

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:

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*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 2007.

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 regarding the use of mines, booby traps, and other devices contained in the Protocol.

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 they incorporate information about the Protocol in its programs for the education of the American civilian population. In addition, the Department of State has produced a series of annual reports to the public on the landmine problem entitled "To Walk the Earth in Safety" (the most recent edition was published in June 2006), which describe in detail the landmine problem and steps being taken by the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program to address it. This publication may be found at the Department of State's website:
<http://www.state.gov/t/pm/rls/rpt/walkearth/2006/>.

The Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs and his staff in the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement address foundations, corporations, religious and civic groups, as well as students ranging from secondary to university level, raising awareness of the landmine issue and encouraging their participation in fighting the landmine problem. Engagement takes place with domestic, foreign, and international entities. A synopsis of Public-Private Partnerships is regularly updated and made available to the general public electronically. More information about this initiative can be found at
<http://www.state.gov/t/pm/wra/partners>.

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 2007.

Mine clearance programs

In Fiscal Year 2007, the United States provided humanitarian mine action assistance that totaled over \$83.7 million, including \$11.6 million from USAID's Leahy War Victims Fund for survivor assistance. Thirty mine-afflicted countries, on a total of four continents, benefited. Fiscal Year 2008 funding is expected to be at a similar level. The United States remains the leading donor to humanitarian mine action around the world, with U.S. contributions since Fiscal Year 1993 totaling well over \$1 billion (U.S.). These funds have provided assistance in 54 countries.

Since 1998, the United States has supported the Slovenian International Trust Fund (ITF) for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance. To date the ITF has raised over \$2215 million for humanitarian mine action and victim assistance in the Balkans and the Caucasus, including United States matching donations of \$101 million and \$15.9 million in USG unilateral donations, which addressed specific urgent requirements.

The U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program assists countries that are experiencing the adverse effects of uncleared persistent landmines, both anti-personnel and anti-vehicle, regardless of the affected countries' stances on either of the international landmine treaties. Consistent with the U.S. philosophy of helping other countries to develop the indigenous capacity to demine, the U.S. program also aids in the development of leadership and organizational skills of local personnel to sustain programs after U.S.-provided training is complete.

In addition to the resources provided through the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program, the Department of Defense, through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has spent over \$300 million for the destruction, safe storage, or demilitarization of explosive remnants of war in Iraq.

(Form B, continued)

Rehabilitation programs

The Patrick J. Leahy War Victims Fund, managed by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), has been in operation in post-conflict and conflict-affected developing countries since 1989. The Fund 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 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. In Fiscal Year 2007, the Fund contributed to or maintained support to programs in Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Cambodia, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Laos, Lebanon, Nepal, Philippines, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda, and Vietnam, as well as numerous regional and international initiatives spanning multiple countries. To date, the Fund has provided over \$143 million to more than 40 countries.

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 2007:

No change from the 2005 report.

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 2007.

Legislation

No change from the 2004 Report.

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;"

United States reporting for time period through September 2007.

International technical information exchange

No change from the 2005 report

(Form E, continued)

International cooperation on mine clearance

The U.S. Government aims to increase international cooperation and coordination among donor nations, recipient nations, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations to accelerate humanitarian demining efforts worldwide.

In addition to working with the governments of mine-affected countries to provide mine clearance training, mine awareness, and survivor assistance programs (detailed in Form B), the United States works with other governments through regular meetings of the Mine Action Support Group (MASG), UNMAS and the ITEP to share information and increase coordination toward our common goal of eliminating landmines that threaten civilians. The United States assumed the chairmanship of the MASG in January 2006.

The United States also actively encourages private sector support for humanitarian mine action through the development of a network of public-private partnerships, which currently number nearly 60. These partners work in concert with the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program to support one or more aspects of mine action: clearance, mine risk education, and/or survivor assistance. A positive side effect of this unique partnership

initiative is to raise U.S. public interest in and support for humanitarian mine action.

Technical cooperation and assistance

No change from 2005 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 2007.

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 2007.

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, United States Department of State
- Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict (SO/LIC): 1) Stability Operations, Humanitarian Mine Action; and 2) Resources, Humanitarian Demining Research and Development, United States Department of Defense
- Communications and Electronics Command Night Vision and Electronic Sensors Directorate, United States Army
- Countermine Training Support Center, United States Army Engineer School

- Humanitarian Demining Training Center (HDTC), United States Department of Defense
- National Geospatial Imagery Agency (NGA)
- Leahy War Victims Fund (LWVF), United States 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

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- Colonel Yori Escalante, Deputy Director, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, U.S. Department of State
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- Colonel Mark Klingelhofer, Deputy Director, International Stability Operations Capabilities: Humanitarian Mine Action and the Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI), Office of the Secretary of Defense, Special Operations, U.S. Department of Defense