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Introduction

The 1997 “Ottawa” Mine Ban Treaty came into force on 1 March 1999 and comprehensively prohibits, in all circumstances, the use, production, transfer, and stockpiling of antipersonnel landmines as well as assisting with these banned activities.¹ The treaty provides the humanitarian framework for eradicating landmines and mitigating human suffering by requiring clearance of mined areas within ten years, destruction of stocks within four years, and assistance to mine victims.

Of the 164 countries that have joined the Mine Ban Treaty, 26 are in the Asia and Pacific regions: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Malaysia, Maldives, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. The Marshall Islands is the only state within the region, and globally, to have signed but not yet ratified the treaty.

Twelve of the 33 states that remain outside the treaty come from the Asia and Pacific region: China, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (North Korea), India, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea (South Korea), Singapore, Tonga, and Vietnam.

This Briefing Paper draws from Landmine Monitor² reporting, particularly country profiles that examine the positions and actions of all states in adhering to ban treaty provisions.

Use, Production, Transfer, and Stockpiling

Current Use

The sole ongoing use of antipersonnel mines by a state during the previous year was recorded in Myanmar.

Past Use

In the past, 15 Asian and Pacific states have used antipersonnel mines: Afghanistan, Australia, Bhutan, Cambodia, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, and Thailand prior to joining the Mine Ban Treaty, as well as non-signatories China, India, Lao PDR, Nepal, North Korea, Singapore, South Korea, and Vietnam. Additionally, non-state actor groups have used antipersonnel mines in Afghanistan, India, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

Production

Seven states in Asia and the Pacific continue to produce antipersonnel mines: China, India, Myanmar, North Korea, Pakistan, Singapore, and South Korea. In the past, States Parties Australia and Japan, and non-signatories Nepal and Vietnam produced mines, but all four states have ceased production. China, India, North Korea, Pakistan, and Singapore previously exported antipersonnel mines; however, all five have reportedly ceased exports.

A total of 11 Asian and Pacific non-signatories likely continue to stockpile antipersonnel mines: China, India, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, North Korea, Pakistan, Singapore, South Korea, and

¹ Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, 18 September 1997, also called the Mine Ban Treaty

² Monitor website at www.the-monitor.org/en-gb/home.aspx.

Vietnam. States Parties Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, and Thailand have destroyed their stockpiles during their implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty. Sri Lanka is currently in the process of destroying its stockpiles.

Landmine Contamination

Twelve states in Asia and the Pacific are known to be contaminated by antipersonnel mines: Afghanistan, Cambodia, China, India, Lao PDR, Myanmar, North Korea, Pakistan, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.³ An additional two states may have residual or suspected contamination: Palau⁴ and the Philippines.⁵

There was new contamination in 2017–2018 in States Parties Afghanistan and Thailand and in non-signatories India, Myanmar, and Pakistan. Most new mine contamination is from improvised antipersonnel mines, which are often referred to as “improvised explosive devices (IEDs).” IEDs constitute improvised mines if they are “designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity, or contact of a person.”⁶ Several contaminated states reported clearance of mined areas in 2017, including Afghanistan, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, and non-signatories South Korea and Vietnam.

Mine Ban Policy by Country

Afghanistan

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty on 11 September 2002, becoming a State Party on 1 March 2003. Afghanistan adopted national implementation legislation in September 2018.⁷

Over the past decade, Afghanistan has participated in every Meeting of States Parties, including the convention’s Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties in Geneva in November 2018. On 5 December 2018, Afghanistan voted in favor of UN General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 73/61, the annual resolution promoting the universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty.

Afghanistan is not known to have ever produced or exported antipersonnel mines. Afghanistan reported that it completed its stockpile destruction obligations in October 2007, eight months after its treaty-mandated deadline of 1 March 2007.⁸ Afghanistan does not retain any live mines for training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques.

³ See, *Landmine Monitor 2018, Contamination and Clearance chapter*, November 2018.

⁴ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report (for the period January 2010 to December 2010), Form A.

⁵ See, for example, Melvin Gascom, “6 soldiers hurt by landmine in Quirino province,” *Inquirer*, 17 July 2017.

⁶ Mine Ban Treaty Article 2(1).

⁷ *Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report (for calendar year 2018)*, Form A. Previously, Afghanistan reported that the Ministry of Defense instructed all military forces “to respect the comprehensive ban on antipersonnel mines and the prohibition on use in any situation by militaries or individuals.” *Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report (for calendar year 2008)*, Form A.

⁸ In April 2007, Afghanistan informed States Parties that while it had destroyed 486,226 stockpiled antipersonnel mines, two depots of antipersonnel mines remained in Panjsher province, about 150 kilometers north of Kabul. Provincial authorities did not make the mines available for destruction in a timely fashion. For details on the destruction program and reasons for not meeting the deadline, see, *Landmine Monitor Report 2007*, pp. 89–90; and *Landmine Monitor Report 2008*, pp. 79–80.

Use of victim-activated improvised mines and other IEDs by non-state armed groups continued in 2018 and 2019, resulting in further casualties.

The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) found that civilian casualties resulting from improvised mines by non-state armed groups decreased in 2018 when compared to the previous year.⁹ Many of the improvised mines documented within the report were victim-activated and the use of improvised mines continues in 2019.¹⁰

Australia

The Commonwealth of Australia signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 3 December 1997 and ratified it on 14 January 1999, becoming a State Party on 1 July 1999. Australia formally halted operational use of antipersonnel mines on 15 April 1996. Australia was a minor producer of antipersonnel mines and imported mines from the United States, but was not an exporter. On 10 December 1998, Australia enacted legislation to implement the Mine Ban Treaty domestically.

Australia consistently submits Article 7 transparency reports and regularly attends meetings of the treaty. Australia has served as co-rapporteur and then co-chair of the Standing Committees on Stockpile Destruction, Victim Assistance, and Mine Clearance and was president of the Seventh Meeting of States Parties in 2006.

Australia destroyed its stockpile of 128,161 antipersonnel mines in 1999, well before its treaty-mandated destruction deadline of 1 July 2003. In 2000, it destroyed an additional 6,460 mines. Australia previously held a small stockpile of mines for training purposes but now possesses no stockpiles.

Bangladesh

The People's Republic of Bangladesh signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 7 May 1998, ratified on 6 September 2000, and became a State Party on 1 March 2001. Bangladesh has not drafted implementation legislation for the Mine Ban Treaty.¹¹ In 2009, Bangladesh stated that it "is aware of its obligation in terms of enacting enabling legislation in support of the provisions of the Anti-personnel Mine Convention. Recently the government has initiated the process to draft legislation banning the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of Anti-personnel Mines."¹² Bangladesh has made similar statements each year since 2002. In 2013, Bangladesh reported, "necessary implementation measures are in process" and has reported that multiple times since, most recently in 2017.¹³

⁹ UNAMA, "[Afghanistan: Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict Annual Report 2018](#)," Kabul, February 2019, p. 24.

¹⁰ UNAMA, "[Afghanistan: Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict mid-year report 2019](#)," Kabul, July 2019, p. 6.

¹¹ In its first mention in its Article 7 report in April 2003, Bangladesh stated that its implementation legislation was in its "final stage of preparation." Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report, Form A, 29 April 2003. However, in subsequent Article 7 reports, it has simply repeated that "Necessary implementation measures are in progress."

¹² Statement by Amb. Akramul Qader, State Minister, Embassy of Bangladesh to the United States, Mine Ban Treaty Second Review Conference, Cartagena, 3–4 December 2009.

¹³ [Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report](#), Form A, 28 February 2013.

Bangladesh last attended a meeting of the treaty in December 2012. It submits Article 7 transparency reports semi-regularly, but has not submitted a report since 2017.

Bangladeshi officials have often stated that the country has never produced or exported antipersonnel mines and never used antipersonnel mines within the country or along its borders.¹⁴ Bangladesh completed destruction of 189,227 stockpiled antipersonnel mines in February 2005.¹⁵ As of 2017, it retained 12,050 mines for training and research purposes. The number of mines retained since Bangladesh's initial report in 2002 has remained unchanged, indicating that mines are not being consumed during any training or research activities.

In September 2017, the Bangladeshi government protested new use of landmines on the border by Myanmar government security forces.¹⁶ The Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh, Shahidul Haque, stated in an interview that the Bangladeshi government had "reliable information" that Myanmar military forces had "laid land mines across a section of the Bangladesh-Myanmar border."¹⁷ This statement was later supported by a report on 11 October 2017 by the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights that stated "mines were deliberately planted by the Myanmar security forces after 23 August 2017 along the border in an attempt to prevent the Rohingya refugees from returning to Myanmar."¹⁸

Bhutan

The Kingdom of Bhutan acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty on 18 August 2005 and the treaty entered into force for it on 1 February 2006. Bhutan has stated that the treaty is "self-enacting" under existing domestic law.¹⁹

Bhutan attended the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties in Geneva in November–December 2015, where it provided an update on its stockpile destruction and mine clearance efforts. Bhutan has not attended any subsequent Meetings of States Parties. On 5 December 2018, Bhutan voted in favor of UNGA Resolution 73/61, the annual resolution promoting the universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty.

Bhutan's initial Article 7 report acknowledges that it imported and used antipersonnel mines in the past but did not produce them.²⁰ In 2018, Bhutan reported that it retained 211 antipersonnel mines for training purposes.²¹ It did not provide any details on the destruction of 279 antipersonnel mines between its 2018 report and the previous report.

¹⁴ It most recently said this in its statement at the Second Review Conference in 2009.

¹⁵ For details on stockpile destruction, see, *Landmine Monitor Report 2005*, pp. 156–157.

¹⁶ "Exclusive – Myanmar laying landmines near Bangladesh border: government sources in Dhaka," *Reuters*, 5 September 2017.

¹⁷ "Rohingya refugees crossing into Bangladesh face another threat," *Washington Post*, 13 September 2017.

¹⁸ OHCHR, "Mission report of OHCHR rapid response mission to Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, 13–24 September 2017," 11 October 2017. pp. 9–10.

¹⁹ "In Bhutan's case, the treaty would be 'self-enacting' under domestic law since Chapter IV, clause 29 of the Civil & Criminal Procedure Code of Bhutan 2001 states that 'The Royal Court of Justice shall apply International Convention, Covenant, Treaty and Protocol that are duly acceded by the Royal Government of Bhutan and ratified by the National Assembly of Bhutan.'" *Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report*, Form A, 29 May 2007.

²⁰ *Article 7 Report*, Forms C, D, E, F, and H, 29 May 2007. The Article 7 report indicates Bhutan government forces used mines on tracks to camps maintained by insurgents in Gorbakunda and Nganglam. Bhutan previously stated several times that it had not produced, imported, exported, stockpiled, or used antipersonnel mines.

²¹ *Article 7 Report (for calendar year 2017)*, Form D. Bhutan retains 145 MNM-14 mines and 66 M-16 mines.

Brunei

Brunei Darussalam signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 4 December 1997, ratified it on 24 April 2006, and became a State Party on 1 October 2006. Legislation to enforce the antipersonnel mine prohibition domestically has been drafted, but not yet enacted.²² Brunei has not submitted a Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 report since April 2007. On 22 June 2010, Brunei submitted a letter to the UN in lieu of an Article 7 report that stated it does “not have any Anti-Personnel Mines that are banned under the Convention, and therefore we do not have any information for the Article 7 Annual Report.”²³

Brunei has never used, produced, imported, exported, or stockpiled antipersonnel mines, including for training purposes.

Cambodia

The Kingdom of Cambodia signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 3 December 1997 and ratified on 28 July 1999, becoming a State Party on 1 January 2000. Domestic implementation legislation—the Law to Prohibit the Use of Anti-personnel Mines—took effect on 28 May 1999. Into 2019, Cambodia consistently submits annual Article 7 transparency reports, participates in Meetings of States Parties, and votes in favor of the annual UNGA resolution calling for the universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty.

Previously, the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) destroyed its declared stockpile of 71,991 antipersonnel mines between 1994 and 1998, and in February 1999 the RCAF Deputy Commander in Chief formally stated that the RCAF no longer had stockpiles of antipersonnel mines.²⁴ In 2013, Cambodia reported that while there have been no antipersonnel mine stockpiles in the country since 2001, “police and military units are still finding and collecting weapons, ammunitions and mines from various sources, locations and caches.”²⁵

Cambodia has each year reported the transfer of mines removed from mined areas to the Cambodia Mine Action Center (CMAC) training center and other operators for training purposes.²⁶

China

The People’s Republic of China has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty. At the treaty’s Third Review Conference in June 2014, China stated that “given its national conditions and national defense needs China still could not accede to the convention at this stage,” repeating a similar statement made at the previous Meeting of States Parties.²⁷

China has attended all of the Mine Ban Treaty’s Review Conferences, as well as most of the treaty’s annual meetings, including the Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties in Geneva in December 2018. On

²² Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report (for unspecified period ending April 2007), Form A.

²³ Letter from Amb. Janin Erih, Permanent Mission of Brunei to the UN in Geneva, 22 June 2010.

²⁴ See, *Landmine Monitor Report 1999*, p. 391.

²⁵ *Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report (for calendar year 2012)*, Form F.

²⁶ *Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report*, 30 April 2019.

²⁷ *Statement of China*, Mine Ban Treaty Third Review Conference, Maputo, 27 June 2014.

5 December 2018, China voted in favor of UNGA Resolution 73/61, calling for the universalization and full implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty, as it has every year since 2005.

In the past, China was one of the world's largest producers and exporters of antipersonnel mines.²⁸ In 2012, a Foreign Ministry official informed the Monitor that there was no ongoing large-scale production of antipersonnel mines, but a small number of new antipersonnel mines were produced for research purposes by the military.²⁹ In November 2016, a Defense Ministry official confirmed earlier statements that non-self-destructing mines are no longer manufactured.³⁰

In 1996, China announced a formal moratorium on the export of any mines that do not comply with Convention on Conventional Weapons Amended Protocol II. In practice, China is not known to have exported any type of antipersonnel mine in that time. However, recently manufactured Chinese-made rocket-delivered Type-84 antivehicle mines were used in Libya in 2011 and in Syria in April 2014.³¹

In June 2014, Chinese representatives informed the Monitor that no new antipersonnel mines had been used in the country in the past decade and acknowledged antipersonnel mines no longer play a prominent role in China's defense doctrine.³² In 2011, a Chinese official noted that the country maintains a small number of minefields "for national defense."³³

In June 2014, China informed Landmine Monitor that it currently stockpiles five million antipersonnel mines, a great reduction from the 110 million previously cited by the Monitor.³⁴ China has reported annually on the destruction of antipersonnel mines since the late 1990s, but has not provided details on the types and quantities destroyed.³⁵

Cook Islands

The Cook Islands signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 3 December 1997 and ratified it on 16 March 2006, becoming a State Party on 1 September 2006. The Cook Islands adopted legislation to implement the treaty domestically in 2007. The Cook Islands has never attended a Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty. It submits Article 7 transparency reports semi-regularly, most recently in 2017.

²⁸ Two government-owned companies, China North Industries Corporation (NORINCO) and Chinese State Arsenals, produced at least 22 types of antipersonnel mines, including six copies of Soviet designs. See, *Landmine Monitor Report: 1999: Toward a Mine Free World* (New York: Human Rights Watch, 1999), pp. 457–458.

²⁹ Email from Lai Haiyang, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 5 March 2012.

³⁰ Landmine Monitor interview with Sun Hui, Officer, Ministry of Defense, in Santiago, Chile, 29 November 2016. Notes by the Monitor.

³¹ In May 2011, Human Rights Watch (HRW) and *The New York Times* confirmed the use of Chinese-produced Type 84 Model A scatterable antivehicle mines by Gaddafi forces in Misrata. The mines had 2009 manufacture date markings. HRW also verified the use of Type 72SP antivehicle mines near Ajdabiya and al-Qawalish by Gaddafi forces. For more information about both the Type 72SP and the Type 84 Model A mines, see HRW, "[Landmines in Libya: Technical Briefing Note](#)," updated 19 July 2011; and Mark Hiznay, "[Remotely Delivered Antivehicle Mines Spotted in Syria](#)," Landmine and Cluster Munition Blog, 25 April 2014.

³² Monitor interview with Ji Haojun, Deputy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Col. Wu Gang, Policy Division, Ministry of Defense, in Maputo, 24 June 2014.

³³ Email from Lai Haiyang, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 5 March 2012.

³⁴ The estimate is based on interviews with non-Chinese government officials involved in CCW Amended Protocol II discussions in 1995 and 1996.

³⁵ [Statement of China](#), 15th Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, Geneva, 13 November 2013.

The Cook Islands has never used, produced, exported, or imported antipersonnel mines, including for training purposes.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty and has not participated at all in efforts to ban antipersonnel mines. In October 2016, North Korea stated that it "shares the humanitarian concerns associated with the use of anti-personnel mines, but due to the unique security environment of the Korean peninsula, especially regarding the United States' insistence on the use of landmines there, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is not in a position to give up the use of landmines."³⁶ North Korea has never participated in a meeting of the treaty, and has consistently abstained from the vote on annual UNGA resolutions calling for the universalization of the treaty.

In 2015, allegations of new use of antipersonnel landmines by North Korean forces surfaced. In June 2015, South Korean authorities were quoted in the press as stating that North Korea had started laying new landmines on its borders to stop its soldiers from fleeing the country.³⁷

A second allegation occurred in August 2015, when two South Korean soldiers on a routine patrol on the South Korean side of the demilitarized zone (DMZ) at Yeonchon, in Gyeonggi province, were injured by newly emplaced antipersonnel mines.³⁸ The type of mine was later stated by the South Korean military to be a North Korean wooden box mine (PMD-6 type).

In July 2016, further allegations of mine use by North Korea during 2016 were published by South Korea's *Yonhap News Agency*.³⁹ In August 2016 the US military, citing the United Nations Command (UNC), stated that new mine laying by North Korea was occurring, and that the UNC condemned the new mine laying as a violation of the 1953 armistice.⁴⁰

In October 2018, North and South Korea claimed to have begun demining activities in certain parts of the DMZ.⁴¹

North Korea has produced antipersonnel mines in the past, but no information is available on possible current production.⁴² North Korea has exported mines, which have been found in Angola and Sudan, but there are no reports of recent transfers.⁴³ The size of North Korea's stockpile of antipersonnel mines is not known but is likely substantial.

³⁶ Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Explanation of Vote on Resolution L.7/Rev.1, 71st Session, UNGA First Committee, New York, 31 October 2016, UNGA, Official Records, [A/C.1/71/PV.24](#), pp. 25/35–26/35.

³⁷ "N. Korea plants landmines in DMZ apparently to prevent soldiers fleeing," *Yonhap News Agency*, 14 June 2015.

³⁸ Shim E., "Two South Korean soldiers injured in DMZ land mine explosion," *UPI*, 4 August 2015; US Forces Korea Press Release, "United Nations Command Military Armistice Commission Investigates land mine detonation in demilitarized zone," 13 August 2015.

³⁹ "N.K. seen doubling landmines in DMZ this year: S. Korean military," *Yonhap News Agency*, 3 July 2016.

⁴⁰ "N. Korea reportedly laying land mines near landmark bridge," *Stars and Stripes*, 26 August 2016.

⁴¹ "North and South Korea Begin Removing Mines Along DMZ," *CBS News*, 1 October 2018.

⁴² See, Eddie Banks, *Brassey's Essential Guide to Anti-Personnel Landmines* (London: Brassey's, 1997), p. 164; and Colin King, ed., *Jane's Mines and Mine Clearance 2004–2005* (Surrey, UK: Jane's Information Group Limited, 2005), p. 211.

⁴³ Colin King, ed., *Jane's Mines and Mine Clearance 2004–2005* (Surrey, UK: Jane's Information Group Limited, 2005), p. 211.

Fiji

The Republic of the Fiji Islands signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 3 December 1997 and ratified it on 10 June 1998, becoming a State Party on 1 March 1999. Fiji has not enacted new legislation specifically to implement the Mine Ban Treaty.

Fiji has attended a single meeting of the treaty, the Thirteenth Meeting of States Parties in 2013. Fiji most recently submitted a Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 report in 2002. Fiji has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting the universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty, most recently in December 2018.

Fiji has never used, produced, imported, exported, or stockpiled antipersonnel mines, including for training purposes.

India

The Republic of India has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty. In December 2017, India repeated that it “supports the vision of a world free of anti-personnel mines. Our presence as Observers in this and previous meetings of States Parties...is an expression of our support for these objectives.”⁴⁴ In October 2017, India reiterated its long-held position that the Amended Protocol II of the Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW) “enshrines the approach of taking into account legitimate defence requirements of states with long borders.”⁴⁵

India attended, as an observer, the convention’s Third Review Conference in Maputo in September 2014. India sent an observer to the Mine Ban Treaty Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties in Geneva in November 2018, but did not attend the intersessional meetings in June 2018. On 5 December 2018, India abstained from voting on UNGA Resolution 73/61 calling for universalization and full implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty, as it has on similar annual resolutions since 1997.

India is one of the few countries still producing antipersonnel mines. India states that all production is authorized and controlled by government agencies.⁴⁶ Production of antipersonnel mines appeared to be ongoing in 2016, 2017, 2018, and early 2019.

In October 2017, India reaffirmed that it has had a formal export moratorium of unlimited duration in place since May 1996.⁴⁷ In 1999, the Monitor estimated that India stockpiled between four and five million antipersonnel mines, one of the world’s largest stockpiles.⁴⁸

⁴⁴ [Statement of India](#), Mine Ban Treaty Sixteenth Meeting of States Parties, Vienna, 19 December 2017. This statement was virtually identical to its statement of the previous year. See, [statement of India](#), Mine Ban Treaty Fifteenth Meeting of States Parties, Santiago, Chile, 29 November 2016.

⁴⁵ India, Explanation of Vote on Resolution L.40, 72nd Session, United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) First Committee, New York, 31 October 2017, UNGA, Official Records, [A/C.1/72/PV26](#), pp. 14/29. The statement is identical to statements in earlier years such as 2016, 2011, 2010, and 2009.

⁴⁶ CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report, Form D, 4 December 2006. However, as reported by the Monitor in 2007, some of the production process appears to be carried out by commercial entities. See, [Landmine Monitor Report 2007](#), p. 833. All subsequent Article 13 reports state that this statement is unchanged.

⁴⁷ India, Explanation of Vote on Resolution L.40, 72nd Session, UNGA First Committee, New York, 31 October 2017, UNGA, Official Records, [A/C.1/72/PV26](#), p. 14/29.

⁴⁸ See, [Landmine Monitor Report 1999](#), p. 467. The figure may no longer be accurate following the large number of mines planted along the Pakistani border in 2001 and 2002, or taking into consideration new production of mines.

India's last major use of antipersonnel mines took place between December 2001 and July 2002, when the Indian Army deployed an estimated two million mines along its northern and western border with Pakistan in Operation Parakram.⁴⁹ The Monitor has previously reported mine use in counter-insurgency operations in Kashmir.⁵⁰ Civilians continued to be killed and injured by mines in Kashmir in 2017 and early 2018.

In 2018 and the first half of 2019, Landmine Monitor recorded some low-level use of improvised antipersonnel landmines by the Communist Party of India-Maoist.⁵¹

In June 2018, a cache of landmines, believed to have been hidden by the former LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) of Sri Lanka, was found during a construction project in Tamil Nadu.⁵²

Indonesia

The Republic of Indonesia signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 4 December 1997, ratified it on 20 February 2007, and became a State Party on 1 August 2007. Indonesia states that its Emergency Law No. 12/1951 on Fire Arms and Explosives provides for the imposition of penal sanctions as required by the treaty.⁵³ Previously, a Ministry of Foreign Affairs official said that the ministry has raised the possibility of new implementation legislation specifically for the Mine Ban Treaty in interagency meetings, but Indonesia has not indicated the passage of any further legislation.⁵⁴

Indonesia participated in the Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty in 2018. It submits Article 7 reports semi-regularly, but has not done so since 2015. Indonesia has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in December 2018.

Indonesia has stated that it has not produced or used antipersonnel mines.⁵⁵ Indonesia destroyed the last of its 11,603 stockpiled antipersonnel mines on 13 November 2008.⁵⁶ As of 2015, Indonesia reported that it had retained 2,454 mines for training purposes.⁵⁷ The number of mines retained since Indonesia's Article 7 report has remained unchanged since 2009, indicating that mines are not being consumed during any training or research activities.

Japan

⁴⁹ See, *Landmine Monitor Report 2006*, p. 898; *Landmine Monitor Report 2004*, pp. 976–977; and *Landmine Monitor Report 2002*, pp. 660–662.

⁵⁰ See, *Landmine Monitor Report 2009*, p. 933; *Landmine Monitor Report 2007*, p. 834; and *Landmine Monitor Report 2006*, p. 898.

⁵¹ “One civilian killed in landmine blast,” *Hans News Service*, 1 April 2019. See also, “Hurt tusker hints at rebels,” *The Telegraph*, 15 January 2018.

⁵² “More than 50 boxes of abandoned ammunition, landmines recovered,” *Business Standard*, 25 June 2018.

⁵³ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report, Form A, reporting period 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015.

⁵⁴ Email from Andy Rachmianto, Deputy Director, Directorate for International Security and Disarmament, Department of Foreign Affairs, 23 March 2009.

⁵⁵ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report, Form E, 21 June 2011; and statement of Indonesia, Tenth Meeting of States Parties, Mine Ban Treaty, Geneva, November 2010. There have been conflicting reports about past mine use by Indonesian forces in West Papua in 1961–1962 and in East Timor in the 1970s. See, *Landmine Monitor Report 2000*, pp. 452–453.

⁵⁶ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report, Form F, 17 April 2009.

⁵⁷ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report, Form A, reporting period 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015.

Japan signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 3 December 1997, ratified it on 30 September 1998, and became a State Party on 1 March 1999. Legislation to enforce the antipersonnel mine prohibition domestically entered into force on 1 March 1999.

Japan participated in the Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty in 2018. Japan consistently submits annual Article 7 transparency reports. Japan has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in December 2018.

Japan is a former antipersonnel mine producer and importer. It ceased antipersonnel mine production in 1997 and production facilities were decommissioned by 31 March 1999. Japan completed destruction of its stockpile of 985,089 antipersonnel mines on 8 February 2003. Japan initially retained 15,000 antipersonnel mines for training and development purposes; however, by the end of 2019 this number had been reduced to 898.⁵⁸

Kiribati

The Republic of Kiribati acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty on 7 September 2000 and became a State Party on 1 March 2001. Kiribati believes that existing legislation is sufficient to enforce the antipersonnel mine prohibition domestically. Kiribati most recently submitted its Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 report in 2004. Kiribati has never attended a Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty. Kiribati has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting the universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty, most recently in 2017.

Kiribati has never used, produced, imported, exported, or stockpiled antipersonnel mines, including for training purposes.

Lao PDR

The Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty. Lao PDR officials have stated on many occasions that the government decided in 2004 to accede but that the country needs time to prepare to meet the treaty's obligations. In December 2012, Lao PDR reiterated that it would work toward accession but did not provide a timeline.⁵⁹ The government has cited the treaty's mine clearance obligation and deadline under Article 5 as an obstacle to accession. Lao PDR also expressed concern regarding the possible diversion of resources from unexploded ordinance (UXO) clearance activities to a focus on antipersonnel mines.⁶⁰ Lao PDR attended the Sixteenth Meeting of States Parties in 2017 as an observer state. It provided a voluntary Article 7 report in 2011.⁶¹ It has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in December 2018.

In 2008, Lao PDR acknowledged that it has used mines in the past "to protect its borders." It also said that the government does not export antipersonnel mines although it holds a small stockpile.⁶² Lao

⁵⁸ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report, Form D, reporting period 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018.

⁵⁹ Statement of Lao PDR, Mine Ban Treaty Twelfth Meeting of States Parties, Session on Universalization, Geneva, 6 December 2012.

⁶⁰ See, *Landmine Monitor Report 2004*, p. 1,034; and *Landmine Monitor Report 2009*, p. 973.

⁶¹ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report, reporting up to 31 December 2010.

⁶² Statement by Amb. Maligna Saignavongs, NRA, Mine Ban Treaty Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, Mine Ban Treaty, Geneva, 2 June 2008.

PDR's voluntary Article 7 report states that it has not used antipersonnel mines for more than two decades and that the country has no production facilities.⁶³

Malaysia

Malaysia signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 3 December 1997, ratified it on 22 April 1999, and became a State Party on 1 October 2009. Legislation to enforce the antipersonnel mine prohibition domestically took effect on 25 June 2000. Malaysia participated in the Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties in 2018. It submits Article 7 reports semi-regularly, but not since 2014. Malaysia has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in December 2018.

Malaysia has never used, produced, or exported antipersonnel mines. It previously imported and stockpiled antipersonnel mines. Malaysia completed destruction of its stockpile of 94,721 mines on 23 January 2001, well in advance of its October 2003 treaty-mandated deadline. Malaysia chose not to retain any mines for training or development purposes.

Maldives

The Republic of Maldives signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 1 October 1998, ratified it on 7 September 2000, and became a State Party on 1 March 2001. Maldives has not enacted new legislation specifically to implement the Mine Ban Treaty. Maldives most recently submitted an Article 7 report in 2006. Maldives has never attended a Mine Ban Treaty Meeting of States Parties. Maldives has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting the universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty, most recently in December 2018.

Maldives has never used, produced, imported, exported, or stockpiled antipersonnel mines, including for training purposes.

Marshall Islands

The Republic of the Marshall Islands signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 4 December 1997, and is the last signatory to not have ratified the Mine Ban Treaty. In November 2008, a representative of the Marshall Islands informed States Parties that the government strongly supported the goals and objectives of the Mine Ban Treaty but cited its relationship with the United States and the burden of treaty participation on small states as principal reasons for not ratifying.⁶⁴ The Marshall Islands attended the Ninth Meeting of States Parties in 2008 as a signatory state, and has not attended any subsequent treaty meetings. The Marshall Islands has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting the universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty, most recently in 2018.

The Marshall Islands confirmed in June 2008 that it has not produced mines and has no known stockpiles.⁶⁵

⁶³ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report, Forms J & E, reporting up to 31 December 2010.

⁶⁴ Statement by Rina Tareo, Permanent Mission of the Marshall Islands to the UN, Mine Ban Treaty Ninth Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 26 November 2008.

⁶⁵ Statement by Rina Tareo, Mine Ban Treaty Standing Committee on General Status and Operation, Geneva, 2 June 2008.

Mongolia

Mongolia has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty and did not fulfill its objective, announced in 2004, of joining the treaty in 2008 through a step-by-step approach.⁶⁶ Mongolia has repeatedly stated that it has limited resources to implement the treaty, especially with respect to stockpile destruction, and it encouraged “cooperation, assistance and support” from other countries and international organizations.⁶⁷

Mongolia has not regularly attended Mine Ban Treaty meetings and has not participated as an observer since the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties in November–December 2011. Mongolia voted in favor of the 2018 annual UNGA resolution calling for the universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty.

Mongolia submitted a voluntary Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 report in August 2007.⁶⁸ The report revealed a stockpile of 206,417 antipersonnel mines, imported from the former Soviet Union.

In the past, Mongolia often stated that it has never used antipersonnel mines on its territory.⁶⁹ In December 2010, Mongolia reaffirmed that it will not “transfer, acquire or place landmines.”⁷⁰

Myanmar

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar (Myanmar) has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty. Myanmar continued to express its support for the Mine Ban Treaty but did not take any steps to accede to it. In late May 2018, Myanmar’s Minister for International Cooperation, U Kyaw Tin, told the treaty’s special envoy that Myanmar would consider joining the treaty after the successful implementation of a nationwide ceasefire agreement by all parties.⁷¹

In July 2019, an official at the Union Minister Office for Defence stated to the Landmine Monitor that “since the start of the civilian era, the Tatmadaw [government armed forces] no longer use landmines” but qualified that by stating that in some instances landmines may still be used. Specifically, he stated, “In border areas, if the number of Tatmadaw (national armed forces) is small, they will lay mines around where they reside, but only if their numbers are small. Mines are also laid around infrastructure such as microwave towers. If these are near villages we warn them. If there is a Tatmadaw camp in an area controlled by an ethnic armed group where they are sniped at and harassed, they will lay mines around the camp.”⁷²

⁶⁶ See, *Landmine Monitor Report 2005*, p. 819; and *Landmine Monitor Report 2006*, pp. 1,011–1,012, for details of Mongolia’s 2004–2008 Program of Action aimed at accession.

⁶⁷ See, *statement of Mongolia*, Tenth Meeting of States Parties, Mine Ban Treaty, Geneva, 2 December 2010.

⁶⁸ *Mine Ban Treaty Voluntary Article 7 Report (for the period 2007–2008), August 2007*.

⁶⁹ See, for example, *Landmine Monitor Report 2009*, p. 1,020.

⁷⁰ *Statement of Mongolia*, Mine Ban Treaty Tenth Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 2 December 2010. See also, statement by Col. Gantumur, Mongolian Armed Forces, Mine Ban Treaty Second Review Conference, Cartagena, 1 December 2009.

⁷¹ “*Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin receives Prince Mired Ra’ad Al-Hussein, Special Envoy of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Ottawa Convention)*,” *Global New Light of Myanmar*, 30 May 2018; and Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, “*Mine Ban Convention Special Envoy to visit Myanmar*,” Press Release, 24 May 2018.

⁷² Landmine Monitor meeting with U Min Htike Hein, Assistant Secretary, Union Minister Office for Defence, Ministry of Defence, Naypyitaw, 5 July 2019.

Myanmar abstained from voting on UNGA Resolution 72/53 that promotes universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty, and since 1997 has abstained from voting on the annual UNGA resolution supporting the Mine Ban Treaty.⁷³ Myanmar has participated as an observer in several Meetings of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty, most recently in December 2018.⁷⁴

In September 2016, government authorities in Myanmar confirmed that landmines were still being produced.⁷⁵ Myanmar produces five types of antipersonnel landmines: The MM1, which is modeled on the Chinese Type-59 stake-mounted fragmentation mine; the MM2, which is similar to the Chinese Type-58 blast mine; the MM3, which is a bounding mine; the MM5, which is a Claymore-type directional fragmentation mine; and the MM6, which is a copy of the United States' M14 plastic mine. There is no publicly available information on the types or quantities of antipersonnel mines in government possession. Myanmar is not known to have exported antipersonnel mines.⁷⁶

Since 1999, there has been consistent documentation of antipersonnel mine use by the Tatmadaw as well as by various non-state armed groups (NSAGs). Various NSAGs in Myanmar have produced and used antipersonnel mines. Armed groups in Myanmar have also acquired mines by removing mines laid by others, seizing government (Tatmadaw) stocks, and by obtaining them from the clandestine arms market.⁷⁷

Throughout 2017, there were reports that the Tatmadaw placed antipersonnel mines along the country's border with Bangladesh. An October 2017 report by the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights found that "mines were deliberately planted by the Myanmar security forces in 2017 along the border in an attempt to prevent the Rohingya refugees from returning to Myanmar."⁷⁸ In addition to the UN report, a May 2017 Amnesty International report found that Myanmar military forces used antipersonnel landmines in the areas of Kachin and northern Shan states.⁷⁹

In February 2018, the Indian Army reportedly cleared landmines laid along its border with the state of Chin in Myanmar that it claimed were laid sometime between late 2017 and early 2018 by either the Myanmar Army or NSAGs.⁸⁰

Since mid-2018, armed conflict between the Tatmadaw and the Arakan Army in Rakhine state has intensified. The Arakan Army's battle news published online regularly includes photographs of weaponry captured from the Tatmadaw, including numerous photographs of Kapasa-made antipersonnel landmines, particular MM2, MM5, and MM6 antipersonnel mines. While this does not specifically identify new use, it indicates that antipersonnel mines are part of the weaponry of frontline units. New

⁷³ In 1996, Myanmar voted in favour of a UNGA resolution calling on governments to pursue an international agreement banning antipersonnel landmines.

⁷⁴ Myanmar previously attended Mine Ban Treaty Meetings of States Parties in 2003, 2006, and 2011–2013, and 2017. It did not participate in the Mine Ban Treaty Review Conference held 2004, 2009, or 2014.

⁷⁵ Htoo Thant, "Tatmadaw insists landmine use kept within reasonable minimum," *Myanmar Times*, 13 September 2016.

⁷⁶ In 1999, Myanmar's representative to the UN stated that the country was supportive of banning exports of antipersonnel mines, however, no formal moratorium or export ban has been proclaimed. See, *Landmine Monitor Report 2000*, p. 469.

⁷⁷ See, *Landmine Monitor Report 2009*, p. 1013.

⁷⁸ OHCHR, "Mission report of OHCHR rapid response mission to Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, 13–24 September 2017," 11 October 2017. pp. 9–10.

⁷⁹ Amnesty International, "All the Civilians Suffer: Conflict, Displacement and abuse in Northern Myanmar," 14 June 2017, p. 32.

⁸⁰ Guwahati Nyoooz, "Bomb experts defuse mines along Myanmar border in Mizoram," *Times of India*, 16 February 2018.

antipersonnel mine casualties in areas not previously known to have mine contamination indicates new use, by either the Arakan Army, the Tatmadaw or both.

On 15 October 2015, eight ethnic armed groups signed a nationwide ceasefire accord with the government, committing to “end planting of mines” and “cooperate on the process of clearing all landmines.”⁸¹ Many NSAGs have used antipersonnel mines in Myanmar since 1999, and reports show that this practice has continued. In the past, some NSAGs have unilaterally renounced antipersonnel mine use by signing the Deed of Commitment administered by the Swiss NGO Geneva Call.⁸² Despite these accords, reports continue to show that NSAGs use antipersonnel mines within Myanmar. In 2018, there were reports that the NSAGs TNLA, KNLA, and KIA all used antipersonnel mines.⁸³

Nauru

The Republic of Nauru acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty on 7 August 2000 and became a State Party on 1 February 2001. It has not enacted new legislation specifically to implement the Mine Ban Treaty. Nauru’s initial Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 report, due 31 July 2001, was submitted on 28 July 2004. Nauru has not submitted subsequent annual reports. Nauru has never attended a Mine Ban Treaty Meeting of States Parties. Nauru has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in 2016.

Nauru has never used, produced, exported, or imported antipersonnel mines, including for training purposes.

Nepal

The Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty. In December 2010, Nepal stated that recommendations regarding accession to the Mine Ban Treaty would be completed “soon.”⁸⁴ The reason for Nepal’s inaction in acceding to the Mine Ban Treaty remains unclear. The Nepal Campaign to Ban Landmines (NCBL) drafted an Article 7 report in cooperation with the army and submitted to the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The NCBL requested the government submit the voluntary report, but this did not occur. The NCBL has consistently engaged all key stakeholder ministries, who have contributed to awareness-raising and capacity-building on mine action through NCBL programs.⁸⁵ The NCBL has received successive statements of support from key ministers in the MoPR, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Defence.⁸⁶

⁸¹ “Peace Deal Signed,” *Global New Light of Myanmar*, 16 October 2015, p. 1.

⁸² In the past, a few armed groups and former-armed groups, unilaterally renounced the use of antipersonnel mines by signing the Deed of Commitment administered by the Swiss NGO, Geneva Call. The Chin National Front/Chin National Army renounced use in July 2006. The Arakan Rohingya National Organization and the National United Party of Arakan, both now militarily defunct, renounced use in October 2003. The Lahu Democratic Front (LDF), Palaung State Liberation Army, and PPLO/Pa’O Peoples Liberation Army (PPLA) renounced use in April 2007. In a June 2010 report, Geneva Call noted that LDF and the PPLA had disbanded.

⁸³ See Lawi Weng, “3 Civilians Reportedly Killed by Landmines in Shan State in June,” *The Irrawaddy*, 8 July 2018; “KHRG Submission to Landmine Monitor,” September 2018, unpublished; and Lawi Weng, “KIA Raids Tatmadaw Base, Claims to Detain More than a Dozen Troops,” *The Irrawaddy*, 9 April 2018.

⁸⁴ Statement of Nepal, Mine Ban Treaty Tenth Meeting of States Parties, 2 December 2010.

⁸⁵ Email from Purna Shova Chitrikar, Director, NCBL, 23 October 2017.

⁸⁶ NCBL meeting with Prakash Sharan Mahat, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kathmandu, 23 November 2016.

Nepal has not attended a Meeting of States Parties to the convention since the Tenth Meeting of States Parties in December 2010. Nepal consistently abstains from voting on UNGA resolutions calling for universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty, most recently in December 2018.

On 21 June 2010, Nepal wrote to the Monitor that “Nepal does not produce any kind of antipersonnel landmines and the landmines that the Nepal Army is using have been produced abroad.”⁸⁷ Nepal repeated this in its remarks to States Parties in December 2010 at the Tenth Meeting of States Parties.⁸⁸

Nepal is not known to have ever exported mines. In December 2009, the MoPR stated that Nepal has not planted mines since the end of the insurgency in 2006, and that Nepal does not “enable the transfer” of mines.⁸⁹ During its internal conflict, the Nepal Army used antipersonnel mines and IEDs, assembled in-country, around military installations, police posts, and infrastructure. The Nepal Army has stated that it started using mines in 2002 and estimates it deployed around 14,000 antipersonnel mines.⁹⁰ In June 2010, Nepal told the Monitor that it used mines in 53 locations and IEDs in 275 locations during the conflict.⁹¹ In June 2011, Prime Minister Jhalnath Khanal detonated the final mine, ending clearance of the areas mined by the Nepal Army during the civil war. He stated, “Today is a historical day because Nepal has been liberated from all kinds of landmines.”⁹²

Nepal wrote to the Monitor in June 2010 that it is now only using antipersonnel mines for training purposes.⁹³ A Nepal Army spokesperson said in 2007 that the army had a stockpile of about 3,000 antipersonnel and antivehicle mines. Nepal imported its mines from China, India, and the former Soviet Union, mostly in the 1980s.⁹⁴

New Zealand

New Zealand signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 3 December 1997, ratified it on 27 January 1999, and became a State Party on 1 July 1999. Legislation to enforce the antipersonnel mine prohibition domestically was enacted on 9 December 1998. New Zealand consistently submits annual Article 7 transparency reports and attends meetings of the convention, most recently the Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties in September 2018. New Zealand previously served as the co-rapporteur and then co-

⁸⁷ Letter No. GE/2010/576 from Hari Prasad Odari, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Nepal to the UN in Geneva, 21 June 2010.

⁸⁸ Statement of Nepal, Mine Ban Treaty Tenth Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 2 December 2010.

⁸⁹ Statement by Rakam Chemjong, Mine Ban Treaty Second Review Conference, Cartagena, 4 December 2009.

⁹⁰ See, *Landmine Monitor Report 2007*, pp. 936–937. The Monitor reported indicators of mine use by government forces as early as 1999.

⁹¹ Letter No. GE/2010/576 from Hari Prasad Odari, Permanent Mission of Nepal to the UN in Geneva, 21 June 2010.

⁹² “Nepal declared free of mines five years after civil war,” *BBC News*, 14 June 2011. Nepal continues to clear IED fields laid by the security forces during the civil war. Four International Mine Action Standard (IMAS) Demining Platoons were involved in the clearance of landmines, IEDs, and explosive remnants of war (ERWs). Clearance operations started on 13 October 2007 and was successfully completed on 14 June 2011. Nepal declared mine-free on 14 June 2011. NAMACC has cleared an area total of 225,217.46m² during which it found 10,941 antipersonnel mines and 1,078 ERW/IEDs. The Nepal Army cleared conventional Russian antipersonnel mines in 53 locations (PMD-6 & M14: Blast type and POMZ-2: Fragmentation type) and command-detonated devices in 341 locations. The Nepal Army laid command-detonated IEDs within 341 bases for security measures according to a presentation by the Nepal Army at an Advanced Mine Risk Education Training, jointly organized by the NCBL and MoPR, Makawanpur, 7–8 August 2014

⁹³ Letter No. GE/2010/576 from Hari Prasad Odari, Permanent Mission of Nepal to the UN in Geneva, 21 June 2010.

⁹⁴ See, *Landmine Monitor Report 2007*, p. 936.

chair of the Standing Committees on the General Status and Operation of the Convention (2003–2005) and Victim Assistance (2006–2008).

New Zealand has never produced or exported antipersonnel mines but used them in limited quantities during World War II and the Korean War; operational use was prohibited in 1996. New Zealand destroyed its small stockpile of surplus training/practice mines in 1997.

Niue

Niue signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 3 December 1997, ratified it on 15 April 1998, and became a State Party on 1 March 1999. It has not enacted new legislation specifically to implement the Mine Ban Treaty. Niue has not submitted an Article 7 report since 2007 and has never attended a meeting of the treaty.

Niue has never used, produced, exported, or imported antipersonnel mines, including for training purposes.

Pakistan

The Islamic Republic of Pakistan has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty. In November 2018, Pakistan stated it “supports the humanitarian objectives of the Ottawa Convention.”⁹⁵ However, Pakistan also maintained that “our security needs necessitate the use of antipersonnel landmines.”⁹⁶ Pakistan has participated as an observer in six of the convention’s Meetings of States Parties, including the Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties in Geneva in November 2018. On 5 December 2018, Pakistan abstained from voting on UNGA Resolution 73/61 calling for universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty.

In November 2018, Pakistan stated that the use of landmines is exclusively by the military for defense purposes.⁹⁷ Pakistan reports annually that it has not laid mines since the Pakistan-India border mine-laying operations of more than a decade ago.⁹⁸

Pakistan is one of a small number of countries still producing antipersonnel mines.⁹⁹ Pakistan states that it has not exported mines “since early 1992.”¹⁰⁰

In its 2018 Article 13 Report for Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW), Pakistan reported the destruction of 13,803 antipersonnel mines.¹⁰¹ The mines, destroyed by the Pakistan Army, were reported as being unserviceable.

⁹⁵ [Statement of Pakistan](#), Mine Ban Treaty Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties, Geneva 26 November 2018.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.*

⁹⁷ *Ibid.*

⁹⁸ [CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report](#), Form B, 25 May 2018. Pakistan has republished this statement each year. Presentation given by Pakistani delegation to the CCW Amended Protocol II Meeting of Experts, 6 April 2016. Digital recording available on the [UNOG website](#).

⁹⁹ Pakistan Ordnance Factories, located in Wah cantonment, is a state-owned company established in 1951 that in the past produced at least six types of antipersonnel mines, two low-metal blast mines (P2Mk1 and P4Mk2), two bounding fragmentation mines (P3Mk2 and P7Mk1), and two directional fragmentation Claymore-type mines (P5Mk1 and P5Mk2).

¹⁰⁰ Interviews with Khalil Ur Rehman, Pakistan Foreign Office, Islamabad, 9 April 2011; and with Muhammad Kamran Akhtar, Director, Disarmament Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad, 23 April 2009; and see, [Landmine Monitor Report 2002](#), p. 725.

¹⁰¹ [CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report](#), Form F, 31 March 2019.

In December 2017, Pakistan stated it “has itself been a victim of the use of landmines, including as IEDs, by terrorists and non-state actors.”¹⁰² In its CCW Amended Protocol II Annual report for 2018, Pakistan documented 438 instances of IED use in the year.¹⁰³ In May 2018, Pakistan reported that more than one IED incident occurs per day.¹⁰⁴

Non-state armed groups in Balochistan and FATA use antipersonnel landmines and other victim-activated improvised devices. Use is attributed to a variety of militant groups under the Tehrik Taliban Pakistan banner and Balochi insurgent groups.¹⁰⁵

Palau

The Republic of Palau acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty on 18 November 2007 and became a State Party on 1 May 2008. Palau has stated in its Article 7 reports that the Palau Constitution prohibits the “use, production and transshipment of anti-personnel mines.”¹⁰⁶ Palau has attended some meetings of the treaty, but not since the Thirteenth Meeting of States Parties in 2013. Palau submits Article 7 reports semi-regularly, most recently in 2018. Palau has previously voted in favor of annual UNGA resolutions on universalization of the treaty, but abstained from the vote on the most recent resolution in December 2018.

In its initial Article 7 report, Palau stated that it does not possess antipersonnel mine stockpiles, has never produced the weapon, and has no mined areas.¹⁰⁷ Palau has stated on several occasions that it does not produce or stockpile antipersonnel mines. Palau listed for the first time in its 2010 report areas where Japanese antipersonnel and antivehicle mines dating from World War II have been cleared.¹⁰⁸ It stated that “No known or suspected AP Landmines [antipersonnel mines] emplacements exist, although as mentioned above the AP Landmines are sometimes encountered in the cave systems and are remains of Japanese stockpiles from World War 2.”¹⁰⁹

Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty on 28 June 2004 and became a State Party on 1 December 2004. Papua New Guinea believes that existing legislation is sufficient to enforce the antipersonnel mine prohibition. Papua New Guinea has attended only one meeting of the treaty, the Fourth Meeting of States Parties in 2002, which it attended as an observer state. Papua New Guinea has voted in favor of annual UNGA resolutions supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in December 2018.

¹⁰² [Statement of Pakistan](#), Mine Ban Treaty Sixteenth Meeting of States Parties, Vienna, 19 December 2017.

¹⁰³ [CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report](#), Form B, 31 March 2019.

¹⁰⁴ [CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report](#), Form B, 25 May 2018. In 2017, 518 IED attacks were attempted throughout the country, of which 262 exploded causing casualties.

¹⁰⁵ Email from Raza Shah Khan, SPADO, 21 September 2017. See also, “[At least 2 FC personnel killed, 5 injured in Kurram Agency blast](#),” *The Nation*, 10 July 2017; Ajmal Wesai, “[4 children wounded in Tirinkot bomb explosion](#),” *Pajhwok Afghan News*, 5 August 2017; and Tariq Saeed, “[Landmine blast in KA killed two FC men](#),” *Pakistan Observer*, 23 April 2016.

¹⁰⁶ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report (for the period 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2011), Form A.

¹⁰⁷ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report (for the period 1 May 2008 to 15 September 2008), Forms B, C, and E.

¹⁰⁸ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report (for the period January 2010 to December 2010), Form A.

¹⁰⁹ *Ibid.*, Form I.

Papua New Guinea has never used, produced, exported, or imported antipersonnel mines, including for training purposes.

Philippines

The Republic of the Philippines signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 3 December 1997, ratified it on 15 February 2000, and became a State Party on 1 August 2000. Implementation legislation for the Mine Ban Treaty was introduced into both the House of Representatives and the Philippine Senate in 2016.¹¹⁰ However, it is unclear whether the proposed legislation has been put into effect. The Philippines participated in the Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties in 2018. It has voted in favor of annual UNGA resolutions supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in 2018. The Philippines submits updated Article 7 reports semi-regularly, most recently in 2017.

In 2015 and 2016, the Philippines reported that it continued to discover antipersonnel mines during inspections at ammunition depots, recovered Claymore-type mines in field operations and seized improvised mines from non-state armed groups (NSAGs). The Philippines has previously reported that it has never produced or exported antipersonnel mines. It destroyed its entire stockpile of antipersonnel mines—all Claymore-type mines—in 1998. It has not retained any live mines for training purposes.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has stated that it has never used antipersonnel mines to combat insurgency groups within the country. In the past, use of antipersonnel mines and victim-activated improvised explosives by at least four NSAGs has occurred, including the New Peoples Army (NPA), the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), and the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG). Five NSAGs, including the MILF, have unilaterally committed to a ban on the use antipersonnel mines.¹¹¹

The NPA (the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, CPP) signed a Comprehensive Agreement to Respect Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL) with the Philippine government in 1998.¹¹²

Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea (South Korea) has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty. In May 2019, South Korea stated, “the Republic of Korea is fully committed to the objectives and purposes of the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention,” but that, “due to the unique security situation on the Korean peninsula, Korea cannot but place our priority on security and is unable to accede to the Ottawa Convention at this point.”¹¹³ South Korea abstained from the vote on the 2018 UNGA resolution calling for the

¹¹⁰ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report, Form A, 3 March 2017.

¹¹¹ The MILF, the Rebolusyonaryong Partidong Manggagawa-Mindanao/Revolutionary People’s Army (RPMM/RPA), the Rebolusyonaryong Partidong Manggagawa-Pilipinas/Revolutionary People’s Army (RPMP/RPA) faction of Nilo de la Cruz, and the Marxista-Leninistang Partidong Pilipinas/Rebolusyonaryong Hukbong Bayan (MLPP/RHB) signed the “Rebel Group Declaration of Adherence to International Humanitarian Law on Landmines” of the PCBL. The MILF, the Revolutionary Workers Party of the Philippines/Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade, and the Revolutionary Workers Party of Mindanao/Revolutionary People’s Army signed the “Deed of Commitment under Geneva Call for Adherence to a Total Ban on Anti-Personnel Mines and for Cooperation in Mine Action.”

¹¹² [CARHRIHL, Part III: Respect for Human Rights, Article 2\(15\), 16 March 1998](#). The government considers use of command-detonated devices as well as any type of landmine as banned by CARHRIHL, while the NPA considers only use of victim-activated devices banned.

¹¹³ [Statement of the Republic of Korea](#), Intersessional Meetings, Session on Universalization, Geneva, 24 May 2019.

universalization of the treaty, as it has in previous years. South Korea attended, as an observer, the May 2019 intersessional meetings of the Mine Ban Treaty, its first attendance at a meeting of the convention.

South Korea has previously maintained that it has not used mines in many years. In May 2017, South Korean authorities stated that it did not place, or replace, any antipersonnel mines during calendar years 2015 and 2016.¹¹⁴ In October 2018, North and South Korea claimed to have begun the process of demining certain areas of the Korean Demilitarized Zone.¹¹⁵

South Korea remains a producer of antipersonnel mines. In 2011, a private South Korean company, Hanwha Corporation, produced 4,000 KM74 antipersonnel mines. In 2007, the Hanwha Corporation produced about 10,000 self-destructing antipersonnel mines, as well as an unknown number of Claymore directional fragmentation mines.¹¹⁶ South Korea has stated on several occasions that it has “faithfully enforced an indefinite extension of the moratorium on the export of [antipersonnel] mines since 1997.”¹¹⁷

The precise size and composition of South Korea’s antipersonnel mine stockpile is not publicly known.¹¹⁸ However, South Korea said in 2006 and 2008 that its stockpile consisted of 407,800 antipersonnel mines.¹¹⁹ In the past, the government stated that it held a stockpile of about 2 million antipersonnel mines.¹²⁰ For many years, the United States (US) military also stockpiled about 1.1 million M14 and M16 non-self-destructing antipersonnel mines for use in any future war in Korea, with about half the total kept in South Korea and half in the continental US.¹²¹

Samoa

The Independent State of Samoa signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 3 December 1997, ratified it on 23 July 1998, and became a State Party on 1 March 1999. Samoa believes that existing legislation is sufficient to enforce the antipersonnel mine prohibition. Samoa has never attended a meeting of the treaty and rarely submits Article 7 transparency reports, most recently doing so in 2018. Samoa has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in December 2018.

Samoa has never used, produced, exported, or imported antipersonnel mines, including for training purposes.

¹¹⁴ Disclosure of Information by Public Agencies response from the Arms Control Division, Ministry of National Defense, 24 May 2017, to World Without War.

¹¹⁵ “[North and South Korea Begin Removing Mines Along DMZ](#),” CBS News, 01 October 2018.

¹¹⁶ Response to Monitor questionnaire by Il Jae Lee, Second Secretary, Disarmament and Nonproliferation Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Seoul, 4 April 2012.

¹¹⁷ Explanation of Vote on Resolution L.5, 69th Session, UNGA First Committee, New York, 3 November 2014, UNGA, Official Records, [A/C.1/69/PV.23](#), p. 18/23.

¹¹⁸ Response to Monitor questionnaire by Il Jae Lee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Seoul, 4 April 2012; and email from Chi-won Jung, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 27 June 2011.

¹¹⁹ See, [Landmine Monitor Report 2006](#), p. 958; [Landmine Monitor Report 2007](#), pp. 868–869; and [Landmine Monitor Report 2008](#), pp. 876–877.

¹²⁰ In May 2005, South Korea stated that “there are about twice as many landmines in stockpile as those that are buried,” and the government estimated one million buried mines. Response to Monitor questionnaire by the Permanent Mission of South Korea to the UN in New York, 25 May 2005.

¹²¹ See, [Landmine Monitor Report 1999](#), p. 333.

Singapore

The Republic of Singapore has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty. In May 2010, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs wrote the Monitor that “Singapore believes that humanitarian concerns pertaining to antipersonnel mines...should be balanced against the legitimate right of States to use such munitions judiciously for self defence...We will continue to support international efforts to resolve the humanitarian concerns over antipersonnel landmines...and to work with members of the international community towards a durable and truly global solution.”¹²²

Singapore declared an indefinite moratorium on the export of all antipersonnel mines in February 1998. In May 2011, an official confirmed that the moratorium remains in place.¹²³ Singapore attended the Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties in 2018 as an observer state, and has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolutions supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in December 2018.

A Singaporean official has stated that the army only uses antipersonnel mines for training, but that it must retain the option to use mines for self-defense.¹²⁴ In May 2010, when asked if it has halted production, Singapore Technologies Engineering (STE), a state-linked corporation and Singapore’s only known manufacturer of landmines, told the Monitor, “ST Engineering does not produce landmines and cluster munitions for export, nor are we a sub-contractor to anyone who does.”¹²⁵ This was reaffirmed in November 2015, when the CEO declared STE “is now no longer in the business of designing, producing and selling of anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions or any related key components.”¹²⁶

Solomon Islands

The Solomon Islands signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 4 December 1997, ratified it on 26 January 1999, and became a State Party on 1 July 1999. It believes that existing legislation is sufficient to enforce the antipersonnel mine prohibition. The Solomon Islands has never attended a meeting of the treaty and rarely submits Article 7 transparency reports, most recently doing so in 2018. The Solomon Islands has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in December 2018.

The Solomon Islands has never used, produced, exported, or imported antipersonnel mines, including for training purposes.

Sri Lanka

The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty on 13 December 2017 and became a State Party on 1 June 2018. In November 2018, Sri Lanka reported that a preliminary version of implementing legislation has been drafted, but provided no further updates on its progress.

¹²² Letter from Seah Seow Chen, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Singapore to the UN, 3 May 2010. This echoes many previous statements by Singaporean officials.

¹²³ Letter from Seah Seow Chen, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Singapore to the UN, 9 May 2011.

¹²⁴ Interview with Lt.-Col. Koh Chuan Leong, Head, General Staff Branch, Singapore Army, in Geneva, 20 September 2006.

¹²⁵ Email from Sharolyn Choy, Senior Vice President, Corporate Communications, STE, 3 May 2010.

¹²⁶ PAX, “[Singapore Technologies Engineering stops production of cluster munitions](#),” 19 November 2015.

Sri Lanka submitted its initial Article 7 report in November 2018 and provided an updated transparency report in April 2019. Previously, Sri Lanka submitted a voluntary Article 7 report in 2005. Sri Lanka participated in the Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties in November 2018. It had previously participated in multiple treaty meetings as an observer state. Sri Lanka voted in favor of UNGA Resolution 73/61 calling for universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty on 5 December 2018, as it has for every annual pro-ban UNGA resolution since 1996.

There is no evidence that the government of Sri Lanka has ever produced or exported antipersonnel mines.

In April 2009, Brigadier Lasantha Wickramasuriya of the Sri Lankan Army (SLA) acknowledged that the army had used antipersonnel mines in the past. He said the army had used non-detectable Belgian, Chinese, and Italian mines, as well as bounding and fragmentation mines of Pakistani, Portuguese, and United States (US) manufacture.¹²⁷ The Monitor had previously reported that Sri Lanka acquired antipersonnel mines from China, Italy (or Singapore), Pakistan, Portugal, and perhaps Belgium, the US, and others.¹²⁸ Previously, in October 2009, Army Commander Lieutenant General Jagath Jayasuriya had acknowledged that “the use of mines by the Sri Lankan military is strictly limited and restricted to defensive purposes only...to demarcate and defend military installations” and are “marked accordingly...and relevant records systematically maintained.”¹²⁹

Prior to the end of armed conflict, in particular in 2008 and 2009, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) produced factory quality antipersonnel landmines which it used in large numbers throughout the north.¹³⁰

Sri Lanka possesses a stockpile of antipersonnel mines. Sri Lanka’s deadline for destruction is 1 June 2029. However, in November 2018 Sri Lanka stated its intent to complete stockpile destruction by the end of 2020. In its initial Article 7 report on 28 November 2018, Sri Lanka declared a stockpile of 77,865 antipersonnel mines. In November 2018, Sri Lanka announced that physical destruction of its stockpile had already started and that it intends to complete destruction by the end of 2020. Sri Lanka reported that the destruction of 57,033 antipersonnel mines had occurred prior to November 2018. In its May 2019 transparency report, Sri Lanka declared the destruction of an additional 15,356 mines. Sri Lanka declared the retention of 21,153 antipersonnel mines.

¹²⁷ Presentation on Humanitarian Demining by Brig. Lasantha Wickramasuriya, SLA, Bangkok Workshop on Achieving a Mine-Free South-East Asia, 2 April 2009. The presentation included a section entitled, “Types of Mines Used by the Sri Lankan Army” followed by photographs and titles: P4MK1 (Pakistan antipersonnel mine); M72 (China antipersonnel mine); VS-50 (Italy antipersonnel mine); M16A1 (US bounding antipersonnel mine, however the photograph shows what appears to be a P7 MK 1 Pakistan or PRBM966 Portugal bounding mine); PRB 415 (photograph shows what appears to be a NR 409 Belgian antipersonnel mine); PRB 413 (photograph shows what appears to be a Portugal M421 antipersonnel mine); M15 and ND MK 1 antivehicle mines; and M18A1 Claymore mines.

¹²⁸ In its voluntary Article 7 report submitted in 2005, Sri Lanka noted the presence of these antipersonnel mines in minefields: P4MK1, P4MK2, P4MK3, P5MK1, Type 69 (Pakistan); PRB 413 (Portugal/Pakistan); PRB 409, M696 (Portugal); Type 66, Type 72 (China); and VS-50 (Italy/Singapore). [Voluntary Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report](#), Forms C and H, 13 June 2005. The Monitor previously identified the following antipersonnel mines as having been used by government troops in the past: P4 and P3 MK (manufactured by Pakistan); Type 72, Type 72A, and Type 69 (China); VS-50 (Italy or Singapore); NR409/PRB (Belgium); M409 and M696 (Portugal); and M18A1 Claymore (US). See, [Landmine Monitor Report 2004](#), p. 1,118; and [Landmine Monitor Report 2005](#), p. 881.

¹²⁹ “[Flow of arms to terrorists must stop](#),” *The Sri Lanka Guardian*, 28 October 2009.

¹³⁰ Prior to its demise, the LTTE was considered an expert in making explosive weapons. It was known to produce several types of antipersonnel mines: Jony 95 (a small wooden box mine), Rangan 99 or Jony 99 (a copy of the P4MK1 Pakistani mine), SN 96 (a Claymore-type mine), fragmentation antipersonnel mines from mortars, and variants of some of these antipersonnel mines, including some with antihandling features (including Rangan 99 antipersonnel mines with a motion sensor), as well as Amman 2000, MK1, and MK2 antivehicle mines. See, [Landmine Monitor Report 2010](#).

Thailand

The Kingdom of Thailand signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 3 December 1997, ratified it on 27 November 1998, and became a State Party on 1 May 1999. Thailand has not enacted domestic legislation to implement the Mine Ban Treaty. Thailand has provided several existing laws it believes cover the issue as well as stating that it is considering additional legislation.¹³¹ Thailand participated in the Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties in 2018, and regularly submits updates Article 7 reports. Thailand has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in 2018.

Thailand states that it has never produced or exported antipersonnel mines. Thailand formerly imported antipersonnel mines from China, Italy, the United States, and the former Yugoslavia. It completed destruction of 337,725 stockpiled antipersonnel mines on 24 April 2003. In its Article 7 report submitted in 2018, Thailand stated that at the end of 2017 it retained 3,162 antipersonnel mines for training purposes, a reduction of 217 mines from the previous year.¹³² However, in May 2019 Thailand announced that it had reviewed the numbers of mines it had retained and concluded that a significant reduction could be made.¹³³ On 6 August 2019, Thailand publicly destroyed 3,133 retained mines.¹³⁴

The use of command-detonated IEDs has been a feature of the insurgency in southern Thailand. Ongoing use of landmines by insurgent groups has been recorded within Thailand.¹³⁵ The use is primarily documented in Thailand's southern border provinces.

Timor-Leste

The Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty on 7 May 2003 and became a State Party on 1 November 2003. The New Penal Code of East Timor Law No. 19/2009, Article 127, enacted on 8 April 2009, provides for criminal sanctions as required under Article 9 of the Mine Ban Treaty.¹³⁶ Timor-Leste submitted its initial Article 7 report in April 2004, but has not submitted subsequent annual reports. Timor-Leste's last participation in a meeting of the treaty was the Ninth Meeting of States Parties in 2008. Timor-Leste has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in December 2018.

Timor-Leste has never used, produced, exported, or imported antipersonnel mines, including for training purposes.

Tonga

The Kingdom of Tonga has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty. Tonga's current views on Mine Ban Treaty accession are not known. In October 2009, Tonga's permanent representative to the UN in New York told the ICBL that the question of Mine Ban Treaty accession had been reviewed by several

¹³¹ Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report, Form A, 30 April 2013.

¹³² Mine Ban Treaty Article 7 Report, 30 April 2018.

¹³³ [Statement of Thailand](#), Intersessional Meetings, Session on Stockpiles & Destruction, 24 May 2019.

¹³⁴ "Thai army destroys thousands of landmines in jungle," *Saudi Gazette (AFP)*, 6 August 2019.

¹³⁵ Human Rights Watch, "[Thailand: Insurgents Use Landmines in South](#)," 4 July 2018.

¹³⁶ Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, "Table of Article 9 National Implementation Measures as reported by State Parties under Article 7," 23 November 2009, p. 46.

government departments and must now receive final approval from the cabinet and then the privy council.¹³⁷ Tonga attended the Twelfth Meeting of States Parties in 2013 as an observer state, and has not attended subsequent meetings of the treaty. Tonga has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in December 2018.

Tonga has stated that it has never produced, transferred, or stockpiled antipersonnel mines.¹³⁸

Tuvalu

Tuvalu acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty on 13 September 2011 and became a State Party on 1 March 2012. Tuvalu has yet to submit its initial Article 7 report, which was due on 28 August 2012. Tuvalu attended one meeting of the treaty, the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties in 2012, but has not attended any subsequent meetings. Tuvalu has voted in favor of the annual UNGA resolution supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in December 2018.

Tuvalu has stated several times that it does not use, produce, import, or stockpile antipersonnel mines.

Vanuatu

The Republic of Vanuatu signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 4 December 1997, ratified it on 16 September 2005, and became a State Party on 1 March 2006. It has not enacted new legislation specifically to implement the Mine Ban Treaty. Vanuatu submitted two Article 7 reports, most recently in 2008, but has not submitted subsequent reports. Vanuatu has never attended a meeting of the treaty. Vanuatu has voted in favor of annual UNGA resolutions supporting universalization of the treaty, most recently in December 2018.

Vanuatu has never used, produced, exported, or imported antipersonnel mines, including for training purposes.

Vietnam

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam has not acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty. Vietnam still considers antipersonnel mines as a legitimate weapon of self-defense and has cited national security concerns, especially border security, as reasons for not joining the Mine Ban Treaty.¹³⁹ In 2013, a Ministry of Defence official stated to the Monitor that there was no longer any political reason to maintain minefields on its border with China, and that border minefields were being removed along with demarcation to ease economic activities with neighboring countries.¹⁴⁰ Vietnam sent an observer delegation to the Twelfth Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty in Geneva in December 2012, but did not make any statements. It has not attended any subsequent meetings. In 2018, Vietnam abstained from the vote on the annual UNGA resolution supporting universalization of the treaty.

¹³⁷ ICBL meeting with Amb. Sonatane Tu'akinamolahi Taumoepeau Tupou, Permanent Mission of Tonga to the UN, New York, 14 October 2009. See ICBL, "Report on CMC/ICBL Lobby Meetings: UNGA First Committee on Disarmament and International Security, New York, 12–23 October 2009."

¹³⁸ Fax from Falekava Kupu, on behalf of the Acting Chief Secretary and Secretary for the Cabinet, Prime Minister's Office, 14 August 2001.

¹³⁹ See, *Landmine Monitor Report 2008*, p. 1,050.

¹⁴⁰ Monitor interview with Col. Nguyen Tanh Ban, Head of Bomb and Mine Department, Ministry of Defence, in Lusaka, 13 September 2013.

In 2008, officials said that Vietnam has not produced mines since the Mine Ban Treaty came into force, but also emphasized that it reserves the right to produce mines in the future.¹⁴¹ The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has written to the Monitor, stating, “Vietnam has never exported and will never export mines.”¹⁴² In September 2012, a military officer stated that in the previous two years (2011–2012), Vietnam destroyed 287 tons of stockpiled antipersonnel mines as well as destroying a limited number of antivehicle mines. While unable to provide a stockpile figure, the officer stated that “significant amount of mines stocked in Vietnam have been destroyed” and that each year Vietnam destroys around 100 tons of mines. The officer also stated Vietnam needs new technology for the destruction of munitions as well as support from the international community.¹⁴³

¹⁴¹ See, *Landmine Monitor Report 2008*, p. 1,051.

¹⁴² Letter from Nguyen Manh Hung, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 8 March 2001.

¹⁴³ ICBL meeting with Sr. Col. Tuan, Ministry of Defence, in Oslo, 14 September 2012.