

The Vilnius Seminar

Advancing the Mine Ban Convention in Northern and Eastern
Europe
Vilnius 8-9 June 2004

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND THE PROMOTION OF TRANSPARENCY (Article 7 Reporting)

Paul HUYNEN (Belgium)
Coordinator of the Contact Group on Article 7

Mandate: 5MSP-BANGKOK(1)

- ☞ Place a renewed emphasis on ensuring reports under Article 7 are submitted as required in advance of 1RevCon;
- ☞ Exchanging information through Article 7 reporting has been essential in the implementation of the Convention;

Mandate: 5MSP-BANGKOK (2)

- ☞ Promote implementation of the provisions of Article 7

- ☞ Promote means to assist States Parties in complying with them
 - *States Parties (individually/collectively)*
 - *The Article 7 Contact Group*
 - *The President*
 - *Interested Organisations*

The Contact Group on Article 7

- ☞ Created in 2000
- ☞ Chairmanship of Belgium
- ☞ Aim:
 - *Promote implementation*
 - *Stimulate exchange of information*
 - *Contribute to « a world free of landmines »*

TRANSPARENCY MEASURES

- ☞ Importance of Article 7

- ☞ Obligations of States Parties
 - *Initial Report*
 - *Annual Report*

- ☞ Voluntary reporting

Article 7: WHEN TO REPORT ?

- ☞ **Initial report**
 - « as soon as practicable »
 - « no later than 180 days after entry into force »

- ☞ **Annual report**
 - « updated annually »
 - « not later than 30 April of each year »
 - « covering the past calendar year »

Article 7: WHY REPORT ?

- ☞ Legal obligation
- ☞ Reinforces the humanitarian norm
- ☞ Measures progress
 - *of individual states*
 - *of the Convention*
- ☞ Identifies needs
- ☞ Instrument for activities in the field
- ☞ Lessons

Article 7: WHAT TO REPORT ?

- ☞ **Obligatory**
 - *A. National implementation Measures (art.9)*
 - *B. Stockpiles (art.4)*
 - *C. Mined areas (art.5)*
 - *D. Mines retained/transferred (art.3)*
 - *E. Conversion/Decommissioning*
 - *F. Programmes (destruction/clearance)*
 - *G. Mines destroyed/cleared*
 - *H. Technical characteristics*
 - *I. Measures to warn population*
- ☞ **Voluntary**
 - *J. Other relevant matters (victim assistance)*

Article 7: HOW TO REPORT ?

- ☞ Use standardised report forms
- ☞ Whenever possible: submit electronically
- ☞ If necessary: ask for assistance
- ☞ If unavoidable: submit at least information available (+ motivate blank forms)
- ☞ Provide supplementary information
- ☞ Report forms available from:
www.un.org/Depts/dda

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Article 7: REPORT TO WHOM ?

- ☞ Secretary General of the United Nations
- ☞ Address:
 - MBC Article 7 Officer,
United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch),
Palais des Nations,
CH-1211 Geneva 10, (Switzerland)
Tel.: +41(0)22 917 2298 - Fax.:+41(0)22 917 0034
- ☞ E-mail: ***mbc_article7@un.org***

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Article 7: COMPLIANCE RATE

Annual reports

- 2001: 59 %
- 2002: 74 %
- 2003: 64 %
- 2004: ? (*)

Late initial reports

- 2002: 30
- 2003: 16
- 2004: ? (*)

(*):- increasing
 - as of today: 64%
 (86/134)
 (8 not yet due)

(*):- decreasing
 - as of today: 10+2

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Vilnius seminar participants

States parties	2002	2003	2004
	Due Date / Submitted Date	Due Date / Submitted Date	Due Date / Submitted Date
Austria	30 Apr / 3 May	30 Apr / 29 Apr	30 Apr / 30 Apr
Belarus	N/A	N/A	28 aug / 04
Belgium	30 Apr / 30 Apr	30 Apr / 30 Apr	30 Apr / 3 May
Canada	30 Apr / 24 Apr	30 Apr / 22 Apr	30 Apr / 13 Apr
Denmark	30 Apr / 29 Apr	30 Apr / 30 Apr	30 Apr /
Estonia*	N/A	N/A	not due until 30 april 2005
Germany	30 Apr / 16 Apr	30 Apr / 10 Apr	30 Apr / 13 Apr
Italy	30 Apr / 2 May	30 Apr / 16 Apr	30 Apr / 27 Apr
Lithuania	N/A / 2 Jul	N/A	29 Apr / 15 Apr
Netherlands	30 Apr / 19 Apr	30 Apr / Apr	30 Apr / 29 Apr
Norway	30 Apr / 3 May	30 Apr / 30 Apr	30 Apr / 30 Apr
Sweden	30 Apr / 25 Apr	30 Apr / 30 Apr	30 Apr / 7 May
Thailand	30 Apr / 30 Apr	30 Apr / 29 Apr	30 Apr / 3 May
United Kingdom	30 Apr / 21 Mar	30 Apr / 30 Apr	30 Apr / 30 Apr
* Estonia's initial Article 7 report is not due until 30 April 2005.			
States not parties	2002	2003	2004
	Due Date / Submitted Date	Due Date / Submitted Date	Due Date / Submitted Date
Finland	N/A	N/A	N/A
Latvia	N/A	N/A / 1 May	N/A / 14 May
Poland	N/A	N/A / 5 Mar	N/A / 12 May
Russia	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ukraine	N/A	N/A	N/A
Information as of 4 June 2004			

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Article 7: THE CHALLENGE TO NAIROBI

- Initial Reports
- Annual Reports
- Voluntary Reports

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