

## Mines Retained for Training and Research (Article 3)

Prepared by Human Rights Watch

### Key Developments for Calendar Year 2008

Seventy-one States Parties have reported that they retain antipersonnel mines for training and research purposes under Article 3 of the Mine Ban Treaty.

- **Senegal** for the first time reported the retention of antipersonnel mines.

Eighty-two States Parties have declared that they do not retain any antipersonnel mines.

- **Haiti** and **Palau** submitted their initial transparency reports, indicating that they possessed no retained mines.
- A total of 24 states that stockpiled antipersonnel mines in the past have chosen not to retain any mines.

The status of three States Parties is uncertain.<sup>1</sup>

As of 20 May 2009, 47 States Parties had declared retention of a total of more than 143,000 antipersonnel mines in calendar year 2008. Twenty-four States Parties that previously declared retained mines have not yet submitted an annual transparency report for calendar year 2008. See Chart below. In 2007, States Parties reported retention of about 217,000 antipersonnel mines.

- **Ethiopia** (811), **Peru** (47), and **Senegal** (28) reported acquiring (or discovering) more antipersonnel mines used for training and research in 2008.
- **Bosnia and Herzegovina** and the **United Kingdom** increased the number of mines retained without explanation.

States Parties have reported the destruction of over 13,000 retained mines in 2008. This figure includes both mines consumed for research and training and the destruction of mines deemed to be in excess of requirements. See Chart below for details.

- **Algeria** destroyed 8,940 mines and **Serbia** destroyed 1,970 mines that they deemed were no longer required for training and research purposes.

A major concern for the ICBL is the large number of States Parties that are retaining mines, but apparently not using those mines for permitted purposes. For these States Parties, the number of mines retained remains the same year after year, indicating none are consumed (destroyed) during training or research activities, and no or few details are provided about how the mines are being used.

The following States Parties have not reported consuming any mines for permitted purposes since the treaty entered into force for them: **Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Burundi, Cyprus, Djibouti, El Salvador, Greece, Togo, and Venezuela.**

<sup>1</sup> Cape Verde and Equatorial Guinea have never submitted an Article 7 transparency report which would indicate if any mines are retained. Botswana reported many years ago that it intended to retain some mines, but has never provided an update on its situation.

The following States Parties have not reported consuming any mines for permitted purposes for two or more consecutive years (the last reported consumption date is noted): **Bulgaria** (2006), **Colombia** (2006), **Eritrea** (2006), **Guinea-Bissau** (2006), **Honduras** (2005), **Luxembourg** (2005), **Mali** (2003), **Mauritania** (2005), **Namibia** (2005), **Nicaragua** (2006), **Peru** (2005), **Romania** (2004), **Slovakia** (2004), and **Uganda** (2006).<sup>2</sup>

Only 21 States Parties have made use of the expanded Article 7 Form D to report on the intended purposes and actual uses of mines retained: **Afghanistan**, **Argentina**, **Belgium**, **Canada**, **Chile**, **Croatia**, **Czech Republic**, **France**, **Germany**, **Indonesia**, **Japan**, **Latvia**, **Mauritania**, **Peru**, **Portugal**, **Rwanda**, **Serbia**, **Sudan**, **Tajikistan**, **Turkey**, and the **United Kingdom**.

Some States Parties are reporting decreases in the number of mines retained, but are not explaining the reductions in their transparency reports. Among the states that did so in this reporting period are: **Australia**, **Czech Republic**, **Denmark**, **Iraq**, **Spain**, and **Sudan**.

### Mines reported as retained in calendar year 2008, compared with quantities initially declared (as of 20 May 2009)

	Declaration for 2008	Reported Consumed in 2008	Initial Declaration
Turkey	15,125	25	16,000
Bangladesh	12,500	0	15,000
Sweden	7,364	167	13,948
Greece	7,224	0	7,224
Australia	6,785	(213)	10,000
Algeria	6,090	8,940*	15,030
Croatia	6,038	65	17,500
Belarus	6,030	0	7,530
Indonesia	4,978	0	4,978
France	4,144	8	4,539
Chile	4,083	70	28,647
Peru	4,047	0	9,526
Yemen	3,760	0	4,000
Bulgaria	3,682	0	10,466
Thailand	3,638	12	15,604
Serbia	3,589	1,975*	5,000
Japan	3,320	392	15,000
Belgium	3,245	42	5,980
Slovenia	2,991	1	7,000
Romania	2,500	0	4,000
Czech Republic	2,453	(2,156)	4,859
Germany	2,437	7	3,006

<sup>2</sup> In addition, it is unclear whether or when Mozambique and Uruguay may have consumed mines retained for training.

	Declaration for 2008	Reported Consumed in 2008	Initial Declaration
Bosnia & Herzegovina	2,390	0	2,405
Zambia	2,120	0	6,691
Denmark	1,990	(18)	4,991
Sudan	1,938	(3,059)	15,000
Canada	1,939	24	1,781
Spain	1,797	(197)	10,000
Tanzania	1,780	0	396
Uganda	1,764	0	2,400
Slovakia	1,427	0	7,000
Nicaragua	1,004	0	1,921
Cyprus	1,000	0	1,000
Ecuador	1,000	0	170,344
Jordan	950	50	1,000
UK	903	0	4,437
Latvia	899	0	2,980
Portugal	760	0	3,523
Mauritania	728	0	5,728
Italy	689	32	8,000
Republic of Congo	322	50	372
Ukraine	211	12	1,950
Eritrea	109	0	214
Iraq	86	(1,139)	1,225
Ireland	67	3	130
Senegal	28	0	28
Burundi	4	0	1,212

Notes: Figures in parentheses reflect a number reduced without explanation.

\* = Algeria destroyed 8,940 mines as excess to needs; Serbia destroyed 1,970 mines as excess to needs and 5 in training and research activities.

**States Parties that retain mines but have not submitted an annual transparency report for calendar year 2008 (as of 20 May 2009)**

	Initial Declaration	Declaration for 2007	Declaration for 2008
Brazil	17,000	12,381	?
Namibia	9,999	*	?
Tunisia	5,000	4,996	?

	Initial Declaration	Declaration for 2007	Declaration for 2008
South Africa	4,830	4,380	?
Bhutan	4,491	*	?
Netherlands	4,076	2,516	?
Kenya	3,000	1,020	?
Djibouti	2,996	2,996	?
Venezuela	2,214	4,906	?
Mali	2,000	*	?
Angola	1,460	*	?
Mozambique	1,427	*	?
Afghanistan	1,076	2,680	?
Honduras	1,050	*	?
Luxembourg	998	855	?
Colombia	986	586	?
Zimbabwe	946	600	?
Uruguay	500	260	?
Togo	436	*	?
Ethiopia	303	303	?
Rwanda	101	65	?
El Salvador	96	*	?
Guinea-Bissau	67	109	?
Benin	16	16	?

\* = The State Party did not submit an annual update for its transparency report in calendar year 2007.