No. 010/13


The Permanent Mission of the United States of America avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the ISU the assurance of its highest consideration.

The Permanent Mission of the United States of America,


Diplomatic Note
### SUMMARY COVER PAGE
**OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF CCW PROTOCOL V**

**NAME OF STATE [PARTY]:** United States of America

**REPORTING PERIOD:** October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012

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1 Pursuant to the relevant decision of the First Conference of the High Contracting Parties to CCW Protocol V, this cover page could be used as a complement to submitting the detailed reporting forms adopted at the First Conference of the High Contracting Parties to CCW Protocol V. In case there is no substantial change in the ERW situation, as a result of a conflict or of the measures undertaken in compliance with the provisions of Protocol V, and when the information to be provided in some of the forms in an annual report is the same as it would be in past reports.

**CONVENTION ON CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS**
PROTOCOL V

Form E: Steps taken to implement Article 7 of the Protocol: Assistance with respect to existing explosive Remnants of War

_____________________________________________________

High Contracting Party: United States of America

Reporting for time period from: 01/10/2011 to 30/09/2012

_____________________________________________________

The U.S. Department of State’s Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement’s (PM/WRA) Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) program responds to the humanitarian, social, and economic effects generated by all manner of Explosive Remnants of War and at-risk arms and munitions that are surplus, obsolete, poorly-secured, or otherwise at risk. CWD activities include humanitarian mine action, battle area clearance, clearance of explosive remnants of war, destruction of small arms, light weapons, and munitions (including at-risk man-portable air defense systems - MANPADS), and physical security and stockpile management assistance. (See Form F).

PM/WRA finances this program with funds appropriated annually from the State Department’s Nonproliferation, Antiterrorism, Demining, and Related Programs (NADR) Conventional Weapons Destruction sub-account. The United States government works closely with other governments, non-governmental organizations, and private companies to address the threats described above. For example:

- In Lebanon, WRA contributed $2.34 million to Sterling International, the Swiss Foundation for Demining (FSD), Handicap International (HI), Danish Church Aid (DCA) in partnership with ITF, Marshall Legacy Institute (MLI) in partnership with American Task Force for Lebanon (ATFL), the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) and the first local NGO, the Lebanese Demining Organization (LDO), to assist in the development of the Lebanese Mine Action Center’s capabilities in administering its national program, to support demining teams operating in high- and medium- impacted communities in North and Central Lebanon, to maintain the battle area clearance capacity in South Lebanon, and support a victim’s assistance project.

- In South East Europe, PM/WRA provided funds to the International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF), which recently changed its name to ITF Enhancing Human Security, to execute a broad range of CWD projects in that region. Those most relevant to Protocol V, Article 7 included:
  - UXO remediation and demilitarization of unstable munitions in and around Gerdec, Albania;
  - continued humanitarian mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
  - UXO remediation, both terrestrial and underwater, at the site and environs of the Chelopechene munitions depot disaster in Bulgaria;
  - continued humanitarian mine action in Croatia;
  - additional clearance of landmines and explosive remnants of war in Serbia.

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- Capacity building trainings for underwater survey and detection of ERW and abandoned ordnance (but not clearance) in Montenegro;

  In FY2012, funding to Laos for CWD totaled $9 million. Programs included UXO survey and clearance undertaken by MAG, Norwegian Peoples Aid, UXO Lao, and HALO Trust. Programs also included risk-education and victim assistance, conducted by World Education, Catholic Relief Services Spirit of Soccer, and Clear Path International.

  Programs in the Pacific totaled over $900,000 and focused on survey and clearance of mines and unexploded ordnance as well capacity development of national EOD capabilities in Kiribati.

- In Afghanistan in FY2012, WRA contributed $41.55 million to Sterling International, the HALO Trust (HT), Danish Demining Group (DDG), Marshall Legacy Institute (MLI), Clear Path International (CPI), Afghan Technical Consultants (ATC), Demining Agency for Afghanistan (DAFA), Mine Clearance Planning Agency (MCPA), Mine Detection Dog Center (MDC), and the Organization for Mine clearance and Afghan Reconstruction (OMAR) to complete the Non-Technical Survey of suspected minefields and hazardous areas, conduct clearance and destruction of ERW, provide training and certification of US-funded mine detection dog capacity, provide mine risk education and victims assistance programs, as well as support Battle Area Clearance. These groups worked in coordination with the Mine Action Coordination Center for Afghanistan (MACCA) in the Area Mine Action Centers (AMAC).

- In Sri Lanka in FY2012, WRA contributed $4.8 million to the HALO Trust (HT), Danish Demining Group (DDG), Swiss Foundation for Demining (FSD), Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Mine Action Marshall Legacy Institute (MLI), and UNICEF to complete the Non-Technical Survey of suspected minefields and hazardous areas, conduct clearance and destruction of landmines and ERW, provide training and certification of US-funded mine detection dog capacity, provide a mine risk education program, and support battle area clearance. These groups worked in coordination with the National Mine Action Center (NMAC) and the Regional Mine Action Offices (RMAO).

- In Tajikistan in FY2012, WRA contributed $1.69 million to the Swiss Foundation for Demining (FSD), Clear Path International (CPI), the Office of Security Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and the Union of Sappers of Tajikistan (UST) to conduct Non-Technical Surveys of suspected minefields and hazardous areas, conduct clearance and destruction of landmines and ERW, and provide mine risk education and victim assistance programs. These groups worked in coordination with the Tajik Mine Action Center (TMAC), the Ministry of Defense (MOD) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

- In Africa, the United States provided extensive support for unexploded ordnance, BAC, and humanitarian demining clearance operations in Angola, Libya, Mozambique, Somalia, South Sudan, and Zimbabwe.
PROTOCOL V

Form F: Steps taken to implement Article 8 of the Protocol: Co-operation and assistance

High Contracting Party: United States of America

Reporting for time period from: 01/10/2011 to 30/09/2012

In Fiscal Year 2012, the United States Department of State provided conventional weapons destruction (CWD) assistance that totaled over $149 million. As noted in form E, CWD is a comprehensive approach that includes humanitarian mine action, battle area clearance, clearance of explosive remnants of war (ERW), destruction of small arms and light weapons and munitions (including man-portable air defense systems – MANPADS), and physical security and stockpile management.

PM/WRA works in concert with the U.S. Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), which runs its own Small Arms/Light Weapons Program to assess stockpile maintenance and orient states to best practices on storage and security of weapons and munitions. PM/WRA supported improvements to government weapons storage facilities in Belize, the Democratic Republic of Congo, El Salvador, Kyrgyzstan and Somalia. By helping countries secure their stockpiles, the United States helps to prevent the proliferation of conventional weapons and munitions, the latter of which might be at risk of becoming ERW, thus supporting the goals of Protocol V.

The United States also supports the destruction of aging and at-risk stockpiles of munitions. Most of these munitions are unlikely to function as intended for a variety of reasons. Destroying these munitions prevents them from becoming ERW as a result of malfunction during use or from a potential depot explosion. Albania, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Lithuania, Mauritania, Montenegro, Tajikistan, and Ukraine are states where the United States supported munitions destruction programs. In addition, the United States supported an UNLIREC program, which assisted the stockpile destruction efforts of eight Caribbean states. In Jordan, WRA contributed to establishment of a demilitarization facility to assist in the destruction of weapons stockpiles. The United States also continued financial support to the Regional Approach to Stockpile Reduction (RASR) initiative (http://www.rasrinitiative.org).

The United States Government aims to increase international cooperation and coordination among donor nations, recipient nations, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations to accelerate CWD efforts worldwide. The United States also actively encourages private sector support through the development of a network of public-private partnerships, which currently number approximately 68. A list of major participants in PM/WRA’s Public-Private Partnership program can be found at http://www.state.gov/t/pm/rls/othr/misc/52830.htm.
The State Department maintains a Quick Reaction Force to address immediate post-conflict and post-depot explosion clearance. The QRF deployed to the Republic of Congo to assess and then manage the cleanup of UXO and ejected munitions posing a risk to civilians.

The U.S. Agency for International Development’s (USAID) Leahy War Victims Fund has been in operation in post-conflict and conflict-affected developing countries since 1989. It was established to provide a dedicated source of financial and technical assistance for civilian victims of war who suffer from mobility-related injuries, including people who suffer from polio as a result of interrupted immunization services. This includes, but is not limited to, survivors of landmine and UXO accidents. In the past decade, the Leahy War Victims Fund has devoted the majority of its resources to the establishment and improvement of accessible and appropriate prosthetic and orthotic services, including physical and occupational rehabilitation services. The Leahy War Victims Fund contributed to programs in Cambodia, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Kenya, Laos, Lebanon, Nepal, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, and Vietnam, as well as numerous regional and international initiatives spanning multiple countries. To date, the Fund has provided over $200 million to more than 40 countries.

Moreover, through two other programs specifically focused on helping wheelchair users (some disabled as a result of ERW), as well as a broader cohort of people with disabilities, USAID provided an additional $10.2 million in more than 30 countries, including Georgia, Iraq, Jordan, Kosovo, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe.

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