



**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

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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

In 2021, Switzerland invested CHF 17.0 million in the mine action area. These resources were spent to clear mines, assist victims, raise awareness about the risks posed by mines, cluster munition remnants and other explosive remnants of war (ERW), strengthen local capacities, as well as promote the respect of international commitments such as the ones against the use of anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions.

Switzerland's engagement in international co-operation and assistance is based on its latest Mine Action Strategy which covers the period 2016-2022. It defines a whole-of-government approach and is meant to address the threats posed by anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions and ERW. Switzerland is active at both policy and operational level.

On this basis, Switzerland provides assistance to mine, cluster munitions and ERW-affected countries in the form of funds, material and personnel:

- **Action 42 of the Oslo Action Plan:** In 2021, Switzerland invested CHF 6.6 million in mine action projects and deployments, supporting 11 States Parties (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, , Ukraine,, Zimbabwe) and 5 non-State parties/other territories (Georgia, Kosovo, Myanmar, Syria, Western Sahara). Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Georgia, Kosovo Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Syria, Ukraine and Zimbabwe, benefitted from projects implemented in the domains of clearance, victim assistance and mine risk education, whereas the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, South Sudan, Sudan, and Western Sahara benefitted from the deployment of experts to UN mine action programs in the fields of EOD, logistics, finance and information management, training and security;
- **Action 45 of the Oslo Action Plan:** In 2021, Switzerland supported affected States Parties Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, South Sudan, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Ukraine and Zimbabwe in the implementation of their obligations. As part of its broader development and humanitarian efforts, Switzerland supported victim assistance in Colombia, Myanmar and Syria and supported clearance activities in the following contexts: Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Georgia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe;
- **Action 46 of the Oslo Action Plan:** Where they are in place, Switzerland regularly participates in the in-country coordination platforms. It also regularly participate in the works of the Mine Action Support Group (MASG);
- **Action 3 of the Oslo Action Plan:** Gender plays a prominent role in Switzerland's mine action strategy and it is mainstreamed in the projects it supports. In line with its [Arms Control and Disarmament Strategy](#), Switzerland aims to strengthen the integration of mine action in peacebuilding, taking into account a gender perspective. The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs has also adopted a [Strategy on Gender equality and Women's rights](#);
- Political and financial support to the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD): during the reporting period, Switzerland contributed CHF 9.5 million to the GICHD. The organisation acts as a facilitator, strategic advisor, 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 APMBBC and to the CCM, are hosted by the GICHD, which covers the rental, administrative, and logistical costs. This in-kind contribution (about CHF 0.5 million per annum) is covered by Switzerland's core contribution to the GICHD.

Provision of experts in the fields of EOD, logistics, finance and information management, training and security to UN mine action programmes. During the reporting period, experts were deployed to programmes in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali, South Sudan, Sudan and Western Sahara as well as to UNMAS and UNOPS HQ in New York and UNOPS Office Geneva. During the reporting period, CHF 3 million have been spent for the secondment of personnel, the organisation of training courses and different other activities. Switzerland further

developed and updated its specific training courses for future experts to be sent to international mine action programmes with its partners: the GICHD, UNMAS, UNICEF, and UNOPS.

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. During the reporting period, Switzerland along with the GICHD and UNOPS offered due to the COVID-19 pandemic only a limited programme consisting of two courses with the following topics, "IMSMA-Core Training Course", "Non-Technical Survey Course". One course took place in Stans, one was delivered remotely. During the reporting period, Switzerland spent some CHF 40'000 for the training courses.

Any other relevant information

- **Action 11 of the Oslo Action Plan:** In the framework of its bilateral relations, Switzerland regularly invites States not parties to ratify the Convention. This call is also reiterated at the multilateral level, for example within the OSCE or during the relevant Security Council debates. Switzerland also supports non-governmental organizations, such as ICBL or Mine Action Review, which advocate in favour of the ratification of the Convention;
- **Action 12 of the Oslo Action Plan:** To promote the observance of the Convention's norms and objectives by armed non-State actors (ANSAs), Switzerland, among other things, regularly supports the activities of Geneva Call (its deeds of commitment capture IHL rules and can be signed by ANSAs).

Further information is included in the annual exchange of the OSCE Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Mines.