
**Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention
on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling,
Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel
Mines and on Their Destruction**

4 December 2012

English only

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Item 10 of the agenda
Consideration of the general status
and operation of the Convention

**Declaration of completion of implementation of Article 5 of
the Convention on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling,
production and transfer of anti-personnel mines and on their
destruction**

Submitted by Jordan*

1. Jordan ratified the Convention on 13 November 1998. The Convention entered into force for Jordan on 1 May 1999. In its initial transparency report submitted on 9 August 1999, Jordan reported areas under its jurisdiction or control containing, or suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines.

2. Demining operations in Jordan predated the Convention. When demining began in 1993, it was estimated that there were approximately 60 square kilometres of suspect hazard areas, divided into 500 minefields containing roughly 305,000 mines, including approximately 216,000 anti-personnel mines. Anti-personnel mines in Jordan were mainly laid by the Jordanian Armed Forces or the Israeli Defence Forces and fairly accurate military records and maps existed and were made available.

3. In order to improve the information provided by the original minefield maps, Jordan engaged in several data gathering activities since 1993 including general surveys, resurveys and technical assessments and technical surveys.

(a) Jordan Armed Forces (JAF) Records: The JAF kept all original records, which provided the starting point for humanitarian demining activities in Jordan. However, during the 45 year period running up to 1993 there was a loss in the veracity of some of the records due to shifting of surface soils brought about by the annual flooding common in Jordan throughout the winter months. The issue of recording, managing, and archiving the information also raised some questions as to the detailed accuracy of the database.

(b) General Re-Survey: In 2000, the JAF's Royal Engineering Corps (REC) undertook a re-survey of the records to ascertain their precision and to develop a national

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demining plan. During this period, new mined areas running along the western border were catalogued. The cumulative results of several decades of soil erosion and flooding also became better known as it was determined that the adverse impact of general flooding had impacted the anatomy of many known minefields which presented new technical challenges.

(c) Israeli Defence Force Records: In 2005 the Israeli Defense Force turned over map records that included location, category, number, typology, and patterning of mines in the 133 Israeli minefields planted on Jordanian territory during the period 1967- 1969. (These large tracks of land were returned to Jordan as a result of the Peace Treaty that was signed between Jordan and Israel in 1994.) The information covered various areas running along the border from Aqaba in the south to Baqura in the north and accounted for roughly 24 percent of the national problem.

(d) Landmine Retrofit Survey (LRS) Task Impact Assessment: In 2006, in an attempt to build on the military records and better prioritize mine clearance with development principles, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) was commissioned to undertake a LRS. This gathered community level data related to the presence of mines and the expected human impact of their removal. Local populations were asked to identify dangerous areas, prioritize areas for clearance within their community, and provide information on post-clearance land use planning.

(e) Landmine Retrofit Survey Technical Assessment: Building on the LRS, in 2007 a more detailed technical assessment was carried out to confirm and harmonize military records and community local knowledge. The effort provided operational data and confirmed the real/perceived threat so that mine clearance could be conducted with the utmost safety and efficiency.

(f) Technical Survey: In 2008, NPA began a technical survey on the last remaining minefields found along Jordan's northern border to confirm the content and structure of the information generated by previous assessments and surveys.

4. In 2000, a Royal Decree established the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation (NCDR), which the government subsequently legislated into law. The purpose of the NCDR was to entrust mine action in Jordan to civilian leadership that had more access to the international mine action community. The NCDR, however, did not become fully operational until 2004, when a new administration was appointed to lead the organization and to jumpstart Jordan's mine action efforts.

5. Between 1993 and 2006, mine clearance in Jordan was the sole domain of the REC. The REC divided its demining teams into 20 units comprised of 20 individuals each. At any given time seven units would be in the field for three month rotations. The other 13 teams would undergo training and attend to other REC duties and responsibilities. The average number of individuals deployed at any given time was 140, of which 112 were actually undertaking demining. The manual demining teams were supported by mechanical mine clearance assets.

6. In 2006, the NCDR realized that the pace of its humanitarian demining operations would not be sufficient to meet its Article 5 obligations by its 1 May 2009 deadline, and, as a result, solicited the assistance of Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) to carry out demining operations in the south of Jordan, while the Royal Engineering Corps (REC) continued its operations in the Jordan Valley. The arrival of NPA in 2006 added 135 individuals, an additional mechanical asset, and six mine detection dogs to the mine clearance effort.

7. Also in 2006, the NCDR established a Quality Management Team (QMT) to carry out and oversee quality control and quality assurance of all demining activities undertaken by the REC and NPA in Jordan.

8. During the period 1993 to 2007, approximately 16 square kilometres were cleared with 129,800 anti-personnel mines, 41,897 anti-vehicle mines and approximately 40,000 unexploded ordinance located and destroyed. In addition, 34 square kilometres of previously suspected mined areas were released by cancellation.

9. Jordan was originally obliged to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control by 1 May 2009. Jordan, believing that it would be unable to do so by that date, submitted on 31 March 2008 to the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties, a request for a three-year extension of its deadline. At the 2008 Ninth Meeting of the States Parties, Jordan's request for a three-year extension, until 1 May 2012, was granted.

10. At the time Jordan submitted its extension request in 2008, Jordan's remaining clearance challenge was the "Northern Border Project", which was a 104 kilometre long mine belt along Jordan's border with Syria covering an area of 10,355,967 square metres and with 135,570 emplaced mines registered, including 92,569 anti-personnel mines, spread in 93 minefields.

11. Demining along Jordan's northern border was carried out by NPA and involved approximately 200 deminers at the peak of activity. Actual results of the demining effort resulted in the release of 6,856,885 metres and the destruction of 80,194 anti-personnel mines, 39,360 anti-vehicle mines and 40 UXO.

12. Mine clearance in Jordan, both along its northern border and elsewhere, involved the following techniques: The Rake Excavation and Detection System (REDS), which was pioneered by NPA in Sri Lanka in 2002, was used successfully in areas with soft soils and high density mine contamination. Manual demining with the use of detectors remained an important method in areas where the REDS method was not safe or efficient. Mechanical assets were used to complement other clearance activities. In addition, mine detection dogs were used in a variety of instances. Demining has been governed by Jordan's National Technical Standards and Guidelines, the development of which was based upon the United Nations' International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), modified to reflect the reality of Jordan. The National Technical Standards and Guidelines were adopted in June 2006.

13. As a result of efforts undertaken since the extension request was granted, Jordan was able to declare, on 24 April 2012, that it had fulfilled its obligations under Article 5 of the Convention by having determined that there are no longer areas under the jurisdiction or control of Jordan in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced.

14. In declaring completion, Jordan recalled that the States Parties have always been realistic in accepting that a residual risk remains in areas where anti-personnel mine have been emplaced. Therefore, in declaring completion, Jordan committed in the event that previously unknown anti-personnel mines or mined areas are discovered after completion was declared, to: (a) report such mined areas in accordance with its obligations under Article 7 and share such information through any other informal means such as the Intersessional Work Programme; (b) ensure the effective exclusion of civilians in accordance with Article 5; and, (c) destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in these mined areas as a matter of urgent priority, making its need for assistance known to other States Parties, as appropriate.

15. Jordan is also cognizant of ongoing discussions on political commitments the States Parties as a whole may consider taking with respect to mined areas discovered after deadlines have passed. Should any such commitments be adopted, Jordan shall act in a manner agreed to by the States Parties.

16. While all mined areas that Jordan had made every effort to identify were cleared by 24 April 2012, Jordan, as a responsible State Party, has proceeded with verification efforts

in two parts of the country, with these verification efforts having resulted in the discovery of additional mined areas.

(a) Demining in Jordan Valley was declared complete in 2008. However, the clearance work by the REC was not compliant with national standards and was not subject to quality management. In response, the NCDR began a verification exercise in 2009. Between the start of this exercise and 30 October 2012, 10,516,291 million square metres had been verified and released, and a total of 823 anti-personnel mines, 253 anti-vehicle mines and 826 UXO have been found and destroyed. Jordan will continue verification of an additional 5,097,379 square metres with this effort expected to last two more years. (See Annex I for an overview of verification work and that which remains in the Jordan Valley.) In the event that additional previously unknown anti-personnel mines or mined areas are discovered as a result of this verification effort, Jordan will respond in the manner indicated in paragraphs 14 and 15 above.

(b) As noted, demining along Jordan's northern border was declared complete in April 2012 with respect to all mined areas that Jordan had made every effort to identify. After clearance, there was considerable discrepancy between the reported emplaced mines and the mines that had been found. The probable causes included migration of mines outside of identified mined areas because of flooding and terrain fluctuations, and self-detonations. Jordan aims to secure the safety of its population with respect to areas adjacent to these now formerly mined areas. As of 24 April 2012, Jordan sought to still verify approximately 7 million square metres of land along its northern border. Based on experience from addressing the north-west and north-east portions of the northern border, NPA employed a more streamlined land release approach was applied in the eastern portion than in the two first areas. This involves a technical survey methodology that identifies all wrongly recorded mined areas and the application of a "fadeout" from all mines that were found to accommodate potential washouts of mines.

(c) As of 26 November, verification of the northern border had been completed with respect to five areas totalling 888,413 square metres. A total of 196 anti-personnel mines, 3 anti-tank mines and 13 UXO have been found and destroyed. Verification was intended to be complete by the end of November. However, the security situation along the border has caused a delay and it is now anticipated that the task in the eastern part of the northern border will be completed by February 2013 if the security situation allows. Following completion of the eastern portion of the northern border, NPA will conduct quality assurance of previously cleared areas in the north-east and north-west portions of the northern border. The likelihood of finding randomly migrated mines is small. NPA will complete all quality assurance activities by July 2013.

(d) Despite a considerable discrepancy between reported emplaced mines and mines which have been found and destroyed, NPA has only found a comparatively small number of them during its activities. This implies that there is a huge mismatch between the numbers of reported unaccounted mines and the real numbers of mines that may have been relocated due to migration of mines and self-detonations. The numbers of mines that cannot be accounted for may not be used as an indicator of the actual number of mines that could be found in washout areas. In the event that additional previously unknown anti-personnel mines or mined areas are discovered as a result of verification along its northern border, Jordan will respond in the manner indicated in paragraphs 14 and 15 above.

17. It should be noted that the socio-economic impact of implementing Article 5 in Jordan has been significant. Mine clearance made the construction of the Al-Wehdeh Dam possible with the reservoir that has been created having become one of the main sources of fresh water for Jordan and one of the solutions to the kingdom's water needs as well as a source of electricity. Demining in the Aqaba region has cleared a path for the modernization of Jordan's only port and seaside tourist destination. The site of Jesus's

baptism was once littered with landmines and now it is projected that this important historical, cultural and religious site will receive 1.5 million visitors annually. Agriculture has benefited greatly, with one example being the 1.2 million square metre Mubarakah Date Farm, which was established after 6,300 mines were cleared from the area. The farm provides jobs for approximately 120 people. In addition, along Jordan's northern border it is projected that household income will increase 25 percent as a result of agricultural expansion due to the removal of mined areas.

Annex I

Jordan Valley Verification

Table 1
Verification completed, 1 May to 30 October 2012

	SHA ID	Total area (m2)	area verified (m2)	Found and destroyed		
				AP mines	AT mines	UXO
1	60A.267.N	54432	54432	1	1	0
2	71.267.N	148032	148032	0	1	0
3	79A+B.267.N	10374	10374	1	1	0
4	226.267.M	33660	33660	14	1	0
5	321.267.M	6900	6900	2	0	0
6	2A.267.M	241600	241600	0	1	0
7	263.267.N	18906	18906	1	0	0
8	137B.267.N	220700	220700	1	0	0
9	503.267.N	7084	7084	1	0	0
10	137A.267.N	20286	20286	0	0	0
Totals		761974	761974	21	5	0

Table 2
Ongoing Activities

	SHA ID	Total area (m2)	area verified (m2)	Found and destroyed to date		
				AP mines	AT mines	UXO
1	39.267.M	12880	6440	2	6	0
2	310B.267.M	5290	2645	0	0	1
3	191E.267.M	39655	19827.5	4	0	0
4	231.267.M	25576	12788	45	0	0
5	311.267.M	10488	5244	0	0	1
6	87.267.N	9126	4563	1	0	0
7	58A.267.N	139278	69639	5	9	0
8	58D.267.N	124976	62488	29	1	0
9	59A.267.N	30324	15162	0	0	0
Totals		397593	198796	86	16	2

Table 3
Remaining area to be verified

	SHA ID	Total area (m ²)	to be verified (m ²)	Found and destroyed to date		
				AP mines	AT mines	UXO
1	421.267.M	12648	12648	4	0	0
2	200.267.M	138752	138752	0	0	0
3	186.267.M	13020	13020	2	0	0
4	44.267.M	10098	10098	1	0	0
5	143A+B.267.M	7130	7130	0	0	0
6	316.267.M	6118	6118	1	1	0
7	48.267.M	5400	5400	1	0	0
8	423.267.M	7958	7958	1	0	0
9	425.267.M	13915	13915	2	0	0
10	426.267.M	16384	16384	0	0	0
11	232A.267.M	22650	22650	0	0	0
12	195.267.M	24656	24656	0	11	0
13	141.267.M	10212	10212	0	0	0
14	53.267.M	10304	10304	0	0	0
15	171.267.M	14875	14875	0	0	0
16	172.267.M	31042	31042	0	0	0
17	174.267.M	14976	14976	0	0	0
18	176.267.M	134400	134400	0	0	0
19	5B.267.M	80990	80990	0	0	0
20	46F.267.M	11340	11340	0	0	0
21	424.267.M	20496	20496	5	1	0
22	446.267.M	107630	107630	26	3	0
23	37.267.M	6670	6670	0	0	0
24	219.267.M	5796	5796	0	0	0
25	415.267.M	11550	11550	0	1	0
26	192.267.M	38180	38180	1	7	0
27	36.267.M	8280	8280	0	0	0
28	191B.267.M	22100	22100	0	0	0
29	191C.267.M	120380	120380	0	0	0
30	310A.267.M	5612	5612	28	0	3

	SHA ID	Total area (m2)	to be verified (m2)	Found and destroyed to date		
				AP mines	AT mines	UXO
31	431.267.M	55762	55762	0	0	0
32	428.267.M	31955	31955	3	0	0
33	43.267.M	13703	13703	0	9	0
34	429.267.M	64845	64845	65	17	1
35	447.267.M	4968	4968	0	0	0
36	433A.267.M	100570	100570	6	0	0
37	433B.267.M	58308	58308	0	0	0
38	202A.267.M	28674	28674	0	0	0
39	202B.267.M	14985	14985	0	0	0
40	201.267.M	163606	163606	0	0	0
41	207.267.M	86456	86456	0	0	0
42	259.267.M	11224	11224	0	7	0
43	499.267.M	2668	2668	0	0	0
44	500.267.M	5520	5520	0	0	0
45	501.267.M	4738	4738	0	0	0
46	506.267.M	6394	6394	0	0	0
47	258.267.M	17710	17710	0	0	0
48	260.267.M	23460	23460	0	0	0
49	417.267.M	12402	12402	1	0	0
50	257B.267.M	22632	22632	0	0	0
51	209.267.M	25208	25208	0	0	0
52	211.267.M	76220	76220	0	0	0
53	61.267.N	6210	6210	0	0	0
54	62.267.N	13800	13800	0	0	0
55	63.267.N	5520	5520	0	0	0
56	60C.267.N	37605	37605	0	0	0
57	516.267.N	5750	5750	0	0	0
58	519.267.N	16790	16790	0	0	0
59	520.267.N	23092	23092	0	0	0
60	521.267.N	18124	18124	0	0	0
61	522.267.N	57730	57730	0	0	0

	SHA ID	Total area (m2)	to be verified (m2)	Found and destroyed to date		
				AP mines	AT mines	UXO
62	517.267.N	6440	6440	0	0	0
63	518.267.N	5796	5796	0	0	0
64	524.267.N	12926	12926	0	0	0
65	525.267.N	26496	26496	4	0	0
66	526.267.N	10902	10902	0	0	0
67	514.267.N	3082	3082	0	0	0
68	515.267.N	3312	3312	0	0	0
69	523.267.N	5014	5014	0	0	0
70	256.267.N	5106	5106	0	0	0
71	261.267.N	6900	6900	0	0	0
72	262.267.N	18124	18124	0	0	0
73	513.267.N	4554	4554	0	0	0
74	76.267.N	32940	32940	0	0	0
75	66.267.N	14000	14000	0	0	0
76	434.267.N	14739	14739	0	4	0
77	438.267.N	45453	45453	1	0	0
78	440.267.N	37050	37050	2	1	0
79	388.267.N	7590	7590	0	0	0
80	391.267.N	28350	28350	0	0	0
81	293.267.N	7820	7820	0	0	0
82	400.267.N	13651	13651	0	0	0
83	286.267.N	3036	3036	0	0	0
84	287.267.N	2500	2500	0	0	0
85	288.267.N	3600	3600	0	0	0
86	289.267.N	2760	2760	0	0	0
87	291.267.N	1932	1932	0	0	0
88	290.267.N	2760	2760	0	0	0
89	300.267.N	4830	4830	0	0	0
90	307.267.N	5106	5106	0	0	0
91	299.267.N	3772	3772	0	0	0
92	305.267.N	7544	7544	0	0	0

	SHA ID	Total area (m2)	to be verified (m2)	Found and destroyed to date		
				AP mines	AT mines	UXO
93	389.267.N	6900	6900	0	0	0
94	354.267.N	7535	7535	0	0	0
95	269.267.N	10395	10395	0	0	0
96	96.267.N	75000	75000	0	0	0
97	510.267.N	9200	9200	0	0	0
98	439.267.N	48339	48339	0	0	0
99	65.267.N	8510	8510	0	2	0
100	498A.267.N	5428	5428	0	0	0
101	504.267.N	3864	3864	0	0	0
102	511.267.N	8510	8510	0	0	0
103	509.267.N	10580	10580	0	0	0
104	139.267.N	3680	3680	0	0	0
105	512.267.N	5520	5520	0	0	0
106	145.267.N	15640	15640	0	0	0
107	75.267.N	59118	59118	0	0	0
108	64.267.N	8304	8304	0	0	0
109	67.267.N	7920	7920	0	32	0
110	72.267.N	265220	265220	2	0	0
111	95.267.N	9450	9450	0	0	0
112	435.267.N	33277	33277	0	0	0
113	497.267.N	5428	5428	0	0	0
114	22.267.M	78960	78960	0	0	0
115	177.267.M	4600	4600	0	0	0
116	191A.267.M	182325	182325	3	5	0
117	191D.267.M	47376	47376	0	0	0
118	210.267.M	21500	21500	0	0	0
119	218.267.M	20070	20070	0	0	0
120	227.267.M	9292	9292	0	0	0
121	230.267.M	13064	13064	2	0	0
122	233.267.M	227610	227610	2	0	0
123	243.267.M	43100	43100	0	0	0

	SHA ID	Total area (m2)	to be verified (m2)	Found and destroyed to date		
				AP mines	AT mines	UXO
124	337.267.M	4830	4830	0	0	0
125	419.267.M	18048	18048	7	0	0
126	422.267.M	39933	39933	11	0	0
127	232B.267.M	652380	652380	7	0	0
128	232D.267.M	629400	629400	4	7	0
Totals		4,898,582	4,898,582	192	108	4

Annex II

Northern Border Verification and Quality Assurance

Table 1
Verification Complete

Region	SHA ID	Total area (m2)	Items found and destroyed			Date verification complete
			AP mines	AT mines	UXO	
EAST AREA	Sabha9	114866	1	0	3	2012-09-03
	Sabha10	206420	32	3	1	2012-10-18
	Sabha11	176877	13	0	2	2012-11-03
	Sabha12	184099	20	0	0	2012-11-26
	Sabha13	206151	32	0	0	2012-11-18
Totals		888413	98	3	6	

Table 2
Verification and Quality Assurance Ongoing

Region	SHA ID	Total area (m2)	Items found and destroyed			Expected Completion Date
			AP mines	AT mines	UXO	
EAST AREA	Al Rahmat 1	345932	12	0	5	2012-12-06
	Al Rahmat 2	204251	50	0	2	2012-12-02
	Al Rahmat 3	198979	21	0	0	2012-12-13
	Al Rahmat 4	278155	6	0	0	2013-01-10
	Al Rahmat 5	279601	2	0	0	2013-01-20
	Al Rahmat 6	250330	3	0	0	2013-02-20
	Al Rahmat 7	162459	3	0	0	2013-02-25
	Sama 1	196929	0	0	0	2013-03-25
	Sama 2	257155	0	0	0	2013-04-14
	Sama 3	175986	1	0	0	2013-04-10
NORTH EAST	Al Swailmah 1	260239	0	0	0	2013-05-22
	Al Swailmah 2	176296	0	0	0	2013-05-09
	Al Swailmah 3	181198	0	0	0	2013-06-20
	Al Swailmah 4	308271	0	0	0	2013-05-23
	Al Akaider 1	300449	0	0	0	2013-07-04

<i>Region</i>	<i>SHA ID</i>	<i>Total area (m2)</i>	<i>Items found and destroyed</i>			<i>Expected Completion Date</i>
			<i>AP mines</i>	<i>AT mines</i>	<i>UXO</i>	
	Al Akaider 2	201473	0	0	0	2013-06-03
	Al Akaider 3	537663	0	0	0	2013-07-29
	Al Akaider 4	174492	0	0	0	2013-06-11
	Al Bwaib 1	307328	0	0	0	2013-08-12
	Al Bwaib 2	301952	0	0	0	2013-06-25
	Al Bwaib 3	216971	0	0	0	2013-08-21
WEST	Al Ramtha 1	340287	0	0	0	2013-07-10
	Al Ramtha 2	237655	0	0	0	2013-09-02
	Al Ramtha 3	152102	0	0	0	2013-07-17
	Al Ramtha 4	113536	0	0	0	2013-09-08
	Al Turah 1	142353	0	0	0	2013-07-24
Totals		6302044	98	0	7	