Bulgaria
Signed: 3 December 2008
Ratified: 6 April 2011
Entered into force: 1 October 2011

Article 3 - Stockpile destruction and retention
Stockpile destruction deadline: 1 October 2019, extended to 1 October 2020, extended to 1 October 2022
Stockpile to be destroyed during second extension period: 6,862 cluster munitions and 186,349 explosive submunitions
Destroyed 1,991 cluster munitions and 38,234 explosive submunitions in 2020

Latest update on implementation of extension request work plan (24 September 2021) provided in the following pages

Submitted extension request that was considered at the 9MSP; analysis of the request can be found here
Submitted extension request that was considered at the 2RC Part 1; analysis of the request can be found here

Has retained some cluster munitions for training purposes in accordance with Article 3.6

Article 4 - Clearance and risk reduction education
Does not have any contamination in areas under its jurisdiction or control

Article 5 - Victim assistance
Does not have cluster munition victims

Article 6 - International cooperation and assistance
Receiving financial assistance from the United States government to fulfil Article 3 obligations
Receiving technical assistance from NATO Support and Procurement Agency

Article 7 - Transparency measures
Initial transparency report submitted on 27 March 2012

Article 9 - National implementation measures
Enacted Law on the Implementation of the CCM in 2015 that includes penal sanctions as required by the CCM

CCM Coordination Committee membership 2021-2023
Thematic Coordinator on Stockpile Destruction and Retention

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CCM Art.3 Extension Request Update
By the Republic of Bulgaria

Submitted on the occasion of the 2nd Part of the 2nd Review Conference of the State Parties
To the Convention on Cluster Munitions
(20-21 September 2021, in Geneva)

Note nr 1: This update follows related intervention by the Bulgarian delegation to the Second Part of the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, which took place from 20 to 21 September 2021 in Geneva.

Note nr 2: A power point presentation (PPP), as attached to this CCM Art.3 Extension Request Update, provides for detailed information based on related specific figures.

We have the pleasure to present to the State Parties of the Convention on Cluster Munitions an update on the progress achieved by the Republic of Bulgaria in the process of destruction of the Bulgarian Army’s cluster munitions stockpiles as of September 2021.

We would like to highlight that the transportation of Lot 1 and Lot 2 explosive submunitions to the contractor’s facilities in Italy has been successfully completed by the end of 2020, as initially planned.

The graphic on the second slide of the attached PPP demonstrates the progress achieved in the destruction of Lot 2 explosive submunitions, as of January 2021. As displayed, the process has been almost finalized with remaining less than seven thousand submunitions, marked in red, still to be destroyed.

The process of destruction of explosive submunitions allocated in Lot 1 started in January 2021, with more than thousand (marked in deep purple on the graphic on the third slide of the PPP) successfully destroyed already.

Unfortunately, on December 21, 2020, one of the factories of the contractor company “Esplodenti Sabino” Srl (Italy) experienced an explosion affecting negatively related utilization processes.

In February 2021, the Republic of Bulgaria duly informed the ISU about these unfortunate developments.

In the aftermath of the explosion, Italian authorities started related investigation and revoked the license of the contractor company “Esplodenti Sabino” Srl.

The incident did not affect any of the Bulgarian Army’s explosive submunitions on stock at the time of the explosion.
However, the incident did put a hold to all transportation and destruction activities related to the explosive sub-munitions as of January 2021.

As of July 2021, Italian authorities completed their investigation and the contractor company “Esplodenti Sabino” Srl regained its license to defuse bombs, mines or other explosive projectiles. The explosion site has been cleared and as of September 2021 the contractor’s facilities and production lines are set-up and in full readiness to restart the process of destruction of the Bulgarian Army’s explosive sub-munitions.

The Republic of Bulgaria has the assurance of the Italian contractor company “Esplodenti Sabino” Srl that, all transportation activities related to Lot 3 explosive sub-munitions as well as the further destruction of Lot 1 and Lot 2 sub-munitions can continue in October 2021, after 9 months of suspension.

Thus, the whole (Lots 1 to 3) destruction process shifts in time. Still, it must be finalized no later than **three (3) months** after the collection of all cluster munitions.

As shown on the fourth slide, Lot 3 transportation activities will commence in October 2021.

The execution of the Complete Contractual Program for Lot 3 is envisaged for a period of **10 (ten) months** and is to be concluded by July 2022. It encompasses both transportation and destruction activities.

Despite the delay caused by *force majeure* circumstances, we are confident that our country will accomplish the destruction of the Bulgarian Army’s cluster munitions stockpiles before the deadline – October 2022, thus respecting our commitments under Article 3 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

* Sofia, 24th of September 2021 *
CCM ARTICLE 3
EXTENSION REQUEST
BY THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
LOT 2
ESs Destruction Rate
January 2021

DESTROYED ESs BKF PTAB-2,5; 16812
DESTROYED ESs RBK 250 PTAB-2,5M; 20076
Remaining ESs BKF PTAB-2,5; 6768
DESTROYED Submunition type PTAB-2,5
LOT 1

ESs Destruction Rate
January 2021

Remaining ESs RBK 500 ZAB 2,5 SM; 25542
Remaining ESs RBK 250 ZAB 2,5 SM; 2880
Remaining Submunition type ZAB-2,5; 2939
DESTROYED ESs BKF PTM-3; 1344
Remaining ESs BKF PTM-3; 7536
LOT 3
ESs Destruction Work Plan

❖ Transportation Plan
October 2021 to May 2022

❖ Destruction Activities
Within 3 months upon collection