

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

State [Party]: REPUBLIC OF YEMEN reporting for time period from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

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**A. National implementation measures**

State [Party]: REPUBLIC OF YEMEN reporting for time period from 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

Measures: The Parliament of Yemen issued, and the President signed law on 8\98 in June 1998. The law states that the Government of Yemen will enforce the ban from the day the law was issued.	Supplementary information (e.g., effective date of implementation & text of legislation attached).
Legislation have been approved by the parliament	<b>Hard copy of Legislation with the full report been sent.</b>

Yemen does not produce, transfer or use AP mines or AP mines of an improvised nature. However, because of the conflicts currently being waged in Yemen do, however these weapons are not under the jurisdiction or control of the internationally recognised Government of Yemen. Therefore, Yemen is not able to talk to these points. Currently the government of Yemen is not able to conduct investigations into the AP mine use of other parties until situations are stable.

**B. Stockpiled anti-personnel mines**

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Type	Quantity	Lot# (if possible)	Supplementary information
/	/	/	
/	/	/	
/	/	/	
/	/	/	<b>For information on stockpiled anti-personnel destroyed in accordance with Article 4, please refer to information contained in Yemen's previous Article 7 reports. Status (not applicable).</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>N/A</b>		

The AP mines that found during the clearance operations are currently held for destruction are of an improvised nature and another types as it was indicates within the 2019 article 7 report, there are no technical specifications available. Their destruction is usually weeks after removal.

### **C. Anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for permitted purposes**

State [Party]: REPUBLIC OF YEMEN reporting for time period from 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

**Narrative:** Before 2014 Yemen submitted on its article 7 report about quantity and types of anti-personnel mines for permitted purpose in accordance with Article 3 after that Yemen did not used 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 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 commitment to give updates about all status and information on it is transparency report (Article 7).

At this stage landmines especially Ap-mines and the Ap-improvised nature are also presented in Yemen in large numbers.

Since the third review conference and because the conflict the fate of the Anti-personnel mines retained is unknown because of the control of militias in Sanaa and there are no changes or updates on this matter.

Yemen has a national legislation in place that criminalizes the possession, production, import, export, trade, transfer and stockpiling of anti-personnel mines and imposes penalties for such acts.

**C. Anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for permitted purposes (continued)**

Yemen is welcome to share any information in this regard as well as to cooperate with all partners to ensure that investigations are conducted when the situations in the country are stabilized.



## **D. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (continued)**

### Mine Action efforts:

The Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre is affected by the current situation and the ongoing conflict in Yemen but through the support of UNDP and UNICEF is still operating within the IRG areas. In 2020 there were different capacity building programs implemented to support YEMAC such as providing refresher training to the existing teams, deploying new equipment (e.g., Vehicles, new mine detectors tool kits.) besides adding more staff to the sector. NOTE: YEMAC is still challenged due to the chronic lack of equipment such as medical kits and vehicles.

The Yemen Mine Action Coordination Cell – YMACC is a vital component of YEMAC, which is responsible to organize and coordinate activities with INGOs and relevant stakeholders. This coordination includes regular meetings, the establishment of technical working groups, and ongoing engagement with different stakeholders. YMACC started its partial operations, recruitment and training in May 2020 with UNDP support. It is expected to continue to grow the YMACC to include the accreditation and QM system. This is planned for 2021. The YMACC has also now actively engaged in overcoming any potential issues to allow for the deployment of INGO's.

The kingdom of Saudi Arabia through the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center have implemented a large mine action programme under the banner of the Masam Project to clear mines in Yemen. This project was renewed with new agreement in 2020, currently in 2021 there is a potential renewal still on progress to between the government of Yemen and the government of The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Project Masam is supporting of a total of 32 YEMAC Mine Clearance teams working in (Aden, Taiz, Al Hudaydah, Mar'ib, Shabwah, Al Bayda, Al Jawf, Sa'ada (Al Kitaf , Al Boqe'e), Al Dhale', and Lahij). The overall achievement of Masam project is as findings (AP: 858, AT: 14,726, UXO: 71,066, IEDs 1,710).

The INGO The Danish Demining Group (DDG) is implementing Explosive Ordnances Risk Education and NTS activities under the support of the Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre - YEMAC and the Yemen Mine Action Coordination Cell - YMACC DDG also began the selection of staff to train as EOD operators but this was delayed due to problems with the process of importing the required equipment and its approvals to be shipped to the country. The current capacity of DDG is only 5 NTS and Risk Education Teams. These teams have achieved by EORE to 25,000 beneficiaries and 40 NTS activities, these have not been verified or approved yet until YEMAC/YMACC applied its quality system.

**D. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (continued)**

The INGO The HALO Trust began conducting Battle Area Clearance and Explosive Ordnance Risk Education activities with a current capacity of 4 BAC and 1 EORE teams. The overall achievement of The Halo Trust within BAC is 3,423 UXOs (There is a scheduled process of demolition with Halo Trust) besides 349 EORE beneficiaries. HALO Trust conducted the first demolition of found items in October.

The Norwegian People's Aid – NPA conducted an assessment visit for the Mine Detection Dogs project that will support 15 YEMAC handlers and to provide 12 Mine Detection Dogs, which is expected to be implemented within the third quarter of 2021. YEMAC/YMACC is supporting with different authorities to facilitate the registration of NPA as an INGO in Yemen. With funding from UNDP, new kennels and MDD training areas have been built in YEMAC premises. NPA are working exploring ways of import the MDD.

The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining – GICHD is supporting YEMEN with advice on issues such as NMAS. Utilizing funding from the US.DOS support GICHD implemented and supporting Information Management system in Yemen 2020, a server has been supplied and has started to be populated. GCIHD further supports YMACC/YEMAC with continuous advice on all aspects on IM and NMAS.

The International Committee of the Red Cross – ICRC and YEMAC/YMACC started an initial discussion about the importance of finding further opportunities for cooperation, this included victim assistance and providing medical equipment and training in the future. There is an agreement in principle to have more technical discussions to examine what areas of future partnership between YEMAC/YMACC and ICRC could be developed.

YEMAC has supported the deployment of some INGOs through coordinating between relevant authorities this includes issuing entry visas.

Yemen will continue to support all INGO's with approvals and permissions for the importation of equipment, deploying staff, and writing the needed legal agreements to operate as an NGO in Yemen. This will need YEMAC/YMACC to coordinate between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Planning, and International Cooperation and the security apparatus.

YEMAC and the IRG are at the beginning of working together with INGO's. This has included extensive negotiations between INGOs and YEMAC. This process is still not fully bedded in, but a lot of lessons and experiences have been gained so far.



**D. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (continued)**

Achievements:

Number of AP, AT, and EO have found during the clearance operations (see table below).

Year	AP	AT	UXO	IED	Total
<b>2020</b>	1,388	17,116	94,558	2,152	115,214

Mine Risk Education (accompanying the work of the clearance teams) Efforts:

Year	Adults			Kids			Total	Distributed Posters
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total		
<b>2020</b>	2,535	10,312	12,847	9,600	8,441	18,041	30,888	4,615

Mine Risk Education Efforts:

Year	Local People						IDPs/Refuges						Total	Locations
	Adults			Kids			Adults			Kids				
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total		
<b>2020</b>	45639	38507	84146	88715	69789	158504	3233	3223	6456	3891	3587	7478	<b>256584</b>	912

## **D. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (continued)**

Yemen and the INGOs are aware of the different needs of girls, women, boys and men and within their planning these considerations are taken into account. YEMAC has deployed 15 women Risk Awareness trainers to ensure the different needs of girls, women and boys can be met in the matters of mine risk education and victim assistance.

### Establishment of a prioritisation system:

UNDP in conjunction with YEMAC and the humanitarian coordination system has a draft prioritization table as it was provided in the last article 7 report that covers 2019, which is based upon the needs of the 'cluster system'. Organizations are able to request clearance tasks from the YEMAC by entering details into the table, these are then prioritized based on the inputs from the local authorities and with consideration of the humanitarian needs by UNOCHA. YEMAC teams are then tasked accordingly besides that tasking generating system of YMACC to different INGOs.

### Update the NMAS and SOPs.

- YEMAC in partnership with UNDP and GICHD have agreed that there will be a workshop to develop the NMAS for survey as a priority. This was planned for April 2020, but as at time of writing, this has been postponed due to the effects of the COVID-19 virus. GICHD did provide remote support. In lieu of the face-to-face meeting committee of 14 members assigned in September 2020 began the updating on the NMAS, this was supported by UNDP. The Arabic version is 95% complete.
- INGOs and operators are responsible to adjust their SOPs in order to meet the national context once the NMAS are written in English they will be expected to adjust SOPs to meet the NMAS in preparation for accreditation. (After getting the NMAS as a governmental approved document).

**D. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (continued)**

For YEMAC SOPs it is expected that the same committee (its expected to integrate more members) will work on developing them. GICHD and UNDP assisted YEMAC/YMACC in the last quarter of 2020 by sharing some inputs for the NMAS updating process, especially with the NTS standards.

Strengthen the Information Management system:

In late 2020 UNDP has deployed a full-time IM officer through Swedish Civil Contingency Agency - MSB to support the development of the IM system, he has been working with the YEMAC/YMACC IM manager to develop and plan for further activities. Due to COVID restrictions he has not yet deployed to Aden. There has been a gap of a year since the last international IMO which needs to be brought.

Forms have been developed through technical working groups between operators under the support of YMACC. The IM technical working group is considered one of the vital groups within the sector.

Training sessions with some YEMAC team leader's on how to use the forms took place in August 2020. There is a partial utilisation of the IMSMA CORE system on EORE sessions besides general weekly reporting of YEMAC activates.

YMACC has a dedicated IM unit that is responsible to work closely with YEMAC and INGOs.

After finalizing the NTS planning stage of YEMAC it is expected that will be a wide utilization of the system in Yemen.

Efforts to increase survey and demining capacity by Yemen, to expand partnerships with INGO's and commercial companies.

The kingdom of Saudi Arabia through the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center have implemented a large mine action programme under the banner of the Masam Project to clear mines in Yemen. This project was renewed with new -

**D. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (continued)**

agreement in 2020, currently in 2021 renew still on progress to between the government of Yemen and the government of The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The INGO's HALO Trust and DDG has obtained bi-lateral funding to work in Yemen. These organisations have funding for EOD, survey and EORE teams.

It has been agreed that these organisations will utilise YEMAC deminers on a seconded basis to allow for the capacity development of the Yemen Mine Action sector. In mid-2020 HALO started operating with the combination teams from the

secondment process that is based on an agreement between YEMAC and HALO as EOD/BAC operators. DDG will start its secondment process with YEMAC for NTS and EOD after finalizing some requirements such as the required sub-agreements with The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation – MOPIC and the importation process of the required equipment. Currently, YMACC is addressing and assisting INGOs with this process.

Outcome of survey efforts and how additional clarity may change Yemen's understanding of the remaining implementation challenge:

Yemen Survey Capacity is:

- YEMAC: (15 NTS Teams going to be deployed in 2021).
- DDG: (5 NTS/EORE).
- It is expected that Halo will expand to start NTS activates in 2021.

There are some movements with the NTS development in Yemen starting from a prepared NMAS and with the lunch of the information management system, which will be fully utilized Q3 2021.

## **D. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (continued)**

### Establishing YEMAC branches in Marib and Taiz:

YEMAC Taiz is implementing mine action activities on the west coast and Al Hudaydah. The capacity of the branch is Emergency Mine clearance (3 Teams), EORE (2 Members), and VA (3 Members), Explosive Ordnance Spot task (1 team).

YEMAC Marib: The needs for Marib are being assessed. UNDP has agreed in principle to support an office in Marib. The office is expected to be established in 2021.

The Director of YEMAC has sent a financial proposal to UNDP for the establishment of an office in Marib, Taiz which was agreed upon. YEMAC has set up an initial office using its internal resources. It is hoped that UNDP will continue this support in 2021.

### Challenges in the security situation:

2020 saw an ebb and flow of the conflicts between the legitimate government and rebels. This has led to the continued fighting in several fronts across Yemen. This restricts access to the locations near the front line, which includes newly contaminated areas, including minefields of AP mines of an improvised nature.

Those challenges listed in the Article 5 extension request in 2019 are all still relevant.

One challenge that is coming to the fore as INGOs start their training is access to explosives, CDS's. YEMAC is working on approval/coordination and other means to safely destroy items in place. Currently, this is impossible and will become a major issue as the INGO's start work. A CDS will be established with a UNDP-funded HALO Trust project under the auspices of the YMACC.

### 2020 Challenges:

- 1- The global Covid-19 pandemic. This has slowed down the deployment of INGO international staff, attendance at workshops, as well as restrictions on access due to fears of COVID besides cancellation to some training programs.
- 2- The ongoing conflict. The conflict continues to negatively impact the mine and ERW contamination by contaminating new areas, and recontamination some areas.

**D. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (continued)**

- 3- The economic situation of Yemen, this includes the rising cost of fuel and the exchange rates which have negatively impact the costs of basic items.
- 4- New Improvised Mines/IEDs are being laid (for example Anti-Tank mine connected to electric pressure)
- 5- Unpredictable International donor funding, which causes difficulties within the planning stages for any future activities.
- 6- Lack of equipment.
- 7- The continuity of the casualties' numbers.
- 8- Weather conditions, which causes water flooding, that create moving of mine and UXOs to different areas.

Yemen was almost AP mine free. Since the conflict, the whole situation has become complex and, in many ways, gone backwards. Yemen understands that AP and those of an improvised nature have been used by belligerents. This includes rebels, Al Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) of which are operating in various parts of Yemen.

The exact areas on contamination are not known. To try to highlight these would be misleading and possibly damaging for future reports.

The deployment of the mines is along the lines of battle and we can assume all areas of conflict or recent conflict will be contaminated by these items. Additionally, AP mines of an improvised nature are used by AQAP in areas away from the main conflict zones, and although have less humanitarian impact, are still a threat to civilians.

The exact levels and locations of contamination will be discovered over the course the extension period but are currently not known until a proper Non-Technical Survey is implemented.

Contamination now is based on the new challenges produced by the current conflict. This will require a full survey of (YEMEN) to determine the level of contamination.

Yemen is planning to submit another Article 5 extension request.

**E. Technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines**

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The government of YEMEN does not produce or possess any AP mines.

Currently at this stage YEMAC/YMACC still working to produce a catalogue for the Anti-personnel mines that being locate during the clearance operations.

**F. Conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities**

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Indicate if to "convert" or "decommission"	Status (indicate if "in process" or "completed")	Supplementary information
		<b>Nil Production facilities in Yemen</b>

The government of Yemen does not have any conversion or decommissioning facilities.



## **G. Victim assistance**

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**Narrative:** Previously In terms of Victim Assistance, the Yemen Ministry of Health and Ministry of Insurance and Social Affairs, in conjunction with Yemen prosthetics centre and international NGO conduct support programs for landmine victims. Community Based Rehabilitation projects are training more field workers to cover all priority areas including prosthetics. The victim assistance program is implemented by three phases:

- Phase 1: to surveyed and register the victims by special forms contains all information about each victim. and to address their needs.
- Phase 2: Is Surgery examinations to address their needs.
- Phase 3: Is to provide the victims with all medical needs such as health care, artificial limbs and physical rehabilitation.

currently YEMAC VA teams are doing the first phase (to surveyed and register the victims by special forms contains all information about each victim. and to address their needs).

Victims of Landmines and ERW have been recorded since 2014 and during the Emergency response as the table below indicates.

The real number of casualties and victims are bigger than what recorded due to the lack of comprehensive victims' surveillance.

Note: there is another record of casualties' number of 2020 still under review, which will be shared later as an update.

## G. Victim assistance (continued)

Please see the table below:

Victims of ERW, LANDMINES			
YEAR	Males	Females	Total
2020	490	42	532

Locations where victims of landmine and ERW are recorded currently on the contaminated areas that caused because of the conflict. At this moment there is no nation-wide victim surveillance system. Victims of AP mines are recorded in an ad hoc manner by the local authorities, medical institution and by YEMAC. We can assume from anecdotal evidence there is a high level of casualties, which is to some degree is support by statements from health NGOs such as Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF).

The lack of comprehensive victims' surveillance is due to:

- The size of the contaminated areas where conflict is ongoing.
- The global covid-19 pandemic.
- The lack of resources.
- The presence of a large number of casualties in areas of ongoing fighting who are difficult to reach.
- The number of victims who die or are treated with no record.
- Economic situation in Yemen.
- impact affected to the facilities such as hospitals.
- Restrictions of access.

Overall, there are challenges that affected the role of victim assistance within the country itself as it is shown above. There are some institutions and INGOs whom performing different activities related to the matters of victim assistance but not in the required level. There is an important need for coordination to these activities besides allocating resources.

## **G. Victim assistance (continued)**

### Gender and Diversity Updates:

YEMAC has VA and EORE that are responsible to record and deliver risk education sessions as a matter of reducing the number of casualties. However, YEMAC/YMACC and the INGOs are aware of the different needs of girls, women, boys and men and within their planning these considerations are taken into account. YEMAC has deployed 15 women Risk Awareness trainers to ensure the different needs of girls, women and boys can be met in the matters of mine risk education and victim assistance.

The current capacity that supports the integration of gender and diversity matters of YEMAC and INGOs is:

- (YEMAC) 10 women as EORE trainers with the accompanying mine clearance teams activities.
- (YEMAC) 10 women as NTS operators are going to be deployed in 2021.
- (YEMAC) 5 women as an emergency EORE trainers.
- (YEMAC/YMACC) recruited women as managerial staff.
- INGOs are providing an integration within their activities as well.

Note: There are some considerations about the cultural intelligence aspects before and during the implementation of the mine action activities in YEMEN.

Note: There are no changes within the Oslo Action Plan Victim Assistance Checklist that was provided in Yemen's last article 7 report (Provided last year in Yemen's article 7 report 2019).

## **H. Cooperation and assistance**

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The YEMAC, encouraged by UNDP has attended some mine action sub-cluster meetings, and it is expected that this coordination will further increase. However, YMACC started to apply some coordination mechanism via hosting scheduled meetings with different stakeholders.

UNDP has until now provided the link between the humanitarian, peace and development actors, but this is a role that we would see the coordination grow into especially with the setup of YMACC. Input from local authorities is garnered by YEMAC field managers.

As UNDP is a supporting partner of YEMAC, UNDP staff are aware of the 2030 sustainability agenda and have mainstreamed sustainability into the support provided. For example, through the UNDP procurement practices and by trying to 'buy local' as much as possible. Other initiatives included providing solar panels for YEMAC buildings.

The Director of YEMAC has become a regular attendee at various global level and regional initiatives, he has delivered several speeches, and providing updates included the ones at the 18th MSP.

Currently the support of the Government of YEMEN only provides the staff for YEMAC and providing a simple limited medical treatment through the local hospitals (There was a government budget of \$3 million per year but it was affected by the conflict and the current circumstances.)

All financial support comes from bi-lateral donors to the INGOSs or donors to the UNDP. Additional to this is the government-to-government assistance of the MASAM project from the KSA. The KSA have made a significant contribution to the Mine Action sector through the MASAM project.

The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining – GICHD is supporting YEMEN with advice on issues such as NMAS. Utilizing funding from the US.DOS support GICHD implemented and supporting Information Management system in Yemen 2020, a server has been supplied and has started to be populated. GCIHD further supports YMACC/YEMAC with continuous advice on all aspects on IM and NMAS.

The International Committee of the Red Cross – ICRC and YEMAC/YMACC started an initial discussion about the importance of finding further opportunities for cooperation, this included victim assistance and providing medical equipment and training in the future. There is an agreement in principle to have more technical discussions to examine what areas of future partnership between YEMAC/YMACC and ICRC could be developed.

## **H. Cooperation and assistance (continued)**

The current level of resource mobilisation does not meet the need. This is further complicated by the majority of the funding being used is earmarked for implementation, whereas there is a need for coordination, which is less likely to be funded.

As a challenge the unpredictable International donor funding, causes difficulties within the planning stages for any future activities.