

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

Reporting Formats for Article 7

STATE PARTY:

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

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(ONLY FOR THE PURPOSES OF CLARIFICATION)

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]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2017

Measures	Supplementary information (e.g., effective date of implementation & text of legislation attached).
Articles 376 and 377 of the new Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia make the use, production, stockpiling, trade and transfer of APM a criminal offence. These two provisions also specify penal sanctions.	

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]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2017

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
PMA-1	494		494 Ministry of Defence (MOD)
PMA-2	596		596 Ministry of Defence (MOD)
PMA-3	540		540 Ministry of Defence (MOD)
PMR-2A	504		504 Ministry of Defence (MOD)
PMR-3	500		500 Ministry of Defence (MOD)
PROM-1	500		500 Ministry of Defence (MOD)
TOTAL	3,134		

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]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2017

As of 1 April 2018, there are 12 areas in the Republic of Serbia suspected to contain anti-personnel mines totalling 2,354,540 square metres. See Annex II for complete list of these areas. Areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines remain in 6 villages in the Municipality of Bujanovac as follows:

Summary of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines as of 1 April 2018

Municipality	Village	Number of areas known to contain anti-personnel mines	Number of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines	Total number of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines	Amount of area known to contain anti-personnel mines(square metres)	Amount of area suspected to contain anti-personnel mines(square metres)	Total amount of area known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines(square metres)
Bujanovac	Ravno Bučje*	/	3	3	/	572,020	572,020
	Končulj	/	5	5	/	1,181,820	1,181,820
	Dobrosin	/	1	1	/	248,000	248,000
	Đorđevac	/	1	1	/	145,100	145,100
	Lučane	/	1	1	/	73,200	73,200
	Turija	/	1	1	/	131,400	131,400
Total	6	/	12	12	/	2,354,540	2,354,540

***At the time of writing this report, one technical survey project totaling 113,600 square meters (Ravno Bučje Village, Bujanovac Municipality) is in progress.**

Republic of Serbia's current deadline for completing their Article 5 obligations is 1 March 2019. However, due to the fact that Serbia has been facing a number of difficulties, such as the lack of adequate financial resources, and presence of areas contaminated with cluster munitions, air bombs-rockets and other UXO in addition to mine contaminated areas, Serbia is in no position to meet their deadline and will need a 4 year extension period to complete their obligations.

Accordingly, in March 2018, Serbia submitted a request for their deadline to be extended to 1 March 2023.

The remaining areas contaminated by mines do not have registries and had not been planted in specific patterns. These are groups of mines, not minefields. On most of these areas deaths of humans or animals occurred or a mine was accidentally detected.

All these circumstances aggravate survey and clearance efforts, namely survey results are subject to alterations. Survey results in previous period showed that there are not sufficient indicators for the mine suspected areas to be classified as confirmed hazardous areas, so that the area in previous period regarded as such has been classified as suspected hazardous area.

At the request of the Emergency Management Headquarters of the Bujanovac Municipality and subsequent findings of the existence of new areas contaminated with groups of mines and increased risk for local population, the Serbian Mine Action Centre (SMAC) conducted non-technical survey throughout 2016 and early 2017, which resulted in an increase of suspected hazardous area for about 700.000 sqm in comparison to SHA totalling 1.936.080 sqm in early 2016.

In 2017, the funds for demining operations were allocated from the Serbian State Budget, which SMAC matched with US funds and used for the implementation of our technical survey projects (5 separate projects, total area 995.200 sqm).

In 2017, a project (one out of the above five projects) totalling 275, 800 sqm (Breznica Village, Bujanovac Municipality) completed, with 3 AP mines and 1 UXO found and safely destroyed. Second project totalling 113,600 sqm (Ravno Bučje Village, Bujanovac Municipality) is in progress.

Remaining 3 out of these 5 projects will be hopefully implemented in the forthcoming period upon securing funds from donors or other sources of funding.

The Serbian Government allocated double amount of funds from the Serbian State Budget for the 2018 demining operations and hopefully, in addition to available donor funds in 2018, we will continue our demining operations in order to primarily provide safety of local population, safe exploitation of woods, safe use of road communications, environmental protection, as well as reduction of fire risks.

Summary of projections for the amount of area (square metres) suspected to contain anti-personnel mines to be released 2018-2023

2018	Areas	2
	Area	649,000
2019	Areas	3
	Area	462,400
2020	Areas	2
	Area	467,880
2021	Areas	2
	Area	269,240
2022	Areas	1
	Area	291,400
2023	Areas	2
	Area	214,620
Total	Areas	12
	Area	2,354,540

As has been stated in our Extension Request Plan, the dynamics of implementation of our demining projects might be affected by provision of funds, that is if the funds for implementation of our projects are not provided, our plan will be directly affected and more difficult to achieve. On the other hand, if funds are provided, the work plan could be implemented in due time.

The funds from the Serbian State Budget have been provided to support the on-going work of the SMAC – salaries of the staff, running costs (electricity, water, heating), office and consumption material costs, fuel costs, maintenance of vehicles, costs of the SMAC staff insurance – as well as survey activities, development of adequate project tasks for demining/clearance of locations confirmed to be contaminated by mines, cluster munitions and other UXO, follow-up of the implementation of project tasks and conduct of demining quality assurance and quality control.

On an annual basis, from the Serbian State Budget is allocated around 150.000 EUR for the work of the SMAC.

The Republic of Serbia carries out a number of efforts to ensure that the civilians from affected communities are not injured by mines, cluster munitions and other UXO including through the following methods:

-Marking;

The whole area suspected to be contaminated with various types of mines has been visibly marked with “STOP UXO” signs in Serbian and Albanian languages, given that it is an area with multiethnic population. Areas contaminated with cluster munitions, air bombs – rockets and other UXO, have been also marked correspondingly. Marking is conducted by the Serbian Mine Action Centre (SMAC) and within its regular activities the SMAC periodically visits contaminated locations making sure that these signs remain emplaced.

-Risk education;

Locals of the affected communities are being informed about demining activities through a number of means and media. Mine risk education has been conducted in schools and affected communities. In accordance with the IMAS, during demining operations, evacuation of people from houses, shops and other communal locations located within the zone of demining works is conducted. Suspension of traffic on the roads within the zone of demining operations is conducted, too. In relation to that, the SMAC coordinates activities with local authorities, school authorities and other relevant state bodies (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Transport), local media means in communities where demining operations are conducted.

The following methods have been employed in Serbia to release areas suspected to contain mines:

- Non-technical survey
- Technical survey
- Clearance
- Mechanical demining
- Canine demining

In Serbia, an initial survey which includes collection of data and analysis of available documentation on mine emplacement is employed, as well as a non - technical survey (NTS), which follows after an analysis of previously collected data, conditions in the field, statements by local population, hunters, foresters, people dealing with exploitation of wood, representatives of Civil Protection and Police, amongst others. One significant indicator has been data on accidents that have occurred.

Non – technical survey determines borders of the suspected area, coordinates of the location, type of mines and other UXO, allocation of land, impact on environment.

Technical survey is employed to additionally collect information by technical methods on a suspected area and in case when the data collected by a non – technical survey are not sufficient for suspected areas to be declared hazardous or safe. Technical survey is done by the combination of several methods - manual detection by metal detectors and visually. Manual detection is conducted in prospections. The scheme and dimensions of a prospection depend on land configuration, and all in accordance with the IMAS.

Clearance is conducted in accordance with the IMAS. It is done by a manual method at the depth of 20 cm. Apart from a manual method, demining machines can be used, as well as dogs.

The size of the area to be cleared is determined on the basis of processed data which have been collected by a non-technical survey.

In 2017, there were no demining accidents in the Republic of Serbia.

There are a number of circumstances that present challenges for Serbia in complying with its Article 5 deadline.

Particular issues faced by Serbia are as follows:

- Unregistered mine contaminated areas (groups of mines): The remaining areas contaminated by mines do not have registries and have not been planted in specific patterns, which aggravates demining efforts, namely survey results are subject to alterations.
- Climactic conditions: Contaminated areas are inaccessible during some periods of the year causing operation delays.
- Contamination other than mines: Specificity and complexity of the problem presents the fact that apart from mines still remaining in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, Serbia also encounters with numerous challenges related to clearance of the areas contaminated with unexploded cluster munitions, air bombs – rockets and other UXO. All these unexploded ordnance are either remaining as a result of the 1999 bombing, or are caused by an explosion and fire in a military depot, or are remaining from previous wars.

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]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2017

1a. *Compulsory*: Retained for development of and training in (Article 3, para.1)

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information: e.g. transferred from, transferred to
Ministry of Defense	PMA-1	494*		without fuses (UPMAH-1)
	PMA-2	596		
	PMA-3	540*		without fuses (UPMAH-3)
	PMR-2A	504		
	PMR-3	500		
	PROM-1	500		
TOTAL (MOD)	-----	3,134		

REMARKS :

** All fuses for APM types PMA-1 and PMA-3 were removed and destroyed.*

Form D (continued)

1b. Voluntary information (Action #54 Nairobi Action Plan)

Objectives	Activity / Project	Supplementary information <i>(Description of programs or activities, their objectives and progress, types of mines, time period if and when appropriate,...)</i>
		“Information on the plans requiring the retention of mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques and report on the actual use of retained mines and the results of such use”

NOTE: Each State Party should provide information on plans and future activities if and when appropriate and reserves the right to modify it at any time

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

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information: e.g. transferred from, transferred to
TOTAL				

REMARKS :

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

Institution authorized by State Party	Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information: e.g. transferred from, transferred to
TOTAL	-----			

REMARKS:

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]: **REPUBLIC OF SERBIA** reporting for time period from **1st January 2017** to **31st December 2017**

Indicate if to "convert" or "decommission"	Status (indicate if "in process" or "completed")	Supplementary information

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]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2017

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

Description of the status of programs including:	Details of:
Location of destruction sites Technical Repair Facility Kragujevac (TRZ) - town of Kragujevac	
Mechanical destruction of fixed components, metal and plastic parts and demilitarization (mine decomposition) with possible open-air detonations.	Methods
Internal safety measures prescribed for handling explosive materials provided for by the regulations of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia.	Applicable safety standards
Special attention to be paid to environmental concerns wherefore most of the mines will be destroyed by the way of demilitarization (mine decomposition) rather than by the way of detonation. Within preparation activities, local access roads are repaired and the existing infrastructure is adjusted to the requirements of the APMs destruction.	Applicable environmental standards

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

Description of the status of programs including:	Details of:
Location of destruction sites	
	Methods
	Applicable safety standards
	Applicable environmental standards

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]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2017

1. Destruction of stockpiled APMs (Article 4)

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
PMA-1, 1A	294,829		
PMA-2	169,854		
PMA-3	308,469		
PMR-2, 2A	580,411		
PMR-3	5,287		
PROM-1	44,583		
VS-50	3,356		
TOTAL	1,406,789		

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

Type	Quantity	Supplementary information
TOTAL		

Form G (continued)

3. Previously unknown stockpiles of anti-personnel mines discovered and destroyed after the deadlines have passed. (Action #15 of Nairobi Action Plan)

Type	Quantity	Lot # (if possible)	Supplementary information
TOTAL			

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]: **REPUBLIC OF SERBIA** reporting for time period from **1st January 2017** to **31st December 2017**

[Narrative:]

Form J Other relevant matters

Remark: States Parties may use this form to report voluntarily on other relevant matters, including matters pertaining to compliance and implementation not covered by the formal reporting requirements contained in Article 7. States Parties are encouraged to use this form to report on activities undertaken with respect to Article 6, and in particular to report on assistance provided for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims.

State [Party]: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA reporting for time period from 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2017

[Narrative / reference to other reports:]

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**UPDATED INFORMATION PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 7, PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION****SUBMITTED APRIL 30TH 2018 COVERING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2017 TO 31 DECEMBER 2017****1. National implementation measures**

1. No additional legal, administrative and other measures were taken during the previous calendar year to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited under the Convention.

2. Stockpiled anti-personnel mines

1. As of 31 December 2016, the Republic of Serbia possessed 3,139 stockpiled anti-personnel mines:

Type	Quantity Possessed	Lot Numbers
PMA-1	496	Unknown
PMA-2	597	Unknown
PMA-3	542	Unknown

PMR-2A	504	Unknown
PMR-3	500	Unknown
PROM-1	500	Unknown
TOTAL	3,139	

2. During 2017, Serbian Armed Forces destroyed 5 pcs of anti-personnel mines by disassembling. The disassembling process was done in order to use anti-personnel mines bodies for service dog training in explosive detection. The associated fuses were removed from PMA-2 and destroyed. All fuses for the other anti-personnel mines PMA-1 and PMA-3 were removed and destroyed in previous years.

Type	Quantity Destroyed	Lot Numbers
PMA-1	2	Unknown
PMA-2	1	Unknown
PMA-3	2	Unknown
TOTAL	5	

3. Anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for permitted purposes

1. As of 31 December 2017, the Republic of Serbia retained 3,134 anti-personnel mines for purposes permitted under Article 3 of the Convention:

Type	Quantity Retained	Lot Numbers
PMA-1	494	Unknown
PMA-2	596	Unknown
PMA-3	540	Unknown
PMR-2A	504	Unknown
PMR-3	500	Unknown
PROM-1	500	Unknown
TOTAL	3,134	

2. The Republic of Serbia has authorised Ministry of Defence (MOD) to retain anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes.
3. The Republic of Serbia retains anti-personnel mines for training of the demining personnel, training of mine detection dogs, testing demining machines and studying the effect of the blast of various types of anti-personnel mines on demining equipment and testing of the protection equipment.

4. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines

As of 1 April 2018, there are 12 areas in the Republic of Serbia suspected to contain anti-personnel mines totalling 2,354,540 square metres. See Annex II for complete list of these areas. Areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines remain in 6 villages in the Municipality of Bujanovac as follows:

Summary of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines as of 1 April 2018

Municipality	Village	Number of areas known to contain anti-personnel mines	Number of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines	Total number of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines	Amount of area known to contain anti-personnel mines(square metres)	Amount of area suspected to contain anti-personnel mines(square metres)	Total amount of area known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines(square metres)
Bujanovac	Ravno Bučje*	/	3	3	/	572,020	572,020
	Končulj	/	5	5	/	1,181,820	1,181,820
	Dobrosin	/	1	1	/	248,000	248,000
	Đorđevac	/	1	1	/	145,100	145,100
	Lučane	/	1	1	/	73,200	73,200
	Turija	/	1	1	/	131,400	131,400
Total	6	/	12	12	/	2,354,540	2,354,540

***At the time of writing this report, one technical survey project totaling 113,600 square meters (Ravno Bučje Village, Bujanovac Municipality) is in progress.**

Republic of Serbia's current deadline for completing their Article 5 obligations is 1 March 2019. However, due to the fact that Serbia has been facing a number of difficulties, such as the lack of adequate financial resources, and presence of areas contaminated with cluster munitions, air bombs-rockets and other UXO in addition to mine contaminated areas, Serbia is in no position to meet their deadline and will need a 4 year extension period to complete their obligations.

Accordingly, in March 2018, Serbia submitted a request for their deadline to be extended to 1 March 2023.

The remaining areas contaminated by mines do not have registries and had not been planted in specific patterns. These are groups of mines, not minefields. On most of these areas deaths of humans or animals occurred or a mine was accidentally detected. All these circumstances aggravate survey and clearance efforts, namely survey results are subject to alterations. Survey results in previous period showed that there are not sufficient indicators for the mine suspected areas to be classified as confirmed hazardous areas, so that the area in previous period regarded as such has been classified as suspected hazardous area.

At the request of the Emergency Management Headquarters of the Bujanovac Municipality and subsequent findings of the existence of new areas contaminated with groups of mines and increased risk for local population, the Serbian Mine Action Centre (SMAC) conducted non-technical survey throughout 2016 and early 2017, which resulted in an increase of suspected hazardous area for about 700.000 sqm in comparison to SHA totalling 1.936.080 sqm in early 2016.

In 2017, the funds for demining operations were allocated from the Serbian State Budget, which SMAC matched with US funds and used for the implementation of our technical survey projects (5 separate projects, total area 995.200 sqm).

In 2017, a project (one out of the above five projects) totalling 275, 800 sqm (Breznica Village, Bujanovac Municipality) completed, with 3 AP mines and 1 UXO found and safely destroyed. Second project totalling 113,600 sqm (Ravno Bučje Village, Bujanovac Municipality) is in progress.

Remaining 3 out of these 5 projects will be hopefully implemented in the forthcoming period upon securing funds from donors or other sources of funding.

The Serbian Government allocated double amount of funds from the Serbian State Budget for the 2018 demining operations and hopefully, in addition to available donor funds in 2018, we will continue our demining operations in order to primarily provide safety of local population, safe exploitation of woods, safe use of road communications, environmental protection, as well as reduction of fire risks.

Summary of projections for the amount of area (square metres) suspected to contain anti-personnel mines to be released 2018-2023

A s h a s b e e	2018	Areas	2
		Area	649,000
	2019	Areas	3
		Area	462,400
	2020	Areas	2
		Area	467,880
	2021	Areas	2
		Area	269,240
	2022	Areas	1
		Area	291,400
	2023	Areas	2
		Area	214,620
Total	Areas	12	
	Area	2,354,540	

n stated in our Extension Request Plan, the dynamics of implementation of our demining projects might be affected by provision of funds, that is if the funds for implementation of our projects are not provided, our plan will be directly affected and more difficult to achieve. On the other hand, if funds are provided, the work plan could be implemented in due time.

The funds from the Serbian State Budget have been provided to support the on-going work of the SMAC – salaries of the staff, running costs (electricity, water, heating), office and consumption material costs, fuel costs, maintenance of vehicles, costs of the SMAC staff insurance – as well as survey activities, development of adequate project tasks for demining/clearance of locations confirmed to be contaminated by mines, cluster munitions and other UXO, follow-up of the implementation of project tasks and conduct of demining quality assurance and quality control.

On an annual basis, from the Serbian State Budget is allocated around 150.000 EUR for the work of the SMAC.

The Republic of Serbia carries out a number of efforts to ensure that the civilians from affected communities are not injured by mines, cluster munitions and other UXO including through the following methods:

-Marking;

The whole area suspected to be contaminated with various types of mines has been visibly marked with “STOP UXO” signs in Serbian and Albanian languages, given that it is an area with multiethnic population. Areas contaminated with cluster munitions, air bombs – rockets and other UXO, have been also marked correspondingly. Marking is conducted by the Serbian Mine Action Centre (SMAC) and within its regular activities the SMAC periodically visits contaminated locations making sure that these signs remain emplaced.

-Risk education;

Locals of the affected communities are being informed about demining activities through a number of means and media. Mine risk education has been conducted in schools and affected communities. In accordance with the IMAS, during demining operations, evacuation of people from houses, shops and other communal locations located within the zone of demining works is conducted. Suspension of traffic on the roads within the zone of demining operations is conducted, too. In relation to that, the SMAC coordinates activities with local authorities, school authorities and other relevant state bodies (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Transport), local media means in communities where demining operations are conducted.

The following methods have been employed in Serbia to release areas suspected to contain mines:

- Non-technical survey
- Technical survey
- Clearance
- Mechanical demining
- Canine demining

In Serbia, an initial survey which includes collection of data and analysis of available documentation on mine emplacement is employed, as well as a non - technical survey (NTS), which follows after an analysis of previously collected data, conditions in the field, statements by local population, hunters, foresters, people dealing with exploitation of wood, representatives of Civil Protection and Police, amongst others. One significant indicator has been data on accidents that have occurred.

Non – technical survey determines borders of the suspected area, coordinates of the location, type of mines and other UXO, allocation of land, impact on environment.

Technical survey is employed to additionally collect information by technical methods on a suspected area and in case when the data collected by a non – technical survey are not sufficient for suspected areas to be declared hazardous or safe. Technical survey is done by the combination of several methods - manual detection by metal detectors and visually. Manual detection is conducted in prospections. The scheme and dimensions of a prospection depend on land configuration, and all in accordance with the IMAS.

Clearance is conducted in accordance with the IMAS. It is done by a manual method at the depth of 20 cm. Apart from a manual method, demining machines can be used, as well as dogs.

The size of the area to be cleared is determined on the basis of processed data which have been collected by a non-technical survey.

In 2017, there were no demining accidents in the Republic of Serbia.

There are a number of circumstances that present challenges for Serbia in complying with its Article 5 deadline. Particular issues faced by Serbia are as follows:

- Unregistered mine contaminated areas (groups of mines): The remaining areas contaminated by mines do not have registries and have not been planted in specific patterns, which aggravates demining efforts, namely survey results are subject to alterations.
- Climactic conditions: Contaminated areas are inaccessible during some periods of the year causing operation delays.
- Contamination other than mines: Specificity and complexity of the problem presents the fact that apart from mines still remaining in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, Serbia also encounters with numerous challenges related to clearance of the areas contaminated with unexploded cluster munitions, air bombs – rockets and other UXO. All these unexploded ordnance are either remaining as a result of the 1999 bombing, or are caused by an explosion and fire in a military depot, or are remaining from previous wars.

5. Technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines

1. Please note that the areas in the Municipality of Bujanovac are contaminated with groups of mines of an unknown origin and types having been emplaced in accordance with no particular pattern and without any minefield records of it.

6. Conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities

1. The Republic of Serbia has no additional information on the conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities. See the report submitted in 2017 for information that has already been provided by the Republic of Serbia on the conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities.

7. Victim assistance

On February 15th 2015 The Government adopted the Decision on establishment of the Work group on application of the Ottawa Convention.

In line with the actions of the Maputo Action Plan-namely , actions to assess the needs of mine victims, the availability and gaps in services, requirements for disability, health education, employment, development and poverty reduction activities and with objectives to be realized through the implementation of national policies, plans and legal frameworks-tasks of the Working Group shall be as follows:

- Proposing measures to enhance the position of the victims of anti-personal mines;
- Proposing measures to enhance the legislative framework for the protection of the anti-personal mine victims;
- Monitoring alignment with the applicable legislation regulating the protection of the APM victims with international legislation and national law;
- Proposing special programmes and measures to promote and make the APM victims capable for public life;
- Cooperation with the association of the APM victims and civil society organizations involved in enhancement of the position of the APM victims;
- Cooperation with relevant institutions from abroad, international organizations and national working groups of the equivalent or similar profile with view to experience and good practice sharing;
- Monitoring progress regarding the provision of assistance to the APM victims within wider national plans and legal framework;
- Mapping all the existing services;

The Working Group are comprise representatives of this Ministry (Department for protection of veterans and the disabled; for protection of persons with disabilities; Employment Sector; Gender Equality Department), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Arms Control and Military Cooperation Section; International Humanitarian Law Commission), the Ministry of Health (Public Health Institute), Ministry of Defence (Military Medical Academy), Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development (Inclusive Education) and Mine Action Centre of the Republic of Serbia. The Working Group have the necessary authorization and funds that would enable it to undertake all necessary actions for the benefit of the victims. Members of nongovernmental organizations are also expected to participate in the activities of the Working Group.

In the initial meetings of the Working group, the members of the group agreed that there should be stronger coordination between victims and Government in the future. It is further necessary to ensure more intensive media engagement, holding of a larger number of education sessions, conferences and as soon as possible create a central database to include also the causes of injuries.

The purpose of setting up the Working Group for Victims Assistance was to enable monitoring of the progress made in providing assistance to victims within broader national plans and legal framework. It is also noted that the Republic of Serbia would consider very helpful and meaningful exchange of experiences and good practices with other states.

In June 2017 the Department for Antidiscrimination Policy and Promotion of Gender Equality was established within the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs as a national executive mechanism for strengthening, encouraging, planning, guidance and active administration in the area of antidiscrimination and promotion of gender equality in accordance with the policy of the Government of the Republic of Serbia. Another task of the Department is to raise awareness about antidiscrimination and gender equality among the citizens of Serbia.

The operation of the Department is related to:

1. Monitoring of antidiscrimination policy measures.
2. Monitoring of social inclusion and gender equality measures.
3. Cooperation with competent ministries and other state bodies.
4. Cooperation with representatives of civil society organisations in all areas.

Two internal units with narrower jurisdiction were formed in the Department for Antidiscrimination Policy and Gender Equality:

1. Group for coordination and promotion of antidiscrimination policy and social inclusion

Among the tasks under its jurisdiction, the Group is involved in the preparation of draft laws, proposals and other legislation; it analyses implementation effects of the laws and other regulations which are related to the promotion of position and protection of rights of the families of internally displaced persons, returnees based on the Agreement on Readmission, Roma, human trafficking victims, persons treated for addiction diseases, persons with HIV/AIDS, former convicts and other marginalised social groups; it gives reports

and suggests measures for the promotion of position of marginalised social groups; coordinates the preparation and monitors the realisation of educational seminars on human rights; it is involved in the work of Government bodies related to the questions of marginalised groups.

2. Group for promotion of gender equality

The Group is involved in the preparation of draft laws, proposals and other regulations, and it gives opinions on the drafts of strategic documents, laws and other regulations prepared by other state bodies; it gives reports with suggested measures for the alignment of laws and other legislation with required standards and international conventions and European legislation in the area of gender equality; it monitors the implementation of CEDAW recommendations; it is involved in the preparation of educational programmes for the implementation of the gender equality principle in institutions; and it monitors the development of projects related to gender equality and coordinates the cooperation with organisations, trade unions and other associations.

All municipalities in Serbia have services for the protection of veterans and the disabled that can be contacted by disabled civilian veterans for specific types of assistance. In remote rural areas, there are social protection services designed to extend quality assistance in the field of social welfare. The existing services will be mapped out in the coming period.

The Serbian Government are financing NGO project activities and activities of the disabled veterans and civilian war victims associations (assistance) based on open tendering procedures. Through such activities, NGOs will organize training, education, aimed at promotion of men and women capacity building, and at improving the psychological and social situation of survivors.

In the Republic of Serbia, the Strategy for promoting the status of persons with disabilities 2007-2015 is in force. The new Strategy has been drafted and is currently in procedure. As in the previous one, the status and the rights of disabled veterans and civilian war victims will be equal to those of the other persons with disability.

The Republic of Serbia is also implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Under the Law on professional rehabilitation and employment of person with disabilities, the status of a person with disabilities is granted to disabled war veterans, peacetime disabled veterans and civilian disabled veterans. This Law is based on the principles governing the protection of human rights and dignity of persons with disabilities inclusion of all persons with disabilities, on an equal footing, in all spheres of social life – in accordance with their professional skills.

According to the Law, civilian disabled veterans are entitled to a number of benefits, not just one. The Law regulating the rights of disabled civilian war veterans (“Official Gazette of R. Serbia”, No. 52 of 17 December 1996) envisages the following entitlement:

- 1.) personal disability allowance;
- 2.) allowance for care and assistance by another person;
- 3.) orthotics allowance;
- 4.) health care and financial benefits related to provision of health care;
- 5.) free and subsidized transport;
- 6.) food and accommodation benefits during travel and stay in places other than one’s place of residence, at the request of the relevant authority;
- 7.) monthly financial allowance;
- 8.) compensation for funeral expenses.

According to the information from the database of the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veterans affairs and Social Policy, the number of civilian disabled veterans totals 1 123 out of which 790 men and 333 women.

Civilian disabled veterans are disaggregated according to the degree of physical impairment. The rights of this category of people are stipulated by the Law regulating the rights of civilian disabled veterans, enforced from 1 January 1997. This Law ensures that the scope of protection envisaged for civilian disabled veterans is the same as for disabled war veterans whose rights are stipulated in other laws. In this way, the protection of civilian disabled veterans is raised to the highest possible level.

8. Cooperation and assistance

1.The Serbian Armed Forces maintain a capability to survey, search for, detect, clear and destroy landmines. This capability includes many types of detection equipment, mechanical clearance assets, disposal experts and specialist search and clearance teams.

2.The Republic of Serbia has the capacities for decommission of the landmines and unexploded ordnance. More detailed data were given in the report submitted in 2017.

3.The Republic of Serbia is a State Party, which is not in a position to provide financial assistance, but it is able to share experience and lessons learned from the on-going and completed operations as concerns mine survey/clearance. SMAC retains vast expertise in mine clearance, in particular as regards survey, project tasks developing, and quality control and governing of demining project tasks.

Annex II: Areas known and suspected to contain anti-personnel mines as of 1 April 2018, and the estimated date of completion

Municipality	Village	Longitude	Latitude	Area known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (square meters)	Type and quantity of anti-personnel mines	Estimated period when mines were emplaced	Estimated date of completion (year-end)
Bujanovac	Ravno Bučje	21°47'16'' E	42°35'22'' N	575,020	Groups of mines of unknown type and quantity	2000-2001	2018-2023
	Končulj	21°41'16.08'' E	42°28'27.84'' N	1,181,820	Groups of mines of unknown type and quantity	2000-2001	2019-2023
	Dobrosin	21°38'10'' E	42°26'58'' N	248,000	Groups of mines of unknown type and quantity	2000-2001	2021
	Đorđevac	21°46'10'' E	42°28'50'' N	145,100	Groups of mines of unknown type and quantity	2000-2001	2018
	Lučane	21°42'9'' E	42°26'29.4'' N	73,200	Groups of mines of unknown type and quantity	2000-2001	2019
	Turija	21°43'4.8'' E	42°27'18'' N	131,400	Groups of mines of unknown type and quantity	2000-2001	2019
Total	6			2,354,540			

Annex III: Areas released, 1 January 2017- 31 December 2017

Municipality	Village	Longitude	Latitude	Cancelled area (square meters)	Reduced area (square meters)	Cleared area (square meters)	Total area released (square meters)	Number of anti-personnel mines destroyed	Number of other explosive items destroyed
Bujanovac	Breznica	21°42'32"	42°32'07"	/	/	275.800	275.800	3	1
TOTAL				/	/	275.800	275.800	3	1