

PROTOCOL ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF MINES,  
BOOBY-TRAPS AND OTHER DEVICES  
AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996  
ANNEXED TO THE CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE  
USE OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE  
EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS  
(PROTOCOL II, AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996)

*Annual Report in Accordance with Article 13, paragraph 4*

Name of High Contracting Party:

**United States of America**

Date of Submission:

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National Point of Contact:

**Charles Trumbull**  
Office of the Legal Adviser,  
Political-Military Affairs  
U.S. Department of State  
tel: 202-647-5183  
fax: 202-736-7620  
email: trumbullcp@state.gov

*This report may be distributed to interested States,  
organizations, and the public.*

Form A

Dissemination of information

Article 13/4/a

"The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary . . . on:

(a) dissemination of information on this Protocol to their armed forces and to the civilian population;"

*United States reporting for time period through September 2018.*

Information to the armed forces

The relevant doctrine, operational and training publications, and courses of instruction of the armed forces of the United States are routinely revised to incorporate the requirements contained in the Protocol regarding the use of mines, booby-traps, and other devices.

Information to the civilian population

The U.S. Government has provided to the American Red Cross a copy of the Protocol and other relevant documents, and has asked that it incorporate information about the Protocol in its programs for the education of the civilian population of the United States. In addition, the Department of State has produced nearly every year for two decades a public report titled "To Walk the Earth in Safety" (the most recent edition was published in March 2019). This series of reports describe in detail the steps taken by the U.S. Conventional Weapons Destruction Program to address landmines, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), explosive remnants of war (ERW), and small arms and light weapons (SA/LW), which can affect the civilian population in countries recovering from conflict long after the conflict ends. Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) is a comprehensive approach that includes humanitarian mine action, battle area clearance, clearance of ERW and IEDs, SA/LW (including at-risk munitions and man-portable air defense systems - MANPADS), stockpile and cache reduction, and physical security and stockpile management. The latest edition of "To Walk the Earth in Safety" may be found at the Department of State's website:

<https://www.state.gov/t/pm/rls/rpt/walkearth/2019/index.htm>

The Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs and staff in the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA) address foundations, corporations, and religious and

civic groups, as well as students ranging from secondary to university level, to raise awareness of the landmine issue and encourage their participation in this comprehensive approach to CWD. Engagement takes place with domestic, foreign, and international entities. Over the years, PM/WRA has partnered with a number of civic groups and private organizations to expand further the reach of our efforts.

Form B

Mine clearance and rehabilitation programs

Article 13/4/b

"The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary . . . on:

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;"

*United States reporting for time period through September 2018.*

Mine clearance programs

The United States provided conventional weapons destruction (CWD) assistance that totaled \$366.434 million in Fiscal Year 2017 and is projected to provide \$211.314 million in Fiscal Year 2018 funds. CWD assistance includes funding for humanitarian mine action, and destruction and security of small arms, light weapons, and conventional munitions. The United States remains the leading donor to CWD, which includes humanitarian mine action, with U.S. contributions since Fiscal Year 1993 totaling more than \$3.4 billion. These funds have provided assistance to more than 100 countries.

The U.S. CWD Program helps countries around the world to overcome threats from landmines, ERW, and at-risk weapons and munitions, regardless of whether the affected countries are party to either the Protocol or the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. A State may face challenges from one or more of these types of weapons and munitions, and the comprehensive CWD program increases effectiveness of U.S. assistance by creating a flexible approach to addressing the relevant threats. Relevant to Amended Protocol II, the U.S. CWD program has increasingly dealt with clearance of IEDs. Consistent with the U.S. philosophy of helping other countries to develop the indigenous capacity to address these threats, the U.S. CWD Program also aids in the development of leadership and organizational skills of local personnel to sustain programs after U.S.-provided assistance is complete.

Landmine and IED clearance remains a focus of our comprehensive program. In Fiscal Year 2018, projects in Afghanistan, Angola, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Syria, Tajikistan, Thailand, Ukraine,

Yemen, Zimbabwe, and the West Bank specifically addressed landmine and/or IED contamination.

Assistance is provided both bilaterally and multilaterally, including through the United Nations, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and the Organization of American States, as well as various non-governmental organizations and contractors.

(Form B, continued)

Rehabilitation programs

The Patrick J. Leahy War Victims Fund, managed by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), serves as an important source of U.S. assistance to civilian victims of conflict in developing countries. Established in 1989, the Leahy War Victims Fund maintains a dedicated source of financial and technical support for people with disabilities, particularly those who sustain mobility-related injuries from anti-personnel landmines, unexploded ordnance, and other injuries resulting from armed conflict and civil disorder. To date, the Leahy War Victims Fund has provided \$293 million in assistance to more than 50 countries.

Originally tasked with delivering immediate care, the Leahy War Victims Fund widened its scope of activities to include development programs that accommodate the changing needs of the populations they serve and support for the establishment of a framework for sustainable services in developing countries. The fund also contributes to the development and enforcement of international standards to ensure that practitioners who provide care to survivors are qualified and experienced. In addition, the Leahy War Victims Fund ensures that treatment and equipment are used appropriately and effectively to increase the mobility of conflict-affected people with disabilities

In Fiscal Year 2018, the Leahy War Victims Fund supported activities in Burma, Colombia, Georgia, Haiti, Laos, Nepal, Tajikistan, and Ukraine. In partnership with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the World Health Organization, the Fund also supported initiatives spanning multiple countries that provided direct assistance to individuals affected by conflict, trained service providers, supported the development of international standards related to rehabilitation and assistive technology, and increased access to appropriate assistive devices. Spending in Fiscal Year 2018 totaled approximately \$13.5 million.

Form C

**Technical requirements and relevant  
information**

Article 13/4/c

"The High Contracting Parties shall provide  
annual reports to the Depositary . . . on:

(c) steps taken to meet technical  
requirements of this Protocol and any other  
relevant information pertaining thereto;"

*United States reporting for time period through September 2018.*

No change since the 2015 report.
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Form D

**Legislation**

Article 13/4/d

"The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary . . . on:

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;"

*United States reporting for time period through September 2018.*

Legislation

No change since the 2004 report.





Form F

Other relevant matters

Article 13/4/f

"The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary . . . on:

(f) other relevant matters."

*United States reporting for time period through September 2018.*

Other relevant matters

None.

**Form G**

**Information to the UN-database on mine-clearance**

Article 11 para 2 "Each High Contracting Party undertakes to provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations System, especially information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance."

*United States reporting for time period through September 2018.*

Means and technologies of mine clearance

- Deminer Personal Protection Equipment and Individual Tools
- Manual Mine Detection (with hand-held detectors)
- Mine Detection Dogs
- Mechanical Mine/Vegetation Clearance
- Mine Risk Education and Training
- Mine Action Center management and strategic planning (including information technology)
- Impact Surveys
- Technical survey (area reduction)

Lists of experts and expert agencies

- Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA), Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, U.S. Department of State
- Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict (SO/LIC), U.S. Department of Defense
- Humanitarian Demining Research and Development Program, Night Vision and Electronic Sensors Directorate, U.S. Army Research, Development, and Engineering Command, U.S. Army
- Countermine Training Support Center, U.S. Army Engineer School
- Humanitarian Demining Training Center (HDTC), U.S. Department of Defense

- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), U.S. Department of Defense
- Leahy War Victims Fund (LWVF); Wheelchair and Disability Funds, U.S. Agency for International Development
- National Center for Environmental Health, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

(Form G, continued)

National points of contact on mine clearance

- Stanley Brown, Director, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, U.S. Department of State  
tel: 202-453-8304
  
- Gerald Guilbert, Deputy Director, Programs, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, U.S. Department of State  
tel: 202-453-8310
  
- Colonel Larry Cousins, Chief, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA), Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict, U.S. Department of Defense  
tel: 703-614-5824