



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

**Mission permanente de la Suisse auprès de l'Office des Nations
Unies et des autres organisations internationales à Genève**

275.20 DFS/PAJ

The Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations Office and to the other international organisations in Geneva presents its compliments to the APLC Secretariat, Office for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch) and has the honour to submit Switzerland's Annual update for the calendar year 2018 according to Reporting Formats for Article 7 for the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (Ottawa Convention).

The Permanent Mission of Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs the assurances of its highest consideration. *DF*

Geneva, 24 April 2019



APLC Secretariat
Office for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch)
Office C-113.1, Palais des Nations
Geneva



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

Date of submission: 30.04.2019

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 2018, Switzerland invested CHF 18.4 million in the mine action area. These resources were spent to clear mines, assist victims, raise awareness, strengthen local capacities, and make sure that international commitments are respected.

Switzerland's engagement in international co-operation and assistance is based on its latest Mine Action Strategy which covers the period 2016-2019. This strategy was published in July 2016 and represents the fourth subsequent national strategy in this domain. It defines a whole of government approach and is meant to address the threats posed by anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions and explosive remnants of war. Switzerland is active both at policy and operational level. The strategy has been extended until 2022.

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

Support to clearance projects, projects integrating mine action into development, risk awareness campaigns, prevention and victim assistance projects mainly through financial contributions in countries, regions and institutions such as: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Libya, Myanmar, Syria, Ukraine, Geneva Call and the ICRC.

Political and financial support to the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD): during the reporting period, Switzerland contributed about CHF 9 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 to UN mine action programmes. During the reporting period, experts were deployed to programmes in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, Mali, South Sudan, and Western Sahara as well as to UNOPS and UNMAS HQ in New York. During the reporting period, CHF 3.85million 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 such partners as the GICHD, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNMAS and UNDP offered seven courses with the following topics: "Ammunition Safety Practitioner", "Integrated Mine Action for Better Results", "Mine/ERW Risk Education Course", "Application of IMAS", "Results Based Management in Mine Action", 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 and Geneva (RBM). During the reporting period, Switzerland spent some CHF 0.3 million for the training courses. Switzerland has also provided financial assistance (CHF 0.3 million) to UNIDIR, UNODA and the GICHD to further develop and implement the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG).

Any other relevant information

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