Geneva, 6 November 2006
Item 10 of the provisional agenda
Consideration of matters arising from
reports by High Contracting Parties
according to paragraph 4 of Article 13
of the Amended Protocol II

AUSTRALIA

National annual report

Submitted in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2 of the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as Amended on 3 May 1996 to the CCW

GE.06-64960
SUMMARY SHEET

Summary Reporting Format for Article 13 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2, pursuant to the decision of the Fifth Annual Conference of the States Parties to CCW Amended Protocol II as stipulated in paragraph 20 of its Final Document,
CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/2

NAME OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY  AUSTRALIA

DATE OF SUBMISSION  November 2006

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT  Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Canberra
Director, Counter-Proliferation Section
International Security Division
Ph: 61 2 6261 2943
Fax: 61 2 6261 2151

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

X  YES

□  NO
**REPORTING PERIOD:** 16.09.2005 to 31.10.2006

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<th>Form</th>
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Form A  Dissemination of information

Article 13, paragraph 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 reporting for time period from 16.09.2005 to 31.10.2006

Australia

Information to the armed forces

A Training Information Bulletin (TIB), No. 86, 'Conventions on the use of Landmines: A Commander's Guide' was prepared and promulgated in October 1999, within the Australian Defence Force. The document provides Commanders and staff with an interpretation of revised 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 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.
**Form B**  
*Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes*

Article 13, paragraph 4 (b)  
“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on: 

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

**Remark:**

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<td>Australia</td>
<td>period from 16.09.2005 to 31.10.2006</td>
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### Mine clearance programmes

- Cambodia – Clearing for Results (UNDP)  
- Cambodia – Contributions to Cambodia Mine Action Centre (CMAC)  
- Sri Lanka – Mine Action Program (UNDP)  
- Sri Lanka – Mine Clearance Operations (FSD)  
- Laos – Community-based UXO Clearance (FSD)  
- Sudan – Emergency Road Repair and Mine Clearance of Key Transport Routes in Sudan in Support of WFP EMOP in Sudan

### Rehabilitation programmes

- Burma – Mine risk education for Burmese refugees.  
- Cambodia – Landmine Victim Assistance Funding for NGOs including a variety of community-based land mine victim assistance projects.  
- Cambodia – Physical Rehabilitation Study.  
- 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 Battambang and Preah Vihear Provinces (NGO) incorporates victim assistance/livelihoods components.  
- Cambodia – Integrated Mine Action in Pailin (NGO) incorporates victim assistance/livelihoods components.  
- Global – Research into Mine Victim Assistance (NGO).  
- Laos – Support for the development of a landmine victim assistance database.  
Form C  Technical requirements and relevant information

Article 13, paragraph 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 16.09.2005 to 31.10.2006

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, paragraph 4 (d)  “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;”

Remark:

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Legislation

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, paragraph 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:

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International technical information exchange

Australia attended a number of meetings to promote technical information exchange on landmine issues: CCW GGE (14-22 November); CCW APII Conference of States Parties (22 November); CCW Conference of States Parties (24-25 November); Mine-Ban Convention Sixth MSP (28 November – 2 December); CCW GGE (6-10 March); NGO workshop, cluster munitions & IHL (13-14 March); Mine-Ban Convention intersessional (8-12 May); Mine Action outreach to Laos (4-7 June); CCW GGE (19-23 June); Small States Strategy Workshop (29-30 June); Mine Action meeting (10-11 July); CCW GGE (28 August – 7 September) Mine-Ban Convention Seventh MSP as President (18-22 September); Mine-Ban outreach to Poland (21 September); and UNGA 61 First Committee outreach on the Mine-Ban Convention (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.

International co-operation on technical co-operation and assistance

Australia provides funding to several Australian NGOs to implement integrated mine action programs in Cambodia, and provides funding for the development of technical capacities of national clearance authorities in Cambodia, Sri Lanka and Laos.
Form F Other relevant matters

Article 13, paragraph 4 (f) “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

(f) other relevant matters.”

Remark:

High Contracting Party Australia reporting for time period from 16.09.2005 to 31.10.2006

Other relevant matters
Form G  Information to the UN-database on mine clearance

Article 11, paragraph 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.”

High Contracting Party  Australia  reporting for time period from 16.09.2005 to 31.10.2006

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, has been funded through the Australian Government's aid program. 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
East Timor and Burma Section
AusAID
GPO Box 887
Canberra ACT 2601
Telephone: (61 2) 6206 4572
Facsimile: (61 2) 6206 4983

National points of contact on mine clearance