2026 COE WORKING GROUP | MEMBER STATE ISSUE PAPER

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

United States Issue Paper # 05

REMOVAL OF THE TOB PREMIUM

1. ISSUE PAPER THEME

Self-sustainment

2. SUMMARY / BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS HISTORY

The COE Manual does not reflect the updated Department of Peace Operations (DPO) guidelines on Temporary Operating Base (TOB) management, which includes changes to the application of the TOB premium- an enhanced amount reimbursed to Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) for duty at austere TOB locations.

3. DETAILED PROPOSAL

It is proposed to remove a paragraph on the TOB premium for units that have been ordered to deploy to more than three temporary operating bases for a cumulative period of more than 12 months as all TOBs that need to be held beyond 12 months, must be converted to Permanent Operating Base (POB) in accordance with the newly released guidelines on TOB management.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The exact financial implications cannot be determined, it is however expected that the removal of the premium will off-set the costs associated with the conversion of TOBs to POBs.

5. PROPOSED 2026 COE MANUAL TEXT

Chapter 2, annex A Definitions, paragraph 7, (page 12), proposed deletion:

- 7. Explosive ordnance disposal: The process of detection, identification, onsite evaluation, rendering safe, recovery and final disposal of unexploded ammunition. It is conducted on behalf of the mission by a specialist unit as a force asset. Force operations to dispose of explosive ordnance may conduct activities in all or part of the mission area. They may also include ammunition that has become hazardous as a result of damage or deterioration.3 In the context of self-sustainment, explosive ordnance disposal means such disposal conducted by a unit within its accommodation or camp area.
 - extended temporary operating bases deployment premium: An incentive provided to military and police units that have been ordered to deploy to more than three temporary operating bases for a cumulative period of more than 12 months for mandate-related tasks and operational requirements. These extended deployments should be caused by extreme and unpredictable situations that: (a) result in a broader-than-anticipated deployment footprint; and (b) create a dynamic mission operational environment preventing the timely update of the statement of unit requirements. The request for the premium should be approved by the Force Commander of the mission where the units are deployed. The premium shall be equal to 5 percent of the quarterly reimbursement owed to the troop/police contributor for five key self-sustainment categories, as agreed in annex C to the memorandum of understanding for the number of personnel deployed to more than three temporary operating bases for more than a year. These five self-sustainment categories are catering, communications, explosive ordnance disposal, field defence stores and tentage.

Chapter 8, section III Self-sustainment, paragraph 18, (page 182), proposed deletion:

Temporary operating base

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- The extended temporary operating bases deployment premium is a stand-alone incentive provided to military and police units that have been ordered to deploy to more than three temporary operating bases for a cumulative period of more than 12 months for mandate-related tasks and operational requirements. These extended deployments should be caused by extreme and unpredictable situations that: (a) result in a broader-than-anticipated deployment footprint; and (b) create a dynamic mission operational environment preventing the timely update of the statement of unit requirements. The request for the premium should be approved by the Force Commander of the mission where the units are deployed. If the extreme conditions stabilize and the dispersed footprint is still operationally required, the statement of unit requirements should be updated to reflect the revised operational requirements.
- The extended temporary operating bases deployment premium is equal to 5 per cent of the quarterly reimbursement owed to the troop/police contributor for the following key self-sustainment categories, as agreed in annex C to the memorandum of understanding:
- (a) Catering;
- (b) Communications;
- (c) Explosive ordnance disposal;
- (d) Field defence stores;
- (e) Tentage.

To be eligible to receive the premium, five conditions must be met:

- (a) Formed units that have been ordered to deploy to more than three temporary operating bases for a cumulative period of more than 12 months for mandate-related tasks and operational requirements. This requirement for a dispersed operational footprint should be bases on an extreme and unpredictable situation;
- (b) All five categories deployed to the temporary operating bases should be serviceable, without support from the mission, unless otherwise agreed on a cost recovery basis;
- (c) Units may not have restrictions placed on their operations by their respective troop/police contributors outside of those accepted by the Department of Peace Operations and the Department of Operational Support in the memorandum of understanding. Recommendations submitted by missions should include documented evidence that units are operating without restrictions;
- (d) No premium payment shall be made to units subject to substantiated allegations of misconduct, including, but not limited to, sexual exploitation and abuse;
 - (e) The deployed unit should have an existing, signed memorandum of understanding.