



**CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE
USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND
TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND
ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

(OTTAWA CONVENTION)

**Updated information provided in accordance
with article 7, paragraph 2**

Switzerland

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0. Point of Contact

Federal Department of Defense, Civil Protection and Sports
International Relations, Defense
Euro-Atlantic Security Cooperation
Papiermühlestrasse 20
3003 Bern
Phone: +41 58 464 64 31
Fax: +41 58 465 30 40

1. National implementation measures

No additional legal, administrative and other measures were taken during the previous calendar year to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited under the Convention. See Switzerland's report submitted in 2015 for the latest information.

2. Stockpiled anti-personnel mines

This matter is not applicable since Switzerland destroyed all stockpiled anti-personnel mines.

3. Anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for permitted purposes

Switzerland does not retain or transfer anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes.

4. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines

The territory of Switzerland contains neither mined areas nor areas suspected to contain mines.

5. Technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines

Not applicable.

6. Conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities

Not applicable.

7. Victim assistance

Not applicable.

8. Cooperation and assistance

International co-operation and assistance provided: In 2016, Switzerland attributed CHF 18.9 million to mine action, which includes the engagements in regard to international co-operation and assistance. Due to well-known practical reasons, the attribution to activities addressing the threat posed by anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions and other ERWs cannot always be clearly separated and quantified.

Switzerland's engagement in international co-operation and assistance is based on the Mine Action Strategy of the Swiss Confederation 2016-2019. This new strategy was published in July 2016 and represents the fourth subsequent national strategy in this domain. The strategy defines a whole of government approach to all activities addressing the threats posed by anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions and explosive remnants of war on policy as well as on operational level.

On that basis, Switzerland provides assistance to mine / cluster munitions / ERW affected countries in terms of funds, material and personnel:

- Support in clearance projects, projects integrating mine action into development, risk awareness campaigns and victim assistance projects mainly through financial contributions in countries and regions such as: Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Columbia, Gaza, Kosovo, Laos, Libya, Mali, Myanmar and Ukraine for about CHF 6.0 million.
- Provision of substantial political and financial support to the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD): in the reporting period, Switzerland contributed about CHF 9.27 million to the GICHD, which acts as a facilitator, strategic adviser, research body and think tank in the field of Mine Action (including ERW). The Implementation Support Units (ISU), which serve the States Parties to the APMBC as well as to the CCM, are hosted by the GICHD with considerable in-kind contributions from Switzerland (about CH 0.5 million per annum).
- Provision of experts in the fields of EOD, logistics, finance and information management to UN Mine Action Programmes. During the reporting period, experts were deployed to programmes in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), South Sudan and Western Sahara as well as to UNOPS and UNMAS HQ in New York and in Geneva. During the reporting period, CHF 2.71 million have been spent for the assignment of personnel. Switzerland further developed and updated its specific training courses for future experts to be sent to international Mine Action Programs with its partners GICHD, UNICEF and UNOPS.
- Provision of EOD systems. This offer includes not only the material but also training and support (follow-up deliveries may take place upon request). During the reporting period, no request for a delivery was submitted. Among the material provided to international Mine Action Programmes, SM EOD-Systems are the most prominent items.

Since 2000 Switzerland has been offering international training courses on the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) via the channels of the Partnership for Peace Program (PfP). Switzerland annually offers a series of courses in different fields of mine action. In the reporting period, Switzerland along with such partners as the GICHD, UNICEF and UNOPS offered nine courses with the following topics: "Ammunition Safety Practitioner", "Integrated Mine Action for Better Results", "Application of IMAS", two "A1 IMSMA-Training-Courses", one "A2 IMSMA-Training-Course", two basic "Support Service Officers Courses" and one senior "Support Service Officers Course". The courses took place in Spiez.