

**REPORTING FORMS**  
**PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 10, PARAGRAPH 2 (b) OF THE PROTOCOL AND THE**  
**DECISION OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING**  
**PARTIES TO **PROTOCOL V****

(As adopted by the First Conference at its second plenary meeting on 5 November 2007)

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HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: Australia

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT (Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail):

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DATE OF SUBMISSION: 31/03/2016

*(dd/mm/yyyy)*

This information can be available to other interested parties and relevant organizations

YES

NO

Partially, only the following forms:

A  B  C  D  E  F  G  H  I

**FORM A: Steps taken to implement Article 3 of the Protocol: Clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war**

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High Contracting Party: Australia

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Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2015  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 3:

In addition to guidance contained within overarching military doctrine, Australian Defence Force (ADF) Operational Orders for major operations have an Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) annex detailing the requirements for dealing with ERW.

Current ADF operational guidance with regards to Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) and ERW is to pro-actively deal with ERW in theatres of operations even before active hostilities have formally ceased. The intent of this policy is to mitigate the threat posed by UXO, by destroying items as they are found, subject to the tactical situation, rather than dealing with them after the close of active hostilities (as required by Article 3).

While recognising that measuring the actual level of ERW created in an operational environment is difficult, the ADF has a very low rate of malfunctioned ordnance during operations (due to advanced ammunition manufacture, quality control mechanisms, detailed logistic planning and storage requirements).

Regardless of whether the provisions of Protocol V are applicable as a matter of law to those areas where the ADF was operating, all UXO items found by the ADF on operations in 2015 were identified, documented, collected and/or, where possible, destroyed. Risk assessments of the threat posed by the ERW are an integral part of the decision making and disposal process.

Any other relevant information:

**FORM B:** Steps taken to implement Article 4 of the Protocol: Recording, retaining and transmission of information

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High Contracting Party: Australia

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Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2015  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 4 and the Technical Annex:

Regardless of whether the provisions of Protocol V are applicable as a matter of law to those areas where the Australian Defence Force (ADF) was operating in 2015, the ADF made provision for the tracking and recording of every use of explosive ordnance.

Orders were routinely issued to ensure that detailed electronic reports, including Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) databases, were maintained by all relevant commands and were populated with information from Australian military forces in the field. These orders required that the information was submitted to ADF command headquarters in the theatre of operations, and back to Australia.

The ADF operational level headquarters in Australia has a standing requirement to maintain a comprehensive register that includes reporting of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) incidents. This register includes where possible: the nature, type, quantity and condition of the Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) or Abandoned Explosive Ordnance (AXO); any actions taken to mark, clear, remove and/or destroy these items; their location; and an assessment of the threat posed.

The register also aims to provide detailed information about: reporting steps taken; any future action required to deal with the items; and any warnings issued or risk education provided to military forces or the local community.

ERW registers at every ADF command level are intended to inform the requirements for protective equipment, risk education, and information on ERW to be provided when visitors enter ADF areas of operations.

Any other relevant information:

**FORM C:** Steps taken to implement Article 5 of the Protocol: Other precautions for the protection of the civilian population, individual civilians and civilian objects from the risks and effects of explosive remnants of war

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High Contracting Party: Australia

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Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2015  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 5 and the Technical Annex:

Regardless of whether the provisions of Protocol V are applicable as a matter of law to those areas where the ADF was operating in 2015, the ADF undertook all practicable precautions to protect the civilian population, individual civilians and civilian objects from the risks and effects of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW). This was the case irrespective of whether the particular area of operations was under the control of the ADF.

Warnings, cordoning, evacuation and other safeguards as required were implemented prior to any recovery or destruction of ERW. For example, warnings, cordoning and evacuations occurred prior to the detonation of unexploded ordnance (UXO) during the ADF regional assistance operation, OPERATION RENDER SAFE in Vanuatu in 2015 (described in Form E).

The ADF exercises a duty of care to all local nationals within any area affected by ERW.

Risk education was (and will continue to be) conducted by the ADF to warn local civilians of the dangers of ERW, and advice on the reporting processes will enable civilians to report ERW when they are found. For example, education programs are ongoing in the Solomon Islands to advise locals of the dangers of UXOs.

Any other relevant information:

**FORM D:** Steps taken to implement Article 6 of the Protocol: Provisions for the protection of humanitarian missions and organizations from the effects of explosive remnants of war

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High Contracting Party: Australia

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Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2015  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 6:

Regardless of whether the provisions of Protocol V are applicable as a matter of law to those areas where the Australian Defence Force (ADF) was operating in 2015, the ADF provided information to humanitarian missions and organisations on the location of Explosive Remnants of War within the humanitarian missions' and organisations' area of operations. This was the case irrespective of whether the particular area of operations was under the control of the ADF.

Any other relevant information:

**FORM E:** Steps taken to implement Article 7 and Article 8 of the Protocol:  
Assistance with respect to existing explosive remnants of war and cooperation and assistance

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High Contracting Party: Australia

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Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2015  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 7 and Article 8:

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) exchanges information on a regular basis with the Defence establishments of Canada, New Zealand, United Kingdom and the United States as part of a Technical Co-operation Program. In relation to the removal of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW), this information concerns the equipment capabilities, procedures employed, and results of tests, trials, exercises, and operations. This information allows the participating nations to increase their knowledge of the problems involved with the removal of ERW and improve relevant skills and techniques. The ADF also provides a range of technical assistance and training to regional countries affected by ERW, including through cooperative ERW clearance, removal, and destruction activities, as listed below.

From 22-27 August 2015, the ADF conducted explosive ordnance removal activities in the community of Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu, titled 'OPERATION RENDER SAFE'. The activity focused on the safe removal of WWII-era unexploded ordnance and also involved initial community engagement, search, and then render safe and disposal operations.

In the 2015 reporting period, Defence provided various training relevant to this Protocol to international students:

- a. ADF Explosive Ordnance Disposal training was provided to a member of the New Zealand Navy.
- b. The Military Engineering Officer Basic course, at the School of Military Engineering Moorebank in New South Wales, was provided to one member of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces, one member of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces, three members of the New Zealand Defence Force, three members of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force, and one member of His Majesty's Armed Forces (Tonga).
- c. The Search Advisor Course, at the School of Military Engineering Moorebank, was provided to two members of the New Zealand Defence Force.
- d. Explosive Ordnance Hazard and Search training was delivered to the Royal Thai Armed Forces.
- e. The Ammunition Technical Officers Course was provided to one member of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces, one member of the New Zealand Defence Force and two members of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force.

[Please also refer to Australia's Report for CCW Amended Protocol II Form B.]

Australia's mine action work seeks to reduce the threat and socio-economic impact of landmines, cluster munitions and other ERW. The intended outcomes are: improved quality of life for victims; reduced number of deaths and injuries; enhanced capacity of countries to manage their mine action programs; and effective leadership and advocacy by Australia on mine action. Australia is focused on assisting significantly affected countries in the Asia-Pacific region, while retaining the flexibility to respond to other emerging needs and priorities. As a party to Protocol V, Australia's mine action activities address the impact of both landmines and explosive remnants of war.

In 2015 Australia contributed AUD5,450,000 to mine action through bilateral programs in Palau, Cambodia and through partnerships with international organisations including United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), Geneva Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Geneva Call and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Cluster Munition Coalition (ICBL-CMC).

Any other relevant information:

**FORM E(a):** Steps taken by States which have ERW victims to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2): Victim Assistance

High Contracting Party: \_\_\_\_\_

Reporting for time period from:

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
[dd/mm/yyyy]

to

\_\_\_\_\_ [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2):

Other relevant information, guided by the Plan of Action on Victim Assistance:

**FORM F:** Steps taken to implement Article 9 of the Protocol: Generic preventive measures

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High Contracting Party: Australia

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Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2015  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 9 and the Technical Annex:

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) maintains Standard Operating Procedures for dealing with Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) – such as marking, reporting, transporting, and storing ordnance. These procedures comply with Article 9.

The ADF has developed and implemented procedures to minimize the occurrence of ERW, and will continue to improve these procedures into the future. Current ADF procedures include, but are not limited to: training for all personnel in the Law of Armed Conflict; and, training of specific personnel in Explosive Ordnance Disposal and standard operating procedures that reduce risk to personnel (including civilians) and the environment.

The Defence Explosive Ordnance Committee (DEOC) continues as the senior advisory committee supporting the Vice Chief of Defence Force (VCDF). It is the single point of accountability for the Defence-wide management of Explosive Ordnance (EO). As well as reporting to the VCDF, the DEOC reports annually to the Defence Committee.

ADF compliance with the technical aspects of this Protocol is achieved through Technical Regulations. Technical Regulatory Authorities (TRA) are accountable to Service Chiefs and provide appropriate assurance through established regulatory frameworks and auditing compliance mechanisms. The TRA provides technical integrity regulation through regular compliance audit, ongoing liaison and established steering groups and working groups.

The Explosive Ordnance Safety Assurance Board (EOSAB) provides the VCDF with assurance of appropriate EO safety management in the ADF. The EOSAB is Chaired by the Director General Explosive Ordnance (DGEO) in Joint Logistics Command, with Air Force taking the lead TRA role. The EOSAB provides a key technical compliance assurance mechanism for introducing EO into Service, and for sustainment of in-Service EO. The EOSAB is also responsible for reviewing ADF compliance with EO safety policy. The EOSAB convened four scheduled meetings during the 2015 reporting period.

The ADF, through the Capability and Sustainment Group (CASG), undertakes and commissions research as well as employing procedures in order to obtain the highest possible reliability and safety of EO. This is achieved by ongoing engagement with industry and research organisations, as well as by the work undertaken by EO specialists within the CASG and other parts of the ADF.

Any other relevant information:

ADF mandates, and ensures compliance to, munitions manufacturing management and munitions management through the regulatory documents listed below.

Regulatory documents:

- a. DI(G) LOG4-1-001 Defence Explosive Ordnance Manual, 2 March 2012;
- b. DEFLOGMAN Pt2 Volume 9 Chapter 1 Management of Explosive Ordnance, 2014;
- c. DI(G) LOG4-1-006 Safety of Explosive Ordnance, 20 March 2006;
- d. DEOP 102 (AM1) Technical Integrity of Explosive Ordnance, AL1 13 January 2012;
- e. DEFLOGMAN Pt2 Volume 9 Chapter 4 Insensitive Munitions, 2 March 2012;
- f. DI(G) LOG4-5-012 Regulation of the technical integrity of Australian Defence Force materiel, 10 September 2010;
- g. DI(G) OPS 32-1 Appropriation and import of defence related materiel during Australian Defence Force operations, 29 November 2006;
- h. DI(G) ADMIN 59-1 Management of Defence Training Areas, 9 November 2012;
- i. DI(G) ADMIN 63-1 Management of land affected by unexploded ordnance, 23 September 2004;
- j. United Nations (UN) Publications ST/SG/AC.10/1 Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods Issue 1 August 2001;
- k. DEOP 102 Technical Integrity of Explosive Ordnance AL1 13 January 2012;
- l. NATO AASTP-2 Manual of NATO Safety Principles for the Transport of Military Ammunition and Explosive;
- m. NATO AASTP-3 Manual of NATO Safety Principles for the Hazard Classification of Military Ammunition and Explosives;
- n. Allied Ordnance Publications (AOP) 15 Guidance on the Assessment of the Safety and Suitability for Service of Non-Nuclear Munitions for NATO Armed Forces; and
- o. eDEOP 101 Department of Defence Explosive Regulations.

## FORM G: Steps taken to implement Article 11 of the Protocol: Compliance

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High Contracting Party: Australia

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Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2015  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

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### Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 11:

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) has issued instructions to operational commands, which comply with the Protocol, namely:

- a. that the Explosive Ordnance (EO) management process follows current ADF orders and instructions with respect to security, licensed storage and operational life;
- b. all ammunition technical staff to be conversant with ADF policy, orders and instructions as well as all current domestic EO management regulations for the storage, distribution, handling and maintenance of EO;
- c. the Senior Ammunition Technical Representative to ensure that EO was stored, transported, managed and disposed of safely by Task Groups in accordance with current ADF legal and policy requirements; and
- d. EO incidents, particularly malfunctions, were to be reported on occurrence.

Furthermore, specific Protocol V requirements and procedures for dealing with explosive remnants of war are covered in pre-deployment and ongoing training. These instructions and procedures are reviewed regularly to ensure their continuing relevance and applicability to current Government direction, including compliance with Protocol V.

Any other relevant information:

