CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

Reporting Formats for Article 7

STATE PARTY: New Zealand

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(ONLY FOR THE PURPOSES OF CLARIFICATION)
Form J  Other relevant matters

Remark: States Parties may use this form to report voluntarily on other relevant matters, including matters pertaining to compliance and implementation not covered by the formal reporting requirements contained in Article 7. States Parties are encouraged to use this form to report on activities undertaken with respect to Article 6, and in particular to report on assistance provided for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims.

State Party: New Zealand
reporting for time period from 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020

Compliance

New Zealand retains operational stocks of Change Directional Fragmentation M18A1 Claymores which are operated in the command-detonated mode only. These devices are not anti-personnel mines as defined in Article 2 of the 1997 Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, and are therefore not prohibited under the Convention.

The New Zealand Defence Force also holds a very limited quantity of inert and practice mines, used solely in the training of personnel in Mine Clearance Operations.
Mine Action Programmes

UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

New Zealand provided UNMAS with an annual grant core contribution of NZ$1.5 million, non-earmarked and deposited into the UNMAS-administered Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF), to support UNMAS’ coordination and implementation of international initiatives to support the organisation’s de-mining work, risk education and advocacy, in order to mitigate the risks posed by explosive hazards.

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

New Zealand provided the ICRC with an annual grant of NZ$2.5 million in un-earmarked core funding to support its work, including physical rehabilitation and preventative unexploded ordinance action programmes which focus on risk education and advocacy. These programmes aim to reduce the human cost of mines and explosive remnants of war.

Demining assistance in Lao PDR

New Zealand provides funding through the UNDP Lao trust fund to clear 550 hectares of Unexploded Ordnances (UXO) in Xieng Khouang Province each year, and provides a New Zealand Technical Adviser to deliver training, monitoring and quality assurance, in conjunction with UXO Lao (the Lao national clearance operator). The NZ$11.1 million four year activity (2016-2020) has been extended for four years (2021-2024), providing NZ$11.5 million further assistance to clear an additional 2,200 hectares of priority land. A grant payment of NZ$4 million was made in December 2020.

Demining assistance in Cambodia

New Zealand will contribute NZ$6 million over six years (2020-2025) to the UNDP’s multi-donor funded Clearing for Results (CfR) Project in Cambodia. The project will support non-technical surveys and land clearance of a minimum of 56km2 across three provinces (Battambang, Banteay Meanchey and Pailin), strategic alignment of mine action activities,
and strengthening mine action sector management, capacity and international compliance. A NZ$2 million grant payment was made in 2020.

Demining assistance for Colombia

New Zealand supports The HALO Trust’s mine clearance operations in Colombia. This support began in June 2017 for an initial two-year period (NZ$747,200), and New Zealand has since extended funding for an additional two years (2020–2022). A grant payment of NZ$450,000 was made in 2020, with a further contribution of NZ$450,000 to be made in 2021.

Demining assistance for Iraq

New Zealand contributed US$650,000 (equivalent of NZ$1m) towards UNMAS’ Iraq programme, and committed to providing two further contributions of NZ$500,000 each in 2021 and 2022. New Zealand also continued to support the placement of a New Zealand explosive threat mitigation adviser within UNMAS Iraq. Support for this role, which began in June 2018, and costs around US$ 350,000 per year, has been extended to mid-2022.

Demining assistance for Afghanistan

New Zealand has continued work to carry out additional clearance of five firing ranges used by its Provincial Reconstruction Team in the Bamyan province in Afghanistan, from 2003-2013. These firing ranges had previously been cleared by the New Zealand Defence Force in accordance with the standards required at the time. The additional clearance work being undertaken will ensure that the firing ranges are cleared in accordance with updated standards that have since been adopted in Afghanistan. New Zealand has contracted the Organisation for Mine clearance and Afghan Rehabilitation (OMAR) NZ$5.3 million to support the clearance of the five firing ranges in Bamyan Province. This support began in 2020 and work is expected to be completed in 2022 with the project running ahead of schedule. As of October 2020, OMAR had cleared 684 unexploded ordnance/explosive remnants of war, the majority of which pre-dated New Zealand’s deployment to Bamyan.
Demining assistance for occupied Palestinian territories

New Zealand contributed US$445,000 (NZ$700,000) in 2020 towards provision by UNMAS of Explosive Ordnance Risk Education in the West Bank. This was a one-off training of trainers’ activity.

Rehabilitation programmes

Syria

New Zealand has provided almost NZD$35 million in humanitarian assistance to Syria and the Syrian refugee response since 2012, including $1.5 million to the International Committee of the Red Cross in 2020 for its emergency operations in Syria, including medical assistance to conflict-affected people.

Yemen

New Zealand has provided a total of NZ$20.25 million in humanitarian funding in response to the crisis in Yemen, including NZ$3.5 million contributed to the International Committee of the Red Cross in 2020 for its emergency operations in Yemen, including medical assistance to conflict-affected people.

New Zealand has also provided the following humanitarian funding to conflict-affected areas to meet those States’ essential needs, and improve the situation for civilians, thereby helping to better protect their human rights. In 2020, this included NZ$2 million for South Sudan administered by the WFP, NZ$4 million for Ethiopia administered by OCHA’s Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund, UNHCR and the ICRC, and NZ$2.75 million to Myanmar, administered by OCHA’s Myanmar Humanitarian Fund and the ICRC. Besides these bilateral grants, New Zealand also contributed NZ$3 million to OCHA’s Central Emergency Response Fund, and NZ$2.5 million to the ICRC to respond to humanitarian needs globally, including conflict and related crises.
Other international/UN agencies

We also provide funding to a number of UN agencies that provide response to mine action work. This includes, UNDP, UNICEF, OCHA, WFP, along with the UN Peacebuilding Fund. Additionally, the core contributions we provide to the World Bank look to address the long-term effects of landmines in fragile and conflict affected regions through economic and social impacts. We also contribute to the ADB, which does similar work, with its primary areas of focus in South-East Asia and Afghanistan.