

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>November 2007</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 Depositary ... on:

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

Remark:

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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 April 2005, 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, who is also Australia's Special Representative on Mine Action.**
- . **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.usaid.gov.au>. Program information and the Mine Action Strategy (2005 – 2010) is available from <http://www.usaid.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	16.09.2006	to	31.10.2007
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Current and recently completed mine clearance programmes

Cambodia – Clearing for Results (UNDP)
Cambodia – Land Use Planning Unit Support (CMAC/MAPU)
Cambodia – Technical Survey & Testing (MAG)
Iraq – Capacity Development for Clearance and Victim Assistance (UNDP)
Jordan – Northern Border Clearance Project (UNDP/NCDR)
Laos – Community-based UXO Clearance (FSD)
Laos – National Regulatory Authority Support (FSD/NRA)
Laos – Clearance (UXO Laos)
Lebanon – UXO Clearance (UNMAS)
Sri Lanka – Mine Action Program (UNDP)
Sri Lanka – Mine Clearance Operations (FSD)
Uganda – Mine Action Needs Assessment Survey (UNDP)

Current and recently completed rehabilitation programmes (including integrated mine action)

Afghanistan – Inclusive Livelihoods for People with Disabilities (NGO)
Afghanistan – Mine Risk Education and Victim Assistance – UNMACA
Afghanistan – Mine Risk Education (UNICEF)
Angola – Mine Risk Education (UNICEF)
Thailand – Mine risk education for Burmese refugees (Austcare)
Cambodia – Landmine Victim Assistance Program (various NGO-managed and community-based land mine victim assistance projects).
Cambodia – Community Strengthening & Gender Mainstreaming in Integrated Mine Action in Battambang and Preah Vihear Provinces (NGO)
Cambodia – Integrated Mine Action Banteay Meanchey (NGO) incorporates victim assistance/livelihoods components.
Cambodia – Integrated Mine Action in Pailin (NGO) incorporates victim assistance/livelihoods components
Iraq – Mine Risk Education and Victim Assistance (UNICEF)

Vietnam –Special Fund for the Disabled (SFD) Appeal 2006

Global – Research into Mine Victim Assistance including ‘Landmine Victim Assistance in 2006: Overview of the Situation in 24 States Parties’
publication

Laos – Reducing UXO Risks and Improving Livelihoods of Ethnic Communities in Sekong Province (NGO)

Laos – Integrated UXO Action Activity in Khammouane Province

Form C

Technical requirements and relevant information

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

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

Remark:

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International technical information exchange

Australia attended a number of meetings to promote technical information exchange on landmine issues: CCW Third RevCon (7-17 November); assisting landmine Survivors Symposium (12 February); ICRC Experts' Meeting on Cluster Munitions (18-20 April); Mine-Ban Convention intersessional (23-27 April); Vanuatu Small States Strategy Workshop (3-4 May); Mine-Ban Convention 10th Anniversary (9 May); CCW Protocol V PrepCom (18 June); CCW GGE (19-23 June); Mine-Ban Convention 10th Anniversary (18 September); UNGA 62 First Committee outreach on the Mine-Ban Convention (October); Mine-Ban Convention Colloquium (18 October); Ottawa Convention Implementation Seminar (24 October).

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 New York-based 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:

High Contracting Party _____ reporting for time period from 16.09.2006 to 31.10.2007 _____

<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, 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 on experts and their agencies, the initial point of contact is:

Australian Army Headquarters – Staff Officer Grade 1 - Operations – Ph: (61 2) 6265 4224.

For information on policy, 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 Coordination Branch

AusAID

GPO Box 887

Canberra ACT 2601

Telephone: (61 2) 6206 4289

Facsimile: (61 2) 6206 4587