No. 014-17


The Permanent Mission of the United States avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the CCW Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

Enclosures: As stated.

The Permanent Mission of the
United States of America,
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:

12/05/2017

National Point of Contact:

Charles Trumbull
Office of the Legal Adviser,
Political-Military Affairs
U.S. Department of State
tel: 202-647-5183
fax: 202-736-7620
email: trumbullcp@state.gov

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 2016.

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

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 it incorporate information about the Protocol in its programs for the education of the civilian population of the United States. In addition, the Department of State has produced nearly every year for the past decade and one-half a public report titled "To Walk the Earth in Safety" (the most recent edition was published in November 2016). This series of reports describe in detail the steps taken by the U.S. Conventional Weapons Destruction Program to address landmines, explosive remnants of war (ERW), and small arms and light weapons (SA/LW), which can affect the civilian population in countries recovering from conflict long after the conflict ends. Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) is a comprehensive approach that includes humanitarian mine action, battle area clearance, clearance of ERW, SA/LW (including at-risk munitions and man-portable air defense systems - MANPADS), stockpile and cache reduction, and physical security and stockpile management. This publication may be found at the Department of State's website:
https://www.state.gov/t/pm/rls/rpt/walkearth/2016/index.htm

The Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs and staff in the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA) address foundations, corporations, and religious and civic groups, as well as students ranging from secondary to
university level, to raise awareness of the landmine issue and encourage their participation in this comprehensive approach to CWD. Engagement takes place with domestic, foreign, and international entities. Over the years, PM/WRA has partnered with a number of civic groups and private organizations to expand further the reach of our efforts.
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 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mine clearance programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The U.S. Department of State provided conventional weapons destruction (CWD) assistance that totaled $177.7 million in Fiscal Year 2015 and is projected to provide $139.1 million in Fiscal Year 2016 funds. CWD assistance includes funding for humanitarian mine action, and destruction and security of small arms, light weapons, and conventional munitions. The United States remains the leading donor to humanitarian mine action around the world, with U.S. contributions since Fiscal Year 1993 totaling more than $2.8 billion. These funds have provided assistance to more than 90 countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The U.S. Conventional Weapons Destruction Program helps countries around the world to overcome threats from landmines, ERW, and at-risk weapons and munitions, regardless of whether the affected countries are party to either the Protocol or the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. A State may face challenges from one or more of these types of weapons and munitions, and the comprehensive CWD program increases effectiveness of U.S. assistance by creating a flexible approach to addressing the relevant threats. Consistent with the U.S. philosophy of helping other countries to develop the indigenous capacity to address these threats, the U.S. program also aids in the development of leadership and organizational skills of local personnel to sustain programs after U.S.-provided assistance is complete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landmine clearance remains a focus of our comprehensive program. In Fiscal Year 2016, projects in Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Georgia, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Mozambique, Senegal, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Vietnam, Yemen, Zimbabwe, and the Palestinian Territories (the West Bank) specifically addressed landmine contamination.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assistance is provided both bilaterally and multilaterally, through the United Nations, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and the Organization of American States, as well as various non-governmental organizations and contractors.
Rehabilitation programs

The Patrick J. Leahy War Victims Fund, managed by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), serves as the primary source of U.S. assistance to civilian victims of conflict in developing countries. Established in 1989, the Leahy War Victims Fund maintains a dedicated source of financial and technical support for people with disabilities, particularly those who sustain mobility-related injuries from anti-personnel landmines, unexploded ordnance (UXO), and other injuries resulting from armed conflict and civil disorder. To date, the Leahy War Victims Fund has provided nearly $247 million in assistance to more than 50 countries. Originally tasked with delivering immediate care, the Leahy War Victims Fund widened its scope of activities to include development programs that accommodate the changing needs of the populations they serve, and support for the establishment of a framework for sustainable services in developing countries. The fund also contributes to the development and enforcement of international standards to ensure that practitioners who provide care to survivors are qualified and experienced. In addition, the Leahy War Victims Fund ensures that treatment and equipment are used appropriately and effectively to increase the mobility of conflict-affected people with disabilities.

In Fiscal Year 2016, the Leahy War Victims Fund initiated two new regional activities in the Middle East (Jordan, Lebanon, and West Bank/Gaza) and Francophone West Africa (Mali, Niger, and Senegal) and continued support for programs in Armenia, Burma, Cambodia, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Laos, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Tajikistan, as well as numerous regional and international initiatives spanning multiple countries with partners such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the World Health Organization.
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 2016.

No change since the 2015 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 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No change since the 2004 Report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Article 13/4/e</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**United States reporting for time period through September 2016.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International technical information exchange</th>
<th>No change since the 2005 report.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International cooperation on mine clearance</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>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) and with the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) to share information and increase coordination toward our common goal of eliminating landmines that threaten civilians. In Fiscal Year 2016, the United States also supported the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining's efforts to maintain and disseminate updated and new International Mine Action Standards (IMAS).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical cooperation and assistance</td>
<td>No change since 2005 report.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 2016.

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 2016.

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, U.S. Department of State
- Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict (SO/LIC), U.S. Department of Defense
- Countermine Training Support Center, U.S. Army Engineer School
- Humanitarian Demining Training Center (HDTC), U.S. Department of Defense
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), U.S. Department of Defense

- Leahy War Victims Fund (LWVF); Wheelchair and Disability Funds, U.S. Agency for International Development

- National Center for Environmental Health, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National points of contact on mine clearance

- Stanley Brown, Director, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, U.S. Department of State
tel: 202-663-0088
fax: 202-663-0090

- Gerald Guilbert, Deputy Director, Programs, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, U.S. Department of State
tel: 202-663-0109
fax: 202-663-0090

tel: 703-614-5824