

BURKINA FASO

Burkina Faso Issue Paper # 02

MANAGEMENT OF EXPIRED AMMUNITION

1. ISSUE PAPER THEME

Other, Crosscutting

2. SUMMARY / BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS HISTORY

The management of expired ammunition in certain theatres of operation does not meet the requirements of the texts in force laid down in this COE manual in English (Chapter 3, Annex A, paragraph 26-c page 36 and paragraph 27.2 page 36-37 of COE 2023). This situation was highlighted during the liquidation of MINUSMA, when the team responsible for the ammunition transport and destruction operation noted the presence of expired ammunition that should have been destroyed several years ago, but which was still being stored by certain troop- or police-contributing countries. This resulted in additional costs for the UN.

CONTEXT:

Chapter 3, Annex A, paragraph 26-c page 36 of the COE 2023 in English :

The Organization will reimburse ammunition in the following cases :

(c) Ammunition and explosives that become expired in the mission area. Troop/police contributors are responsible, however, for deploying ammunition and explosives with a minimum of 50 per cent of their shelf life remaining and for storing them properly.

Chapter 3, Annex A, paragraph 27.2 pages 36-37 in English :

The process to receive approval for the destruction or extension of life of ammunition and explosives from the troop/police contributors should ideally start 18 months prior to the manufacturer's declared expiry date. Troop- and police-contributing countries are responsible for approving the disposal of unserviceable or expired ammunition and explosives within six months of the expiry date or the date on which the ammunition or explosives have been declared unserviceable by the senior ammunition technical officer, whichever is earlier, after which the requirement of obtaining approval from troop- and police-contributing countries before disposal of unserviceable ammunition or explosives will no longer exist and unserviceable ammunition or explosives will be disposed of in the mission area for safety reasons.

3. DETAILED PROPOSAL

We recommend an amendment to Chapter 3, Annex A, paragraph 27.2:

The process to receive approval for the destruction or extension of life of ammunition and explosives from the troop/police contributors should ideally start 18 months prior to the manufacturer's declared expiry date. Troop- and police-contributing countries are responsible for approving the disposal of unserviceable or expired ammunition and explosives within six months of the expiry date or the date on which the ammunition or explosives have been declared unserviceable by the senior ammunition technical officer, whichever is earlier. ~~after which the requirement of obtaining approval from troop- and police-contributing countries before disposal of unserviceable ammunition or explosives will no longer exist and unserviceable ammunition or explosives will be disposed of in the mission area for safety reasons.~~

" In the absence of life extension and in the event of non- approval before the disposal of unserviceable ammunition or explosives within six (6) months following the expiration date, the United Nations reserves the right to dispose the ammunition and explosives for safety reasons. Troop- and police-contributing countries will be penalized by losing their eligibility for reimbursement of costs related to expired ammunition and explosives, whether they are destroyed within or outside the mission area."

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. PROPOSED 2026 COE MANUAL TEXT

Refer to paragraph 3. DETAILED PROPOSAL of this IP.