

## LANDMINE MONITOR FACT SHEET

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For the Seventh Meeting of the Intersessional Standing Committee  
on the General Status and Operation of the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty

Geneva, Switzerland  
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## Mines Retained for Training and Development (Article 3)

Of the current 131 States Parties, 55 have exercised the option to retain antipersonnel mines for training and development purposes under Article 3 of the Mine Ban Treaty. Of these states, only 11 intend to keep more than 5,000 mines. Chile (28,647), Brazil (16,550), Bangladesh (15,000), Sweden (13,948), and Japan (11,223) are keeping the most antipersonnel mines. Zambia is retaining its entire stockpile of 6,691 antipersonnel mines under Article 3.

A total of 29 States Parties intend to keep between 1,000 and 5,000 antipersonnel mines. Another 15 are retaining less than 1,000 mines. Three States Parties have declared possessing mines under Article 3 but have yet to disclose the number they hold.

A total of 54 States Parties have chosen not to retain any antipersonnel mines; 13 of these states once stockpiled mines but have destroyed them or are in the process of destroying them. The remaining 22 States Parties have not yet declared whether they intend to retain any antipersonnel mines.

Some States Parties are retaining mines for training and research purposes, but have reported no such activities, or consumption of the retained mines, since 1999. For the most part, it appears that only a few of the mines being retained by States Parties are being used (that is, consumed, destroyed, expended) each year.

Several States Parties reported in their annual transparency reports the number of antipersonnel mines used in training and for research and development purposes in 2001: Australia (119), Belgium (334), Brazil (5), Bulgaria (326), Canada (59), Czech Republic (10), Denmark (15), Germany (179), France (47), and South Africa (50). Some countries, while not providing a yearly total, have reported on the number of mines consumed between 1999 and 2001 including Japan (3,777) and Yemen (120).

The ICBL continues to question the need for live mines for training and calls on States Parties to continue to evaluate the necessity for this exception. The ICBL believes that it is important to have complete transparency on mines retained for training and strongly supports the recommendation of the Standing Committee on General Status and Operation of the Convention that States Parties should in their Article 7 reports "include information on the intended purpose and actual use" of retained mines.

**States Parties should report on the number of retained mines used in each year and how the mines were used.** Belgium, Canada, and Sweden have commendably provided substantial detail on the anticipated purpose and then actual use of the retained mines in their Article 7 reports submitted in 2002.

Retaining Mines		Not Retaining Mines		Not Known	
Chile	28,647	Albania*		Afghanistan	
Brazil+	16,550	Andorra		Algeria	
Bangladesh	15,000	Antigua Barbuda		Angola	
Sweden	13,948	Austria*		Cape Verde	
Japan+	11,223	Bahamas		Central African Rep.	
Australia+	7,845	Barbados		Comoros	
Croatia	6,756	Belize		Congo DR	
Zambia	6,691	Benin		Cote D'Ivoire	
Mauritania	5,728	Bolivia		Cyprus	
Belgium+	5,099	Burkina Faso		Equatorial Guinea	
Tunisia	5,000	Colombia*		Eritrea	
Thailand	4,970	Costa Rica		Guinea	
United Kingdom	4,949	Dominica		Liberia	
Czech Republic+	4,849	Dominican Rep.		Namibia	
France+	4,479	Fiji		Nigeria	
South Africa+	4,455	Gabon*		St. Vincent & Grenadines	
Peru	4,024	Gambia		Seychelles	
Ecuador	4,000	Ghana		Sierra Leone	
Romania	4,000	Grenada		Suriname	
Spain	4,000	Guatemala*		Tajikistan	
Yemen+	4,000	Guinea Bissau*		Tanzania	
Bulgaria+	3,693	Holy See		Togo	
Netherlands	3,532	Iceland			
Kenya	3,000	Jamaica			
Slovenia	3,000	Kiribati			
Djibouti	2,996	Lesotho			
Germany+	2,574	Liechtenstein			
Bosnia Herzegovina	2,405	Madagascar			
Uganda	2,400	Malaysia*			
Venezuela	2,214	Malawi			
Denmark+	2,091	Maldives			
Mali	2,000	Malta			
Nicaragua	1,971	Mexico			
Canada+	1,947	Monaco			
Cambodia	1,877	Mozambique*			
Hungary	1,500	Nauru			
Slovakia	1,500	New Zealand*			
Portugal	1,115	Niger			
Argentina	1,000	Niue			
Jordan	1,000	Norway*			
Luxembourg	998	Panama			
Moldova	849	Paraguay			
Honduras	826	Philippines*			
Italy	811	Rwanda			
Zimbabwe	700	Saint Kitts & Nevis			
Cameroon	500	Saint Lucia			
Uruguay	500	Samoa			
Congo Brazzaville	372	San Marino			
Ireland	129	Senegal			
El Salvador	96	Solomon Islands			
Mauritius	93	Swaziland			
Macedonia FYR	50	Switzerland*			
Botswana	unknown	Trinidad & Tobago			
Chad	unknown	Turkmenistan*			
Qatar	unknown				

+ = included information in Article 7 report on the number of retained mines used annually

\* = once stockpiled mines but have destroyed them or in the process of destroying them