/NAR.6
30 September 2003

ENGLISH ONLY

Geneva, 26 November 2003

SWITZERLAND

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

GE.03-64700

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 SWITZERLAND

DATE OF SUBMISSION _____

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

x YES

NO

Partially, only the following forms:

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>Switzerland</u>	reporting for time period from	<u>1 October 2002</u>	to	<u>1 October 2003</u>
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Information to the armed forces

Every male Swiss citizen is, in principle, under the obligation to serve in the Swiss Armed Forces. The obligations resulting from the amended Protocol II of the Convention of Certain Conventional Weapons and from the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (Mine Ban Treaty) are permanently instructed in all training courses to all ranks within the Swiss Armed Forces. Furthermore, the obligations arising from these treaties have been implemented in a new field manual on the use of mines in the Swiss Armed Forces. The texts of these treaties have also been incorporated by end of 1999 in the treaty collection of international law on armed conflicts that every unit commander holds.

Information to the civilian population

The civilian population has been informed on several occasions on the results of the Annual Conferences of the States Parties to the amended Protocol II by public statements of Government representatives. At the occasion of the internal ratification-process of the amended Protocol II and the Mine Ban Treaty as well as at the introduction of the Swiss Federal Act on War Material, the Swiss Parliament and the civilian population have been informed repeatedly about the new obligations arising from the said legal instruments.

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	<u>Switzerland</u>	reporting for time period from	<u>1 October 2002</u>	to	<u>1 October 2003</u>
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Mine clearance programmes

not applicable

Rehabilitation programmes

not applicable

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	<u>Switzerland</u>	reporting for time period from	<u>1 October 2002</u>	to	<u>1 October 2003</u>
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Technical requirements

Switzerland destroyed all its anti-personnel landmines by 15 March 1999.

All anti-tank mines hold by the Swiss Armed Forces fulfil the requirements of the amended Protocol II

Any other relevant information

Switzerland has taken all anti-tank mines of the type Pz Mi 60 out of service. They have all been destroyed by early 2003.

Form D Legislation

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

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;

Remark:

High Contracting Party	Switzerland	reporting for time period from	1 October 2002	1 October to 2003
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Legislation

An export moratorium on anti-personnel mines (APM) and their components was declared by the Swiss Government in 1994 with respect to States which were not Parties to the Protocol II of the UN Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons of 1980. On 13 December, 1996, the Swiss Parliament enacted national legislation prohibiting the development, production, brokerage, acquisition, import, export, transfer, stockpiling, use and possession of and any other activity relating to APM (Swiss Federal Law on War Material). The only activities permitted are those which are directly related to the destruction of or the protection against APM. In 1998, the definition of "APM" applied in the Swiss Federal Law on War Material was extended to the definition used in the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction of 1997 (Mine Ban Treaty) and the amended Protocol II. According to the modified Article 8 of the Swiss Federal Law on War Material, "APM" is defined as any explosive device that is placed in or on the ground or any other surface or in their proximity and is designed or modified to explode by the presence, proximity or contact of a person and that is intended to incapacitate, injure or kill one or more persons. Mines designed to detonate upon the presence, proximity or contact of a vehicle as opposed to a person and that are equipped with anti-handling devices, are not considered anti-personnel mines as a result of being so equipped. The modification entered into force on 1 March 1999. In addition, the Swiss Parliament is in the process of adapting art. 8 of the Swiss Federal Law on War Material to the exact wording of art. 2 of the Mine Ban Treaty. All APM in Switzerland were destroyed by 15 March 1999.

With entry into force of the amended Protocol II on 3 December 1998 and the Mine Ban Treaty on 1 March 1999 for Switzerland, these international legal instruments became integral parts of the Swiss legislation.

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	<u>Switzerland</u>	reporting for time period from	<u>1 October 2002</u>	to	<u>1 October 2003</u>
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International technical information exchange

The Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sports participated in international information exchanges in various ways, among others by providing technical information and operational demonstrations on Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) systems for the contact-free disposal of UXOs and mines, but also by organising training courses for the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) within the EAPC/PfP framework.

International cooperation on mine clearance

The Swiss Government spent in 2002 12 million SFr. on projects related to antipersonnel mines. In 2003, expenditures in the amount of 15 million SFr. are budgeted. The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs mainly supports financially APM-clearing-projects and risk warning campaigns. The Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sports is providing voluntarily expertise for Mine Action Programmes by the UN and selected NGOs. During the year 2002, Swiss experts participated in missions to Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kosovo, Somaliland and Sri Lanka. During the year 2003, Swiss experts supported missions in Afghanistan, Albania, Chad, Eritrea, Iraq, Somaliland/Puntland and Sri Lanka. The Federal Department of Defence further developed and updated its specific training course for future supervisors to be sent to international Mine Action Programs. Moreover, Switzerland, during the reporting period, provided material assistance (mainly EOD systems) to selected Mine Action Programs and projects (UN and NGOs) in Afghanistan and Eritrea (2002) and in Croatia, Eritrea and Iraq (2003). These contributions have a value of 1.15 million SFr. for the year 2002 and 1.62 million SFr. for the year 2003.

International co-operation on technical co-operation and assistance

The Swiss offer of EOD systems routinely includes not only the material, but also training and support. (Follow-up deliveries may take place upon request.).

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.

Remark:

High Contracting Party	<u>Switzerland</u>	reporting for time period from	<u>1 October 2002</u>	to	<u>1 October 2003</u>
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Other relevant matters

The Swiss Government contributed 7.61 million SFr. to the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) in 2002 and 7.84 million SFr. in 2003.

Form G Information to the UN-database on mine clearance

Article 11 “The High Contracting Parties shall provide information to the database on
para 2 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 Switzerland reporting for time period from 1 October 2002 to 1 October 2003

<u>Means and technologies of mine clearance</u>
<u>Lists of experts and experts agencies</u>
<u>National points of contact on mine clearance</u> Mr. Markus Schefer General Staff of the Swiss Armed Forces Directorate for Peace Support and Security Cooperation Head of Mine Action Unit Papiermuehlestrasse 20 CH-3003 Berne Phone: +41 31 324 49 75 Fax: +41 31 323 73 99 E-Mail: markus.schefer@gst.admin.ch Ms. Janine Voigt Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Political Affairs Division IV, Peace Policy and Human Security Bundesgasse 32 CH-3003 Bern Tel: 0041 31 322 31 19 Fax: 0041 31 323 89 22 E-mail: janine.voigt@eda.admin.ch
