The Permanent Representatives of the High Contracting Parties to the CCW Amended Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices
Geneva

27 April 2015

Excellency,

We are writing to you in our roles as Coordinator and Co-Coordinator on Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) of the informal Group of Experts under Amended Protocol II (APII) to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), which took place in Geneva on 9 and 10 April 2015.

You will recall that the Group discussed the text of a one-time questionnaire, voluntary in nature, on national counter-IED frameworks, with a view to enhancing international cooperation and assistance and strengthening national capacities of High Contracting Parties, including through the establishment of a network of national points of contact.

The questionnaire was agreed by consensus by the Group of Experts. We thank you and your delegation for your active participation in the work of the Group during this particular debate.

Please find attached herewith the questionnaire. As we have announced during the Group of Experts meeting, we expect your delegation to submit your response to the CCW Implementation Support Unit (ISU) by Friday, 30 October 2015.

The questionnaire is presently being processed as an official document of the Seventeenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and it will appear in all the language versions, which will be posted on the CCW website as soon as they become available.

We strongly encourage your delegation to provide answers to the questionnaire by the deadline.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact either ourselves or the ISU at any time.

Yours sincerely,

Capt. (N) Erwan Roche
Coordinator on IEDs
CCW APII Group of Experts

Igor Moldovan
Co-Coordinator on IEDs
CCW APII Group of Experts
International Cooperation in Countering Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED)

QUESTIONNAIRE

This one-time questionnaire is voluntary in nature. Given the potential sensitivity of the information related to Improvised Explosive Devices (IED), High Contracting Parties may decide which of the questions to answer or not, as well as the level of detail they wish to provide without jeopardizing their national security interests. In this regard, they should in particular consider the opportunity to answer questions related to C-IED organization set out in section three. The contents of this questionnaire would in no way create a precedent for any future such initiative.

1. Risk assessment

Q1/ Does your country perform a risk assessment as to the IED threat? If yes, how do you assess it (low/medium/high)?

2. Legal framework

The aim of this section is to help High Contracting Parties to clarify their own legal framework with regards to C-IED and identify possible areas of cooperation.

a) Curbing the manufacture of IEDs

Q2/ Does your domestic law or any other administrative instruments regulate the purchase, retention, transfer and use of explosives, detonators or chemical precursors that might be used for the manufacture of IEDs?

For instance:

Q2.1/ Does your country have particular legislation or regulation with regards to the purchase, retention, transfer and use of chemical precursors that might be used for the purpose of manufacturing Home Made Explosives (HME), e.g. list of concerned chemical substances and administrative system to trace and control their use? If yes, could you describe it?

Q2.2/ Does your country have particular legislation or regulation with regards to the purchase, retention, transfer and use of civilian explosives and/or detonators? If yes, could you describe it?

Q2.3/ Does your country have particular legislation or regulation in order to reduce possibilities for armed groups to access military explosives, notably in securing ammunitions storage facilities and transportation? If yes, could you describe it?

Q3/ Would your country agree to share experience in elaborating and implementing those legislations or regulations, and would your country be open for international cooperation in those fields and how?

Q4/ Does your country participate in customs cooperation to improve border controls and limit flows that feed the chain of IED manufacturing (persons and materials)? In particular does your country participate in the “Global Shield” program of the World Customs Organization (WCO)?

Q5/ Does your country have any means to track the supply chain of IED precursor materials (e.g. chemicals used to construct explosives, detonator cords, electronic activation devices, fireworks, commercial explosives, etc.) in order to reduce the illicit use of such materials? Would your country share this information at the most appropriate level?
Q6/ Has your country taken specific domestic measures to monitor, curtail or block the dissemination of information, through any medium including the internet, on how to independently build IEDs?

b) Prosecuting the use of IEDs

Q7/ Does your criminal law specifically condemn the use of IEDs, and if so, how?

Q8/ Is your country involved in judicial cooperation with regard to C-IED prosecution, at a regional or international level, and if so, how?

Q9/ Does your country cooperate with INTERPOL in C-IED?

3. **Counter-IED (C-IED) organization**

*Information in this section may only be provided consistent with national requirements and regulations.*

Q10/ Do you have a national authority that coordinates or leads C-IED efforts?

Q11/ Without entering into sensitive information, could you describe in a nutshell – and if possible with a general organizational diagram – the different authorities, units or organs involved in C-IED (including, where possible and for instance, headquarters or authorities, units specialized in research, neutralization or destruction of IEDs, technical expertise centers, training centers, etc.), in the police as well as in the armed forces?

Q12/ Does your country analyze IED-related incidents with regard to tactical (e.g. modus operandi, targeting, pattern analysis) and technical (construction of the IED) as well as forensic aspects? If yes, is the information kept centralized in a national data center, in order to allow a comparison of different IED-related incidents on a national level?

Q13/ Do these authorities, units or organs consult or coordinate:
- With other national ministries or administrations such as Justice, Industry, Finance, Health or Education?
- With other international authorities, agencies, units or organs?

Q14/ Does your country have a global or a specific military or security doctrine developed for C-IED? If so, can these be made available on request?

4. **National Point of Contact for cooperation**

Q15/ Which authority or organization is your national Point of Contact (PoC) for international cooperation in C-IED? (Please provide the name and contact details of this authority, including the address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail).

5. **Expertise and capabilities open for cooperation**

*The aim of this section is to help to draw a map of the existing capabilities open for cooperation. It is not to enter into classified information on national capacities that the High Contracting Parties would not intend to share, but to identify particular expertise that might be interesting for bilateral or multilateral cooperation, upon agreement.*

Q16/ What are the fields where you think bilateral or multilateral cooperation would be valuable?

Q17/ Has your country developed specialized centers for technical and biometric analysis, leading/coordinating C-IED or training where international cooperation would be possible; if so, what is it called and how to contact them?

Q18/ Does your country participate in bilateral, regional or multilateral C-IED efforts, such as training activities, for instance? If yes, please specify those types of cooperation.
Q19/ Has your country developed specific C-IED tools that might be open for cooperation, such as a database or specific equipment (e.g. jamming systems, robots for neutralization, armored equipment for deminers, mobile laboratories, etc.)?

6. Information sharing

The aim of this section is to help High Contracting Parties to identify possible cooperation in the field of information sharing.

Q20/ Does your country organize or participate in meetings, workshops, seminars, conferences or training on C-IEDs? If yes, what are they called and are they open for international participation?

Q21/ Does your country participate in bilateral or multilateral efforts to share information on IED construction and use such as incidences, means of construction of IEDs, biometrics, and other such areas? If not, would your country consider participating in such sharing mechanisms in accordance with your national legal regulations?