

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

STATE PARTY:

Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan

DATE OF SUBMISSION

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POINT OF CONTACT

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Form A National implementation measures

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
a) The national implementation measures referred to in Article 9."

Remark: In accordance with Article 9, "Each State Party shall take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control".

State [Party]: Afghanistan reporting for time period from 01.03.03 to 01.09.03

Measures	Supplementary information (e.g., effective date of implementation & text of legislation attached).
On 28 July 2002, His Excellency President Hamid Karzai announced that Afghanistan would become a State Party to the <i>Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction</i>. The Afghan Government became the 126th State to ratify the Convention, depositing its instrument of ratification on 11 September 2002. On 1 March 2003 the treaty entered into force in Afghanistan.	For more information on the administrative and institutional set-up of Mine Action in Afghanistan see Annex A 1: Mine Action Programme in Afghanistan – Annual Report 2002.

In order to meet the legal obligations under the Ottawa Convention, the Afghan Government is actively supporting the UN Mine Action Programme in Afghanistan (UNMAPA). The Programme commenced its operations in 1989 under the auspices of the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan (UNOCHA) and in June 2002 responsibility of the Programme was transferred to the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) with technical and administrative support from the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

On behalf of the Government, the UN Mine Action Centre for Afghanistan (UN MACA) is the overarching body for the coordination of mine action in Afghanistan. MACA, including its 8 Area Mine Action Centres, engage in ongoing consultation with the 15 NGOs that make up the MAPA. Through various mechanisms, MACA coordinates planning, technical supervision, efficiency and cost-effectiveness of all aspects of mine action in Afghanistan, i.e. mine and UXO clearance; survey; monitoring, evaluation and training; and mine risk education. All of these tasks are carried out in close coordination with the Department of Disaster Preparedness/Department of Mine Clearance under the Afghan Presidential Office.

At the request of the Government, and in order to meet Afghanistan's obligations under the Convention, the MAPA has developed a strategy for mine action in Afghanistan. This strategy takes into account Convention time lines, in addition to the country's urgent humanitarian and developmental needs. According to the plan, a period of five years (2003-2007) will be required to clear all mine and UXO-contaminated areas that currently have high priority, in addition to marking medium and low impact areas. During the following five years (2007-2012), medium and low impact areas will be cleared.

In order to ensure the effective coordination of mine action in Afghanistan and to mobilize the required resources necessary to implement the strategic plan, a Mine Action Consultative Group (MACG) has been set up under the National Development Framework of the Government. Chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, MACG members include Government ministries concerned with mine action, the Department of Disaster Preparedness/Department of Mine Clearance, donors, UN agencies, and mine action implementing partners. An important task of the MACG is also to ensure the implementation of the Convention obligations in Afghanistan.

During the reporting period no domestic laws have been passed to nationally enforce the Convention. The main reason for the lack of progress in bringing domestic legislation into conformity with the obligations under Convention is due to the fact that Afghanistan is currently in the process of developing a new Constitution and legal system, upon which all mine action legislation must be based.

During the next reporting period the Ministry of Justice shall receive assistance from treaty implementation officers and legal experts from UNMAPA as well as UNMAS and ICRC to develop appropriate domestic legislation and penal sanctions in accordance with the Convention.

Under the coordination of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, contributions to the Article 7 Report has come from the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Justice, Department of Disaster Preparedness/Department of Mine Clearance and UN MACA.

Form B Stockpiled anti-personnel mines

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

b) The total of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed by it, or under its jurisdiction or control, to include a breakdown of the type, quantity and, if possible, lot numbers of each type of anti-personnel mine stockpiled."

State [Party]: Afghanistan reporting for time period from 01.03.03 to 01.09.03

Due to 23 years of war and civil conflict in Afghanistan, the administrative command structure and the national authority of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) was severely undermined. As a result, the MoD lost the overall control of the country's regional ammunition depots where anti-personnel mines are stockpiled. In addition, the current political situation between the Central Government and regional authorities makes it difficult to conduct any survey of APM stockpiles around the country. Finally, as the MoD suffers from a severe lack of resources, it is difficult to conduct surveys of stockpiled APMs even within those areas, which the MoD is in control of. For these reasons, the MoD is not able to report the total number stockpiled anti-personnel mines in Afghanistan as of the reporting date.

To overcome the current situation, the MoD is currently conducting a structural reform, which shall enforce its control over regional ammunition depots. With the assistance of UNMAPA and the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), MoD is now in the process of developing a national plan for the survey, assessment, and destruction of all existing stockpiles in Afghanistan. Following the implementation of this plan, the MoD will ensure that the total number of stockpiled anti-personnel mines in Afghanistan will be reported as soon as possible.

Form C Location of mined areas

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

 c) To the extent possible, the location of all mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines under its jurisdiction or control, to include as much detail as possible regarding the type and quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine in each mined area and when they were emplaced."

State [Party]: **Afghanistan** reporting for time period from **01.03.03** to **01.09.03**

1. Areas that contain mines*

Location Technical surveyed Areas by region	Type	Quantity	Date of emplacement	Supplementary information
<p>Central 515 areas 12,1km²</p> <p>East 277 areas 14 km²</p> <p>North 252 areas 10 km²</p> <p>South 262 areas 23,5 km²</p> <p>West 219 areas 12,5 km²</p> <p>Total 1525 areas 72,1 km²</p>	<p>Belgium AP Blast – NR 409 Chinese AP Blast – Type 72 Italian AP Blast – SB 33 Italian AP Blast – TS-50 Italian AP Blast – VS 50 Pakistan AP Blast – P2 Mk 2 Soviet AP Blast – PFM 1 Soviet AP Blast – PMD 6 Soviet AP Blast – PMN Soviet AP Blast – PMN 2 Soviet AP Anti-Lift Boobytrap or Delayd charge – MS 3 Yugoslavia AP Blast PMA-1 Chinese AP bounding Frag – Type 69 Czechoslovak AP Bounding Frag – PP Mi Sr Italian AP Bounding Frag – Valmara 69 Soviet AP Bounding Frag – OZM-3 Soviet AP Bounding Frag – OZM-4 Soviet AP Bounding Frag – OZM-72 Soviet AP Directional Frag – MON 50 Soviet AP Directional Frag – MON 90 Soviet AP Directional Frag – MON 100 & MON 200 Soviet AP Frag – POMZ 2 Soviet AP Frag – POM 2s USA AP Bounding Frag – M2</p>	<p>The number of mines is not known since there are no mine field records available.</p>	<p>Between 1978 and 2001</p>	<p>For an overview of the mine field situation see attached maps.</p> <p>Annex C 1: Afghanistan Annex C 2: Central Annex C 3: East Annex C 4: North Annex C 5: South Annex C 6: West</p> <p>For detailed information contact UNMACA Information section. Email: matz@unmaca.org</p>

2. Areas suspected to contain mines*

Location General surveyed area by region	Type	Quantity	Date of emplacement	Supplementary information
Central 107km² East 90 km² North 42 km² South 190 km² West 299 km² Total 728 km²	See table 1 (Areas that contain mines)	Unknown	See table 1	For an overview of the General Survey situation see attached map. Annex C 7

Form D APMs retained or transferred

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

d) The types, quantities and, if possible, lot numbers of all anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques, or transferred for the purpose of destruction, as well as the institutions authorized by a State Party to retain or transfer anti-personnel mines, in accordance with Article 3"

State [Party]: Afghanistan reporting for time period from 01.03.03 to 01.09.03

1. Retained for development of and training in (Article 3, para.1)

Since the number of stockpiled APMs are unknown, the Government has not yet decided on the number of APMs that will be retained for development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques. During the next reporting period, the Government will adopt a policy on retaining anti-personnel mines for the above purposes in cooperation with the UNMAPA in conjunction with the progress of the nationwide survey of APM stockpiles.

2. Transferred for development of and training in (Article 3, para.1)

No anti-personnel mines have been transferred for development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques. As with retained anti-personnel mines, the Government has not developed a policy on the transfer of APMs for development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques.

3. Transferred for the purpose of destruction (Article 3, para.2)

None.

Form E Status of programs for conversion or de-commissioning of APM production facilities

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

 e) The status of programs for the conversion or de-commissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities."

State [Party]: **Afghanistan** reporting for time period from **01.03.03** to **01.09.03**

As there are no APM production facilities in Afghanistan, this section is not applicable to Afghanistan.

Form F Status of programs for destruction of APMs

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

f) The status of programs for the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, including details of the methods which will be used in destruction, the location of all destruction sites and the applicable safety and environmental standards to be observed."

State [Party]: **Afghanistan** reporting for time period from **01.03.03** to **01.09.03**

1. Status of programs for destruction of stockpiled APMs (Article 4)

Description of the status of programs including:	
Location of destruction sites	Details of:
Kandahar	Date: 27 May – 5 June 03 Method: Detonation Destruction programme is continuing.
Kabul (CDS)	Date: 12 May 03 Method: Detonation Destruction programme is continuing.
Herat (CDS, Kamar Kalagh Village, Enjeel District)	Date: 12 May 03 Method: Detonation Destruction programme is continuing.
Jalalabad (CDS, Farm e Hada)	Date: 14 Aug 03 Method: Detonation Destruction programme is continuing.

2. Status of programs for destruction of APMs in mined areas (Article 5)

Discription of the status of programs including:	
Location of destruction sites	Details of:
<p>Nationwide (each mine clearance site)</p>	<p>As a part of UNMAPA mine survey and clearance operations, destruction of APMs is conducted on daily basis in the country. APMs are destroyed on site at the end of daily operations in order to make removal or transfer of APMs impossible, as well as for safety reasons.</p> <p>Safety standards are observed by strict implementation of SOPs.</p>

Form G APMs destroyed after entry into force

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:
 g) The types and quantities of all anti-personnel mines destroyed after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party, to include a breakdown of the quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine destroyed, in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, respectively, along with, if possible, the lot numbers of each type anti-personnel mine in the case of destruction in accordance with Article 4"

State [Party]: Afghanistan reporting for time period from 01.03.03 to 01.09.03

1. Destruction of stockpiled APMs (Article 4)

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
P4 Mk2	1028	N/A	All destroyed in Kandahar on 27 May-05 June by UNMAPA implementing partners (DAFA and Handicap International Belgium).
PMN	24	N/A	13 destroyed in Kandahar on 27 May-05 June by UNMAPA implementing partners (DAFA and Handicap International Belgium). 10 destroyed in Herat on 12 May 03 by UNMAPA implementing partner (OMAR). 1 destroyed in Jalalabad on 14 Aug 03 by UNMAPA implementing partner (ATC).
MON50	785	N/A	158 destroyed in Kandahar on 27 May-05 June by UNMAPA implementing partners (DAFA and Handicap International Belgium). 534 destroyed in Kabul on 12 May 2003 by UNMACA and UNMAPA implementing partner (ATC) 93 destroyed in Jalalabad on 14 Aug 03 by UNMAPA implementing partner (ATC).

PMD6	16	N/A	All destroyed in Kandahar on 27 May-05 June by UNMAPA implementing partners (DAFA and Handicap International Belgium).
POMZ2	7	N/A	All destroyed in Kandahar on 27 May-05 June by UNMAPA implementing partners (DAFA and Handicap International Belgium).
MON200	11	N/A	All destroyed in Kandahar on 27 May-05 June by UNMAPA implementing partners (DAFA and Handicap International Belgium).
PP-MI-SR	12	N/A	All destroyed in Kandahar on 27 May-05 June by UNMAPA implementing partners (DAFA and Handicap International Belgium).
M2	1	N/A	All destroyed in Kandahar on 27 May-05 June by UNMAPA implementing partners (DAFA and Handicap International Belgium).
MON100	2	N/A	All destroyed in Kandahar on 27 May-05 June by UNMAPA implementing partners (DAFA and Handicap International Belgium).
OZM72	8	N/A	<p>2 destroyed in Kandahar on 27 May-05 June by UNMAPA implementing partners (DAFA and Handicap International Belgium).</p> <p>4 destroyed in Herat on 12 May 03 by UNMAPA implementing partner (OMAR).</p> <p>2 destroyed in Kabul on 12 May 2003 by UNMACA and UNMAPA implementing partner (ATC)</p>

PMN2	10	N/A	All destroyed in Herat on 12 May 03 by UNMAPA implementing partner (OMAR).
P2	8	N/A	All destroyed in Jalalabad on 14 Aug 03 by UNMAPA implementing partner (ATC).
Type 69	1	N/A	Destroyed in Jalalabad on 14 Aug 03 by UNMAPA implementing partner (ATC).
TOTAL	1913		

2. Destruction of APMs in mined areas (Article 5)

Type	Quantity	Supplementary information
Unable to specify	5045	APMs were destroyed in each mine clearance site as a part of ongoing demining operations by UNMAPA from 1 March to 30 June 2003.
TOTAL	5045	

Form I Measures to provide warning to the population

Article 7.1 "Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General ... on:

- i) The measures taken to provide an immediate and effective warning to the population in relation to all areas identified under paragraph 2 of Article 5."

Remark: In accordance with Article 5, para.2: "Each State Party shall make every effort to identify all areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced and shall ensure as soon as possible that all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control are perimeter-marked, monitored and protected by fencing or other means, to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians, until all anti-personnel mines contained therein have been destroyed. The marking shall at least be to the standards set out in the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996, annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

State [Party]: Afghanistan reporting for time period from 01.03.03 to 01.09.03

[Narrative:]

A. Marking

A temporary marking system is used during mine survey / clearance operations both for operational purposes and for the safety of local communities. During mine survey / clearance operations, Mine Risk Education is provided to the local population in order to explain and demonstrate the temporary marking system and to ensure that they avoid entering un-cleared areas. Procedures for the temporary marking system are as follows:

Marking Mined Areas

- 1. A prominent line of stakes, fencing, flags or rocks must be placed to mark the boundary of a mined area. The spacing of the markers will be dictated by the ground, vegetation etc. and common sense. The method of marking used should be widely publicized.**

Marking Cleared Paths and Lanes

2. Where possible a narrow cleared path or lane should be marked with a physical barrier such as a fence or line of string, wire or tape hung from stakes. Where this is not possible then staggered markers of stakes, rocks or flags placed prominently at intervals of not greater than 1 m should be used. The nature of the ground will dictate a sensible spacing. The method of marking cleared areas should also be given wide publicity, and should, if possible, be different from the method of marking mined areas.

In Afghanistan a permanent marking system is also used to prevent people from entering un-cleared areas. For detailed information on procedures and material used in permanent marking see Attachment I 1: “TTN Permanent Marking”.

B. Mine Risk Education

As most parts of Afghanistan are affected by landmines, nationwide efforts are being made to protect civilians from the effects of mines through a number of mine risk education (MRE) activities. During the reporting period mine risk education was provided to civilians using different approaches, which included working with the Ministry of Education for training of school teachers; implementation of community based mine risk education activities; carrying out mass media and public information campaigns and emergency response activities to reach returning refugees and IDPs around the country.

Some 25,000 school teachers received mine risk education training and materials to use with students. A new training package for community-based activities was developed to be used by implementing partners. Awareness programs through Radio and TV were developed and aired to raise awareness about mines and their dangers. Posters, leaflets and other public information materials were developed and distributed among various target groups. Brief awareness sessions were conducted to returnees and IDPs at different locations, centres and camps.