

No. 015/12

The Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) Implementation Support Unit (ISU) of the United Nations Office in Geneva and is pleased to transmit to the ISU the enclosed Annual Reports of the United States for Amended Protocol II and Protocol V, and the Compliance Report for 1 October 2011 through 31 December 2011.

The Permanent Mission of the United States of America avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the ISU the assurance of its highest consideration.

The Permanent Mission of the
United States of America



Geneva, March 30, 2012.

DIPLOMATIC NOTE

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:

30 March 2012

National Point of Contact:

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*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 2011.

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

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 they incorporate information about the Protocol in its programs for the education of the American civilian population. In addition, the Department of State has produced a series of annual reports to the public on the landmine problem entitled "To Walk the Earth in Safety" (the 10th edition was published in July 2011), which describe in detail the landmine problem and steps being taken by the U.S. Conventional Weapons Destruction Program to address it. This publication may be found at the Department of State's website:
<http://www.state.gov/t/pm/rls/rpt/walkearth/2011/index.htm>

The Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs and his staff in the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement address foundations, corporations, 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 fighting the landmine problem. Engagement takes place with domestic, foreign, and international entities. A synopsis of Public-Private Partnerships is regularly updated and made available to the general public electronically. More information about this initiative can be found at
<http://www.state.gov/t/pm/wra/partners>.

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 2011.

Mine clearance programs

In Fiscal Year 2011, the U.S. Department of State provided conventional weapons destruction (CWD) assistance that totaled \$142 million. CWD assistance includes funding for humanitarian mine action, and destruction and security of small arms, light weapons, and convention munitions. Thirty mine-afflicted countries, on a total of four continents, benefited. Fiscal Year 2012 funding is expected to be approximately \$149 million. 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 \$1.9 billion. These funds have provided assistance to more than 80 countries.

The U.S. Conventional Weapons Destruction Program assists countries that are experiencing the adverse effects of uncleared persistent landmines, both anti-personnel and anti-vehicle, regardless of the affected countries' stances on either of the international landmine treaties. Consistent with the U.S. philosophy of helping other countries to develop the indigenous capacity to demine, the U.S. program also aids in the development of leadership and organizational skills of local personnel to sustain programs after U.S.-provided training is complete.

Assistance is provided both bilaterally and multilaterally, thorough the UN, NATO, the OSCE, and the OAS.

(Form B, continued)

Rehabilitation programs

The Patrick J. Leahy War Victims Fund, managed by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), has been in operation in post-conflict and conflict-affected developing countries since 1989. The Fund was established to provide a dedicated source of financial and technical assistance for civilian victims of war who suffer from mobility-related injuries, including people who suffer from polio as a result of interrupted immunization services. This includes, but is not limited to, survivors of landmine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) accidents. In the past decade, the Fund has devoted the majority of its resources to the establishment and improvement of accessible and appropriate prosthetic and orthotic services, including physical and occupational rehabilitation services. In Fiscal Year 2011, the Fund contributed to or maintained support to programs in Cambodia, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Haiti, Kenya, Laos, Lebanon, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam, as well as numerous regional and international initiatives spanning multiple countries. To date, the Fund has provided more than \$194 million to more than 40 countries.

Moreover, through two other programs specifically focused on helping wheelchair users as well as a broader cohort of people with disabilities, USAID provided an additional \$10 million in Fiscal Year 2011 in more than 30 countries, including Georgia, Iraq, Jordan, Kosovo, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, and Zimbabwe.

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 2011:

Beginning January 1, 2011, the United States no longer uses any persistent landmines anywhere. All persistent landmines, both anti-personnel and anti-vehicle, have been transferred to inactive inventory and will be destroyed in accordance with U.S. DoD policies and procedures. Currently all landmines, including anti-vehicle mines, available for use in the United States' active inventory comply fully with the self-destruct and self-deactivation specifications provided in APII technical annex 3 (a). Although these technical specifications are only required for remotely delivered anti-personnel landmines (APL) or APL used outside of marked areas under the protocol, the United States' entire stockpile now has these features.

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 2011.

Legislation

No change from the 2004 Report.

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;"

United States reporting for time period through September 2011.

International technical information exchange

No change from the 2005 report

International cooperation on mine clearance

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.

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 the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) to share information and increase coordination toward our common goal of eliminating landmines that threaten civilians. In FY 2011, the United States also supported the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining's efforts to maintain and disseminate updated International Mine Action Standards (IMAS).

The United States also actively encourages private sector support for humanitarian mine action through the development of a network of public-private partnerships, with approximately 60 partnerships currently. These partners work in concert with the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program to support one or more aspects of mine action: clearance, mine risk education, and/or survivor assistance. A positive side effect of this unique partnership initiative is to raise U.S. public interest in and support for humanitarian mine action.

Technical cooperation and assistance

No change from 2005 report.

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 2011.

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 2011.

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
- Humanitarian Demining Research and Development program, Night Vision and Electronic Sensors Directorate, U.S. Army Research, Development, and Engineering Command, U.S. Army
- 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

(Form G, continued)

National points of contact on mine clearance

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- Colonel Gerald M. Muhl, Jr., Chief, EOD and HMA, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict, U.S. Department of Defense