

Anti-Personnel Mines Reported Retained by States Parties for Purposes Permitted by Article 3 of the Convention¹

I. Status of implementation of Article 3

At the start of the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties (18MSP), it was recorded that 66 States Parties had reported, as required by Article 7, paragraph 1 d), anti-personnel mines retained for the development of training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques in accordance with Article 3.

Since then, the following has transpired:

- One State Party – Guyana – indicated that it retains anti-personnel mines for training purposes.

There are now 67 States Parties that have reported that they retain anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes (see table 1).

II. Annual transparency reporting

In accordance with Article 7.1 d), States Parties are required to report annually updated information on the “types, quantities and if possible lot number of all anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for the development training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques, or transferred for the purpose of destruction (...).”

- In 2021, 32 of the 67 States Parties retaining anti-personnel mines under Article 3 submitted a transparency report in accordance with Article 7. The following 34 States Parties have not yet submitted a transparency report: Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, Eritrea, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Romania, Rwanda, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zambia.
- The following States Parties which have reported that they retain anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 3 have not submitted annual transparency information on their retained mines for many years: Benin (2008), Cameroon (2009), Cape Verde (2009), Congo Brazzaville (2009), Djibouti (2005), Eritrea (2014), Gambia (2013), Guinea Bissau (2011), Honduras (2007), Kenya (2008), Mali (2005), Namibia (2010), Nigeria (2012), Rwanda (2008), South Africa (2014), Tanzania (2009), Togo (2004), Uganda (2012) and Venezuela (2012).
- As of 1 June 2021, it is understood that 67 States Parties retain a total of 145,514 stockpiled anti-personnel mines under Article 3 based on information provided in Article 7 reports submitted in 2021 or previously. This represents a decrease of over 2,000 mines compared to 2020.

III. Information provided on retained anti-personnel mines

Since the 6MSP in 2005, the opportunity has been given to States Parties to report additional information on a voluntary basis as part of their Article 7 reports, on the actual use of anti-personnel mines retained for permitted purposes and the results of such use as well as their plans for future use.

¹ Information compiled by the Implementation Support Unit from States Parties’ Article 7 reports. As of 1 June 2021.

- In 2021, most States Parties have provided some level of voluntary information on the use (present and/or future) of retained anti-personnel mines.

In **Action #16 of the Oslo Action Plan**, States Parties that retain anti-personnel mines for reasons permitted under Article 3 of the Convention committed to “annually review the number of mines retained to ensure that they do not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for permitted purposes, and will destroy all anti-personnel mines that exceed that number. The States Parties will report annually by 30 April on the use of retained mines and on their destruction.”

In 2021, the following has transpired:

- Angola, Bangladesh, Czech Republic, Jordan, Nicaragua, Oman, Senegal and Zimbabwe have reported **no change in the number of anti-personnel mines retained** under Article 3.
- 19 States Parties reported a **decrease in the number of anti-personnel mines retained** under Article 3: Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Peru, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden and Turkey.
- One State Party – Bulgaria – reported **an increase in the number of anti-personnel mines retained** under Article 3.
- Two States Parties – Serbia and Ukraine – submitted an annual report but their reports did not contain information on anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3.

In addition, States Parties retaining anti-personnel mines under Article 3 have committed in **Action #17 of the Oslo Action Plan** to “explore available alternatives to using live anti-personnel mines for training and research purposes where possible.”

- In 2021, 4 States Parties – Iraq, Slovenia, Sudan and Zimbabwe – indicated that they were currently exploring available alternatives or will be exploring available alternatives in the future.

Table 1: Anti-personnel mines reported retained by 67 States Parties² for purposes permitted by Article 3 of the Convention

State Party	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Angola	972			1304	1304	1304	1304	1304
Bangladesh	12050		12050	12050	12050			12050
Belarus	6022	5998	5997	5989	4505	4505	4505	
Belgium	2564	2564	2288	2288	2118	2066	2044	2021
Benin ³								
Bhutan	490				211			
Bosnia and Herzegovina	865	983	1031	982	811	834	834	
Bulgaria	3557	3434	3543	3517	3324	3318		3485
Burundi		4		4				
Cambodia	2473	1720	2134	720	1429	1235	3730 ⁴	927
Cameroon ⁵								
Canada ⁶	1909	1909	1897	1888	1878	1878	1649	1540
Cape Verde ⁷								
Congo Brazzaville ⁸								
Cote d'Ivoire	290							
Croatia	5714	5685	5584	5530	5050	4973	4851	
Cyprus	500	500	500	440	435	435	435	
Czech Republic	2301	2264	2218	2217	2206	2180	2155	2155
Denmark	1820	1832	1783	1771	1758	1748	1736	1730
Djibouti ⁹								
Ecuador	100	100	90	90	90	90	90	
Eritrea ¹⁰	101							
Finland	16500	16500	16500	16292	16192		15982	15851
France	3958	3956	3955	3941	3941	3941	1842	1841
Gambia ¹¹								
Germany	1880	1143	590	587	592	583	583	543
Greece	6142	5797	5682	5650	5627	5599	5585	5570
Guinea Bissau ¹²								
Guyana								80
Honduras ¹³								
Indonesia	2454	2454				2148	2050	
Iraq	No info	No info	No info	No info	20	20	Unclear	Unclear
Ireland		59			55	55	54	53
Italy	628	624	620	620	620	617	617	563

² A number of States Parties report that they retain inert anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes. These States Parties are not included in the table as inert anti-personnel mines do not fit the Convention's definition of an anti-personnel mine.

³ In its report submitted in 2008, Benin indicated that it retains 16 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

⁴ This number includes anti-personnel mines as well as other devices.

⁵ In its report submitted in 2009, Cameroon indicated in Form B that 1,885 mines were held and in Form D that some thousands of mines were held for training purposes.

⁶ In 2018, Canada reported that 57 of the 1878 anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3 are without fuses.

⁷ In its report submitted in 2009, Cape Verde indicated that it retains 120 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

⁸ In its report submitted in 2009, Congo Brazzaville indicated that it retains 322 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

⁹ In its report submitted in 2005, Djibouti indicated that it retains 2996 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

¹⁰ In its reports submitted in 2013 and 2014, Eritrea indicated that 71 of the 101 mines were inert.

¹¹ In its report submitted in 2013, the Gambia indicated that it retains 100 anti-personnel mines under Article 3. While a report was submitted in 2020, it did not contain information on antipersonnel mines retained under Article 3.

¹² In its report submitted in 2011, Guinea Bissau indicated that it retains 9 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

¹³ In its report submitted in 2007, Honduras indicated that it retains 815 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

State Party	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Japan	1930	1663	1488	1262	1048	898	803	719
Jordan	850	850	850	100	100	100	100	100
Kenya ¹⁴								
Mali ¹⁵								
Mauritania	728	728	728	728	728	728	728	
Mozambique ¹⁶	1363	1355		1355	1355	900		
Namibia ¹⁷								
Netherlands	1557	1557		1126	974	889	868	270
Nicaragua			448	448	448	448		448
Nigeria ¹⁸								
Oman	N/A	2000	2000	2000	No info	No info	No info	2000
Peru	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	1705
Romania	2395	2395	2395	2395	2395	2395	2249	
Rwanda ¹⁹								
Senegal ²⁰	50		50	50	50	50	50	50
Serbia ²¹	3149	3149		No info	3134	3134		
Slovakia	1220	1185	1147	1129	1087	1035	1035	874
Slovenia	361	361	331	299	278	272	256	249
South Africa	576							
Spain	1691	1660	1613	1613	1547	1349	1357	1121
Sri Lanka	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	21153	21153	20831	
Sudan	1938	1938	1938	1124	1024	739	528	327
Sweden	6235	6183	6115	6044	6014	6009	6009	5964
Tanzania, United Republic of ²²								
Togo ²³								
Tunisia	4770	4670	4570	4509	4460	4405	4375	
Turkey	14944	14902	14800	14462	9303	9259	6552	6439
Uganda ²⁴								
Ukraine ²⁵	No info	No info	No info	No info	No info	No info	No info	No info
Venezuela ²⁶								
Yemen ²⁷	3760			3760		No info	No info	

¹⁴ In its report submitted in 2008, Kenya indicated that it retains 3000 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

¹⁵ In its report submitted in 2005, Mali indicated that it retains 600 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

¹⁶ In its report submitted in 2018, Mozambique indicated that 90 of the 1355 anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3 are inert without explosive and detonator.

¹⁷ In its report submitted in 2010, Namibia indicated that it retains 1634 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

¹⁸ In its report submitted in 2012, Nigeria indicated that it retains 3364 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

¹⁹ In its report submitted in 2008, Rwanda indicated that 65 anti-personnel mines had been uprooted from minefields and retained for training purposes under Article 3.

²⁰ In its report submitted in 2019, Senegal indicated that 13 of the 50 mines retained have been defused.

²¹ In its report submitted in 2018, Serbia indicated that all fuses for 494 PMA-1 type and 540 PMA-3 type had been removed and destroyed. While Serbia submitted reports in 2020 and 2021, no updated information on anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3 was provided.

²² In its report submitted in 2009, the United Republic of Tanzania indicated that it retains 1780 anti-personnel mines under Article 3, including 830 deactivated anti-personnel mines.

²³ In its report submitted in 2004, Togo indicated that that it retains 436 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

²⁴ In its report submitted in 2012, Uganda indicated that it retains 1764 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

²⁵ In its report submitted in 2013, Ukraine indicated that it retains 605 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

²⁶ In its report submitted in 2012, Venezuela indicated that it retains 4874 anti-personnel mines under Article 3.

²⁷ In its Article 7 reports submitted in 2020, Yemen indicated that before 2014 Yemen submitted information about quantity and types of anti-personnel mines for permitted purpose in accordance with Article 3 after that Yemen did not use any anti-personnel mines for training and research activities. Under the current operating procedures forced upon YEMAC by the current conflicts, at any given time there are a number of AP mines (and AP mines of an improvised nature) held at YEMC storage locations whilst awaiting destruction. This is caused by the lack of access to explosives or other means to destroy items in place and the need to conduct large scale demolitions once coordination with relative contacts and approval of

State Party	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Zambia		307				907		
Zimbabwe	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450

Table 2: States Parties which have reported that they no longer retain anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes

State Party	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Botswana					1102	1102	0
Brazil ²⁸	5251	3214	2437	1882	1204	364	0
Chile	2925	2824	2722	2424	2197	1192	0
Tajikistan		0		37	37	37	37
Thailand	3227	3208	3345	3339	3162	3133	0

Key:

Number of mines reported retained in a particular year	Numeric value
No report was submitted as required	
Report was submitted but no information was provided on Article 3	
No report was required	N/A

access to explosives besides burning items such as thermite is allowed. The numbers and types vary and are kept only for so long as it takes to organise their destruction. The conflict created a complex environment and currently Yemen is not performing any plan of development of mine detection, detection techniques for further training of the use of mines retained under Article 3. Yemen is committed to give updates about all status and information on it in its transparency report (Article 7). At this stage landmines especially Ap-mines and the Ap- improvised nature are also presented in Yemen in large numbers.

²⁸ In its reports submitted in 2006 and 2009, Brazil indicated that it intends to keep its Article 3 mines up to 2019.