

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)

Provisional Reporting Formats for Article 13 para 4 and Article 11 para 2.

NAME OF HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY	<u>AUSTRALIA</u>
DATE OF SUBMISSION	<u>October 2008</u>
NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT	<u>DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE, CANBERRA</u> <u>DIRECTOR, COUNTER-PROLIFERATION SECTION</u> <u>INTERNATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION</u> <u>PH: 61 2 6261 2943</u> <u>FAX: 61 2 6261 2151</u>

Form A**Dissemination of information**

Article 13 / 4 / a ``The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository ... on:

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

Remark:

High Contracting Party AUSTRALIA reporting for time period from 01.11.2007 to 01.10.2008

Information to the armed forces

The 'Land Warfare Procedures – General' publication (LWP-G 3-6-5) on Mine Warfare and Booby Traps was prepared and promulgated in November 2007, within the Australian Defence Force. The document provides commanders and staff with current policy on landmines, booby traps and improvised explosive devices and its application to military operations, following the entry into force of international instruments such as Amended Protocol II and the Mine-Ban Convention. The general policy concerning landmines, booby traps, and other devices is also contained in the Australian Defence Doctrine Publication 06.4 Law of Armed Conflict, which was published in May 2006. It contains guidance for commanders and details responsibilities and obligations for Australian Defence Force members.

Information to the civilian population

Information on the Australian Government's Mine Action Strategy (2005 – 2010), including references to Amended Protocol II, is disseminated to the civilian population through:

- . Ministerial press releases.
- . Numerous media interviews and speaking engagements conducted by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs, International Development Assistance.
- . Regular meetings of the National Consultative Committee on International Security Issues in which Government officials and community members exchange views on peace and disarmament issues, including landmines.
- . Landmines websites established by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Website addresses are: <http://www.dfat.gov.au/landmines/>, <http://www.dfat.gov.au/security/ccw.html> and <http://www.ausaid.gov.au>. Program information and the Mine Action Strategy (2005 – 2010) is available from <http://www.ausaid.gov.au/human/landmines.cfm>

Form B**Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes**

Article 13 / 4 / b ``The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository ... on:

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;"

Remark:

High Contracting Party	AUSTRALIA	reporting for time period from	01.11.2007	to	01.10.2008
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Mine clearance programmes current in the reporting period

Cambodia – Clearing for Results (United Nations Development Program)
Cambodia – Reclassification of Land Under Agricultural Use (Mines Advisory Group)
Iraq – Capacity Development for Clearance and Victim Assistance (United Nations Development Program)
Kiribati – Operation Kiribati Assist – Disposal of UXO (Australian Defence Force)
Laos – UXO/Mine Action Program (Swiss Foundation for Mine Action)
Laos – National Regulatory Authority Support (Loa National Regulatory Authority)
Laos – Integrated UXO Threat Reduction in Savannakhet Province (Handicap International Belgium)
Laos – Reducing the Burden of UXO in Vulnerable Communities in Khammouane Province (UXO Lao and Mines Advisory Group)
Lebanon – Humanitarian Mine Action Response (United Nations Mine Action Service)
Sri Lanka – Mine Action Project (United Nations Development Program)

Rehabilitation programmes (including integrated mine action) current in the reporting period

Afghanistan – “Community Clearpath” Program (United Nations Mine Action Centre for Afghanistan)
Cambodia – Landmine Survivor Assistance Program (Australian Red Cross)
Cambodia – Landmine Survivor Assistance Fund (Australian Red Cross)
Cambodia – Integrated Mine Action in Banteay Meanchey (Austcare)
Cambodia – Cambodia Integrated Mine Action Project (Care Australia)
Cambodia – Community Strengthening & Gender Mainstreaming in Integrated Mine Action (World Vision Australia and International Women’s Development Agency)
Laos – Reducing UXO Risk and Improving Livelihoods of Ethnic Communities in Sekong Province (Care Australia)
Laos – Integrated UXO Action Activity in Khammouane Province (World Vision Australia)
Laos – Strengthening Survivor Access to Rehabilitation Services (Care Australia)
Laos – Partnership in Rehabilitation (National Rehabilitation Centre and Cooperative for Orthotic and Prosthetic Enterprise)
Vietnam – Special Fund for the Disabled (International Committee of the Red Cross)

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;

Remark:

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Technical requirements

Australia does not have minefields, or produce or deploy munitions which fall under the technical requirements of this Protocol.

Any other relevant information

Australian Defence Force doctrine specifically promulgates compliance with Australia's obligations under this Protocol, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons generally and the Mine-Ban Convention.

Form D

Legislation

Article 13 / 4 / d ``The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depository ... on:

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;

Remark:

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It is the Australian Government's policy to enact national legislation implementing international instruments only where existing national legislation is insufficient to meet the international obligations contained in the international instruments concerned.

Australia has not enacted specific legislation to implement Amended Protocol II, as existing legislation sufficiently covered the Protocol's provisions.

[It should be noted that Australia has enacted legislation - the Anti-Personnel Mines Convention Act 1998 - to implement the Mine-Ban Convention. Section 7 of the Act makes it an offence to place, possess, develop, produce, acquire, stockpile, move or transfer anti-personnel mines.]

Form E**International technical information exchange, cooperation on mine clearance, technical cooperation and assistance**

Article 13 / 4 / e

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

(e) measures taken on international technical information exchange, on international cooperation on mine clearance, and on technical cooperation and assistance;

Remark:

High Contracting Party

AUSTRALIA

reporting for time period from

01.11.2007

to

01.10.2008

International technical information exchange

Australia attended a number of meetings to promote technical information exchange on landmine and ERW issues: CCW Protocol V MSP (5 November 2007); CCW APII MSP (6 November 2007); CCW MSP (7-13 November 2007); Mine-Ban Convention 8MSP (18-22 November 2007); Mine-Ban Convention 10th Anniversary (3-4 December 2007); Vienna Conference on Cluster Munitions (3-7 December 2007); Mine Action Support Group (10 December); CCW GGE (14-18 January 2008); Wellington Conference on Cluster Munitions (18-22 February 2008); Bali Mine-Ban Convention Workshop (25-27 February 2008); Mine Action Support Group (4 April); ARF Seminar on Anti-Personnel Mines (8-10 April 2008); CCW GGE (7-11 April 2008); ICRC Regional Meeting on Cluster Munitions (24-25 April 2008); Dublin Diplomatic Conference on Cluster Munitions (19-30 May 2008); Mine-Ban Convention Intersessionals (2-6 June 2008); Mine Action Support Group (4 June 2008); CCW Protocol V meeting (2-4 July 2008); CCW GGE (7-25 July 2008); Palau Mine-Ban Convention Workshop (funded by Australia, 15 August 2008); CCW GGE (1-5 September 2008).

International cooperation on mine clearance

In countries where Australia is a major donor to mine action, for example Cambodia and Laos, Australia is a member of various committees that focus on donor cooperation and coordination. Australia participates actively in meetings of the Mine Action Support Group which helps to coordinate international responses to mine action issues. International cooperation on mine clearance, and mine action in general, has been identified as a high priority in Australia's Mine Action Strategy (2005 – 2010) for the aid program. In July 2005 Australia pledged A\$75 million over 5 years to mine action assistance.

Technical Cooperation and Assistance

Australia provides funding to several Australian NGOs to implement integrated mine action programs in Cambodia and Laos, and provides funding for the development of technical capacities of national clearance authorities in Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Laos, Iraq and Afghanistan.

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.

Remark:

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<u>Other relevant matters</u>

Form G

Information to the UN-database on mine clearance

Article 11 para 2 ``The High Contracting Parties shall provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations System, especially.....on:

- information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance

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Means and technologies of mine clearance

Within the Australian Department of Defence, the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) and the Combined Arms Training Centre are developing new methods of clearing mines. Completion of this research will take a number of years. DSTO undertakes work in a number of areas covering mine detection and clearance, including background mine detection research and evaluation of route mine clearance systems, as exemplified by its recent Capability Technology Demonstrator (CTD) multi-sensor system and ongoing improvement of the Dorbyl Husky system.

Australian private enterprise, with Government support, is also involved in developing new technologies for mine clearance to speed up the rate at which mines are removed from the ground. A new type of detector invented and produced by an Australian company, Minelab Electronics, is used in UN demining operations in Cambodia, Laos and elsewhere. Minelab Electronics has also provided the metal detector component of the US dual sensor hand-held stand-off mine detector (HSTAMIDS), being sold by Cyterra. A metal detector array based on the same technology was developed for the DSTO CTD and is now in use with a US humanitarian mine clearance vehicle program being run through Applied Research Associates, Inc.

Lists of experts and experts agencies

For information the initial point of contact is:

Director Counter-Proliferation and Arms Control

Counter-Proliferation and Arms Control Section

Security Policy and Programs Branch

Strategic Policy Division

R1-1-A043 Russell Offices

Department of Defence

Canberra ACT 2600

Telephone: 61 (2) 6265 6510

Facsimile: 61 (2) 6265 6313

National point of contact on mine action:

Mine Action Coordinator

Humanitarian and Middle East Branch

AusAID

GPO Box 887

Canberra ACT 2601

Telephone: 61 (2) 6206 4637

Facsimile: 61 (2) 6206 4949