FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE
STATES PARTIES TO AMENDED
PROTOCOL II 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

CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/NAR.27 3 November 2003

ENGLISH ONLY

Geneva, 26 November 2003

AUSTRALIA

National annual report

Submitted in accordance with Article 13, para. 4 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

PROTOCOL ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF MINES, BOOBY-TRAPSAND 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 INJURIOUSOR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS

(PROTOCOL II AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996)

Provisional Reporting Formats for Article 13 para 2 and Article 11 para 2.

NAME OF HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY

AUSTRALIA

DATE OF SUBMISSION

30 October 2003

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND

TRADE, CANBERRA

DIRECTOR, CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT SECTION INTERNATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION

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(Organization, telephones, fax, email)

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:

High

Contracting

reporting for time

Party <u>AUSTRALIA</u>

period from

16.10.2002 to

15.10.2003

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 Ottawa Convention.

Information to the civilian population

Information on the Australian Government's landmines policy, 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 Peace and Disarmament 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/ and http://www.ausaid.gov.au.

Form B Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes

Article "The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary

13 / 4 / b ... on:

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;"

Remark:

High

Contracting

reporting for time

period from **AUSTRALIA**

Party to 15.10.2003 16.10.2002

Mine clearance programmes

Current and recently completed mine clearance programmes

Afghanistan – Contributions to UNMAPA

Afghanistan – Contributions to UNMAS

Burma – Landmines Workshop (MAG)

Cambodia - Contributions to Cambodia Mine Action Centre (CMAC)

Cambodia – Mine Clearance O'Preal (NGO)

Cambodia – Integrated Mine Action in Otdar Meanchey

Cambodia – Banan Mine Action (NGO)

Cambodia - Integrated Development and Demining Project (NGO)

Cambodia - Destroy-a-Minefield Program (NGO)

Cambodia – Integrated Mine Action Program (IMAP)

Iraq – Contributions to Mine Survey and Risk Assessment (UNMAS)

Iraq – Mine Awareness Training (NGO)

Laos – Contributions to UXO Clearance Operations (UNDP)

Mozambique - Contributions to United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Accelerated Demining Programme

Mozambique - Inhambane Demining and Development (NGO)

Sri Lanka – UNDP Mine Impact Survey (UNDP)

Thailand – Mine Awareness Training in Sra Keo (ADPC)

Vietnam – Integrated Mine Action Program (NGO)

Current and recently completed rehabilitation programmes

Cambodia – Victims Assistance (Australian Red Cross)

Laos - UXO safety activities for children (NGO)

Global - UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

Form C	Technical requirements and relevant information

Article 13 / 4 / c

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"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 reporting for time

Party AUSTRALIA period from 16.10.2002 to 15.10.2003

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 Ottawa Convention.

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;

Remark:

High Contracting reporting for time

Party AUSTRALIA period from 16.10.2002 to 15.10.2003

Legislation

It is the Australian Government's policy to enact national legislation ratifying 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 Ottawa Convention. Section 8 of the Act makes it an offence to place, possess, develop, produce, acquire, stockpile, move or transfer antipersonnel mines.]

Form E International technical information exchange, cooperation on mine

clearance, technical cooperation and assistance

Article "The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary

13 / 4 / e ... on:

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

and assistance;

Remark:

High

Contracting reporting for time

Party AUSTRALIA period from 16.10.2002 to 15.10.2003

International technical information exchange

Australia attended a number of meetings to promote technical information exchange on landmine issues: the Ottawa Convention intersessional meetings in February 2003 and May 2003 on: Mine Clearance; Mine Awareness and Mine Action Technologies; Victim Assistance and Socio-economic Reintegration; Stockpile Destruction; and, the General Status and Operation of the Convention: the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention held in Geneva (15-19 September 2003): Regional Seminar on Mine Action in Phnomn Penh (26-28 March 2003) the Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II of the CCW in Geneva (December 2002): and the Third Review Conference of the CCW in Geneva (December 2002).

International cooperation on mine clearance

Australia provides an annual contribution to UNMAS for its coordination role. 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 has been identified as a high priority in Australia's mine action strategy.

International co-operation on technical co-operation and assistance

Australian civilians provide training and organisational support to Cambodia's mine action program.

Australia has also placed one expert Australian within the UNMAS mine action coordination team for Iraq.

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.		
High Contracting Party	Remark:		
	reporting for time AUSTRALIA period from 16.10.2002 to 15.10.2003		
Other relevant	matters		

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

High

Contracting reporting for time

Party AUSTRALIA period from 16.10.2002 to 15.10.2003

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 is undertaking work in a number of areas covering mine detection and mine clearance, including background mine detection research and a Capability Technology Demonstrator (CTD) project to explore multi-sensor systems for route clearance.

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.

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 Support – Ph: (61 2) 6265 4224. For information on experts and their agencies, the initial point of contact is:

Director

United Nations, Peace Operations and Arms Control

Strategic and International Policy

R1-5-C113

Russell Offices

Department of Defence

Canberra ACT 2600

Telephone: (61 2) 6265 3036 Facsimile: (61 2) 6265 6348

National point of contact on mine clearance

Derek Taylor, Humanitarian and Emergencies Section, AusAID, Phone (61 2) 6206 4717 Fax (61 2) 6206 4587.