

FRANCE

France Issue Paper # 01

COUNTER DRONE/UAS SYSTEMS

1. ISSUE PAPER THEME

Major Equipment

2. SUMMARY / BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS HISTORY

The threat posed by unmanned aircraft systems is omnipresent and represents a major risk. The massive use of unmanned combat aircraft systems/drones in recent conflicts and their offensive use, including against Blue Helmets, requires that this threat be better taken into account.

Following the attack on one of MONUSCO's sites in Kimoka in February 2024, the Secretariat/ Office of military affairs launched a working group to provide the Organization with a specific doctrine to combat drones. Indeed, while the use of drones by the UN was already documented (see in particular the doctrine on the use of drone capabilities by the United Nations of February 2019), the fight against drones had not been the subject of a common and standardized approach until now.

3. DETAILED PROPOSAL

The purpose is to protect the UN military personnel and premises. It is based on a combination of various complementary capabilities that enable to detect, identify, classify and neutralise light unmanned aircraft systems.

⇒ Cf. § 6 infra

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

See attached table of proposals.

Given the diversity of materials and for reasons of confidentiality, it would also be possible to address the subject in the special case section.

5. PROPOSED 2026 COE MANUAL TEXT

The COE Manual might be amended as follows:

- Chapter 3, annex A, paragraph 'Standards':

Addition of a paragraph on Counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems:

Counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems

42. Counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems is based on various complementary capabilities that enable to detect, identify, classify and neutralise. Abilities are required as follows:

a) Detect

Detection consists in spotting the presence of an unmanned aircraft system, in whatever weather or environmental conditions. Detection can be done by radar or visual lookout using optronic capabilities. This is the key step of countering UAS.

b) Identify

Identification consists in precisely determining the origin, nature, characteristics, and attitude of the UAS. This step will enable to classify and adapt the response to the threat.

c) Classify

In order to adapt the posture to be adopted while complying with the rules of engagement, the unmanned aircraft system has to be classified: friend, neutral, unknown, suspect, hostile.

d) Neutralise

Once the unmanned aircraft system is identified and classified, neutralisation aims at stopping its actions. To carry out neutralisation, several capabilities may be implemented, and in particular portable bidirectional jammers. They send out electronic jamming signals to disrupt communication signals and thus neutralise the control of the unmanned aircraft system. These capabilities must have the capacity to jam at least six frequencies and have a range of 3 kilometres. They must be able to be implemented by one person only and be mobile (usable for example from a helicopter). Depending on the threat, fixed counter unmanned aircraft systems can be deployed as detection, automatic identification and jamming solutions. They must be operable 24 hours a day, and easy to disassemble in order to be moved. Additionally, their implementation must be carried out by a small number of people.

43. Command and control

The Mission leadership defines the mission entrusted to operational commands and sets the rules of engagement.

At the operational level, the Force Commander has the OPCON¹ and is in charge of coordinating the Force protection measures. At tactical level, the Commander of the elementary unit is the identification and engagement authority.

At operational and tactical levels, it is absolutely essential that C-UAS be coordinated with ground-air defence, because the division of airspaces must be clearly defined.”

- **Chapter 8, annex A:**

Addition of the Counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems capabilities to the part ‘Force protection surveillance equipment’. Reimbursements mentioned are for information only and must be examined in more detail by the Secretariat and the Member States.

Category of equipment	Type of equipment	Generic fair market value	Estimated useful life (in years)	Maintenance rate	Monthly dry lease rate	Monthly wet lease rate	No-fault incident factor (percentage)	Monthly non-United Nations POL	Painting rate	Repainting rate
Counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems	Optical binoculars	10,000		10			0.1			
	Portable bidirectional jammer	5,000 to 50,000		50			0.1			
	Fixed Counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems capabilities	Special case equipment								
	Pump-action shotgun	1,500		1.5						
	Radar/ground surveillance system	Special case equipment								

¹ Operational control.