

Report of the delegation of Ukraine.
at the 19th meeting of the countries parties to the Convention on the
prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-
personnel mines and about their destruction
on the implementation of Article 5 Destruction of
anti-personnel mines in mined areas

At the time of the signing of the Ottawa Convention by Ukraine, there were no plots mined with anti-personnel mines on its territory.

However, in February 2014, the military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine began.

As a result, the situation has arisen when two countries are involved in the conflict that is occurring on the European continent, which have multimillion stocks of anti-personnel mines, while one of them, the Russian Federation, is not a party to the Ottawa Convention.

The consequence of this is that, despite Ukraine's compliance with the Ottawa Convention, about 7,000 km² were mined or allegedly polluted by explosive remnants of war and mines, primarily anti-personnel, in the area of the Operation Combined Forces in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions. and improvised explosive devices. As a result, civilians suffer.

Currently, the main efforts of the state are aimed at demining the life support systems of the population, including power lines, gas and water pipelines, heating plants, as well as highways and railways in the territory of Donetsk and Lugansk regions. The implementation of these tasks is carried out by the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other state structures, since 2014 they have cleared (tested) about 373 square kilometers of territory, 2000 km of roads, 965 km of railway tracks, 992 buildings, 239 infrastructures and destroyed more than 500 000 explosive objects. As of today, 46 calculations involving a total of 240 people and 65 pieces of equipment are involved in these tasks.

In order to assess the threats from explosive objects and determine the scope of the upcoming work on demining, starting from 2016, work is carried out on non-technical inspection of the liberated territories of Donetsk and Lugansk regions.

For these tasks, the non-governmental organizations "The Halo Trust", the Danish Demining Group, the Swiss Demining Fund and Ukrainian non-governmental operators Demining Solutions and Demining Team of Ukraine are involved.

According to the results of the work, a plan for humanitarian demining of the liberated territories of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions has been prepared and is currently being implemented.

In addition, measures are being taken to inform the population about the mine risk and their training in action when explosive objects, including anti-personnel mines, are detected. This work is carried out with the involvement of the Armed Forces of

Ukraine, the State Emergency Service, the National Police, international and non-governmental organizations and includes:

- informational work in schools, higher education institutions and enterprises;
- work with the media;
- informing local authorities on demining operations;
- distribution of awareness materials to the local population and military personnel, as well as conducting mine safety classes.

In order to improve transparency and information sharing, as required by Article 7 of the Convention, Ukraine is implementing information management systems in the field of mine action (IMSMA), which will optimize the process of collecting and processing information about the location of ammunition and carrying out activities for humanitarian demining in Ukraine.

In the area of the Joint Forces Operation, divisions of the occupying forces of the Russian Federation use types of mines prohibited by the Ottawa Convention, which have long been destroyed or not imported into Ukraine at all.

First of all, this refers to high-explosive mines such as PMN, PMN-2, POM-2R. In addition, mines installed in an unguided version in combination with anti-sluggishness elements (mine traps), such as OZM-72 and mines such as MON, called ammunition, are often used in the cities of Shilovo, Ryazan Region and Chapayevsk, Samara Region of the Russian Federation.

The use of anti-personnel mines of Russian production have been repeatedly recorded in the area of the operation of the combined forces. Here are just the most recent data on anti-personnel mines found that are supplied by the Russian Federation to illegal ORDL formations.

Thus, in 2020 units of the United Forces revealed:

29-30.01. in the area of settlement Krymske (Luhansk region), 262 PMN-2.

12.05. in the area of settlement Starohnativka (Donetsk region), 6 POM-2.

23.06.2020 in the area of the settlement of Novotoshkivske (Luhansk region), – a mine-explosive device, which was identified as a non-contact explosive device NVU-P “Okhota” with 2 explosive devices VUZ-8 and 9 OZM-72.

23.06. in the area of the settlement of Novotoshkivske (Luhansk region), 19 PMN-2.

05.07. in Pisky (Donetsk region), a mine-explosive device, which was identified as a non-contact explosive device NVU-P “Okhota” with 2 explosive devices VUZ-8 and 16 OZM-72.

18.07. in the area of settlement Vodyane (Donetsk region) – 10 PMN-2.

29.07. in the area of settlement Shumy (Donetsk region) – 49 PMN-2.

It should be noted that mines of this type have never been in service with the Armed Forces of Ukraine at the same time are actively used by the Russian Federation, including in the Chechen war. This fact once again proves the involvement of the Russian Federation in the supply of prohibited weapons to the temporarily occupied

territories of Donbass, which creates a danger to the lives of both our servicemen and the civilian population living in the frontline zone.

I would like to draw the attention of highly respected participants of the meeting to the fact that the Russian Federation, which is not a party to the Ottawa Convention, but at the same time is a contractual party to the Protocol II Convention on the prohibition or restriction of the use of specific types of conventional weapons that may be considered to cause excessive damage or have indiscriminate effect. Nevertheless, it grossly violates the requirements of the Convention on the prohibition of the use of anti-personnel mines of indiscriminate action. In addition, by arming its mercenaries with this type of ammunition, it directly violates the provisions of Article 8 of Protocol II, concerning the obligation not to transfer any mines to any recipient except the state or a state organization authorized to receive such a transfer.