

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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ROTATION OF EXPIRED AMMUNITION

1. ISSUE PAPER THEME

Other, Miscellaneous

2. SUMMARY / BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS HISTORY

DOS USG Khare has briefed the General Assembly on the challenges surrounding the disposal of expired ammunition. It is important to update the COE Manual to address these challenges and to clearly outline the process for the rotation of expired ammunition.

3. DETAILED PROPOSAL

It is proposed to repatriate ammunition 12 months prior to its expiration, or during the next contingent rotation, whichever happens earlier. The COE framework (COE Manual Chapter 3 Annex A) permits the use of personnel rotation flights for replenishment of small arms ammunition. Similar arrangements can be used to repatriate ammunition that is close to expiry.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Repatriation of small arms ammunition using personnel rotation flights would economize the cost of rotation of ammunition. Additional costs for repatriating ammunition will be more than offset by reduction in costs associated with the disposal of expired ammunition.

5. PROPOSED 2026 COE MANUAL TEXT

Chapter 3, annex A, ammunition (page 36), proposed replacement after paragraph 27:

XX. Ammunition must be repatriated 12 months prior to its expiration, or during the next contingent rotation (whichever happens earlier).