

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>31 March 2017</u>
NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT	<u>DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE, CANBERRA</u> <u>DIRECTOR, CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS SECTION</u> <u>INTERNATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION</u> <u>PH: 61 2 6261 1111</u>

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;"

Remark:

High Contracting Party AUSTRALIA reporting for time period from 01.01.2016 to 31.12.2016

Information to the armed forces

In 2007, the Australian Defence Force prepared and promulgated the 'Land Warfare Procedures – General' publication (LWP-G 3-6-5) on Mines, Booby Traps and Improvised Explosive Devices. It was most recently updated in June 2010. The document provides commanders and staff with current policy on landmines, booby traps and improvised explosive devices and its application to military operations, in accordance with Australian obligations under international law, including Amended Protocol II and the Anti-Personnel 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 policy, including references to Amended Protocol II, is disseminated to the civilian population through:

- Statements to UNGA, CCW, CCM and APMBC meetings and review conferences.
The Australian Government's relevant laws and policies are publicly available

Form B

Mine clearance and rehabilitation programs

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

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programs;"

Remark:

High Contracting Party **AUSTRALIA** reporting for time period from **01.01.16** to **31.12.16**

National resources allocated through the Australian Aid Program

Program/Country	Implementing Partner	Activity	Mine Action Pillar	AUD
Iraq	United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)	Humanitarian and stabilisation activities in Iraq	Clearance	5,000,000
Cambodia	UNDP	Clearing for Results	Clearance	4,000,000
Cambodia	UNDP, WHO and UNICEF	Disability Rights Initiative Cambodia	Victim Assistance	2,476,000.00
Palau	Cleared Ground Demining	Clearance of Explosive Remnants of War	Clearance	580,000
Global	Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)	Core Support to GICHD and support for: the APMBC and CCM ISUs; the APMBC, CCM and CCW sponsorship programmes; and GMAP	Core support, research, evaluation, clearance, stock-pile destruction, victim assistance and gender	600,000
Global	Geneva Call	Reducing the Threat and Impact of Landmines	Universalisation and advocacy	200,000
Global	Handicap International	Capacity building	Victim assistance	200,000
Global	International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Cluster Munition Coalition (ICBL-CMC)	Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor	Universalisation, monitoring and advocacy	140,000
Global	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Special Appeal 2016: Disability and Mine Action	Victim assistance	500,000
Global	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Special Fund for the Disabled	Victim assistance	700,000
Global	United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)	Core Support to UNMAS	Clearance	499,000
TOTAL				14,895,000

Please note the clearance activities supported through the Australian aid program may support the clearance of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war.

During the reporting period, under the Convention on Cluster Munitions, Australia served as Co-Coordinator, with Chile, of the Committee on Victim Assistance. In this capacity Australia worked hard to encourage States Parties to implement their victim assistance commitments under the Convention and the Dubrovnik Action Plan. Australia also worked with Victim Assistance Co-Coordinator Chile, Co-Coordinator on International Cooperation and Assistance, Austria and Iraq, and technical support provided by Handicap International, to develop Guidance on an Integrated Approach to Victim Assistance. The Guidance, launched in November 2016, highlights good practices and national examples of the implementation of an integrated approach to victim assistance and is intended to be equally applicable to work on victim assistance under the Cluster Munitions Convention, the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.

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:

High Contracting Party AUSTRALIA reporting for time period from 01.01.2016 to 31.12.2016

Technical requirements

Australia does not have minefields. Nor has it produced or deployed munitions which fall under the technical requirements of this Protocol in 2016.

Any other relevant information

In meeting the technical requirements of this Protocol, Australia has Australian Defence Force doctrine which includes all necessary measures to ensure compliance with the Protocol.

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;

Remark:

High Contracting Party AUSTRALIA reporting for time period from 01.01.2016 to 31.12.2016

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. However, other legislation is relevant to the obligations contained in Amended Protocol II. For example, Australia has enacted the *Anti-Personnel Mines Convention Act 1998*. This Act primarily implements the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, but it also implements the key provisions of Amended Protocol II. In particular, section 7 of the Act makes it an offence to place, possess, develop, produce, acquire, stockpile, move or transfer anti-personnel mines.

The Australian Government periodically reviews implementing legislation against international humanitarian law instruments to which it is a party in order to ensure it continues to meet implementation requirements.

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 01.01.2016 to 31.12.2016

International technical information exchange

During the reporting period, Australia attended a number of meetings to promote technical information exchange on landmine and ERW issues:

- The 19th International Meeting of Mine Action National Programme Directors and United Nations Advisers 16 to 19 February 2016, Geneva
- Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, 28 November to 1 December 2016, Santiago, Chile.
- Group of Experts under Amended Protocol II to the CCW on Improvised Explosive Devices, 7 to 8 April 2016, Geneva
- Meeting of Experts under Protocol V to the CCW on Explosive Remnants of War, 6 to 7 April 2016, Geneva
- Convention on Cluster Munitions Sixth Meeting of States Parties 5 to 7 September 2016, Geneva
- Tenth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to CCW Protocol V, 29 August 2016, Geneva
- Eighteenth Annual Conference on Amended Protocol II, 30 August 2016, Geneva
- Fifth Review Conference of the CCW, 12 to 16 Decemebr 2016, Geneva
- Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, 30 November to 4 December 2016, Geneva

International cooperation on mine clearance

In both Palau and Cambodia we work with other donors to ensure coordination and cooperation. Australia participates in meetings of the Mine Action Support Group which helps to coordinate international responses to mine action issues. During the reporting period, under the Convention on Cluster Munitions, Australia was appointed Co-Coordinator, with Iraq, on International Cooperation and Assistance for 2016-2018, and commenced an initiative to enhance communication between affected and donor states on meeting clearance and other challenges. This work will have application under Amended Protocol II and Protocol V of the CCW. Australia is also an active supporter of the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and made a significant contribution to UNMAS' work in Iraq during this reporting period.

Technical Cooperation and Assistance

During the reporting period, Australia's funding assisted the development of technical capacities of national clearance authorities in Cambodia.

In the 2016 reporting period, Defence provided international students with various training relevant to this Protocol:

- a. The Military Engineering Officer Basic course, at the School of Military Engineering Moorebank in New South Wales, was provided to four members of the New Zealand Defence Force, one member of the Royal Malaysian Armed Forces, and one member of His Majesty's Armed Forces (Tonga).
- b. The Search Advisor Course, at the School of Military Engineering Moorebank, was provided to two members of the New Zealand Defence Force, three members of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces and one member of the Pakistan Armed Forces.
- c. Technical support was provided to the Royal Malaysian Armed Forces to improve the Royal Malaysian Armed Forces explosive detection dog capability.
- d. Explosive Ordnance Hazard and Search training was provided to the Republic of Fiji Military Forces and the Papua New Guinea Defence Force.
- e. Operation Render Safe ran from 12 September to 7 October 2016 in the Solomon Islands, some 120 Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel participated alongside specialists from New Zealand, Canada and the United Kingdom, with the full cooperation of the Solomon Islands Government and in close partnership with the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force. Operation Render Safe is dedicated to capacity building and removal of Second World War explosive remnants of war, which continue to pose a danger to communities in the South West Pacific.

Please also refer to Australia's Annual Report of CCW Protocol V: Form B, Form E and Form F.

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:

High Contracting Party reporting for time period from 01.01.2016 to 31.12.2016

Other relevant matters

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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

High Contracting Party AUSTRALIA reporting for time period from 01.01.2016 to 31.12.2016

Means and technologies of mine clearance

Within the Australian Department of Defence, the Defence Science and Technology Group undertakes research in mine detection and route clearance. This includes the evaluation of current capabilities including Ground Penetrating Radar and Metal Detection as well as the development of improved detection algorithms. This research involves cooperation with New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States of America.

Lists of experts and experts agencies

National point of contact on mine action:

Director, Conventional Weapons Section
International Security Division
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Canberra
Telephone: +61 2 6261 1111

For Defence information the initial point of contact is:

Director Counter-Proliferation and Arms Control

Counter-Proliferation and Arms Control Section
Strategic Policy Branch
Strategic Policy Division
R1-1-A093 Russell Offices
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Canberra ACT 2600
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