

SECRETARIAT

CEASE OF OPERATIONS – APPLICATION OF 90 DAY REIMBURSEMENT CONDITIONS ON UNIT PERSONNEL

Secretariat Issue Paper # 08

1. ISSUE PAPER THEME: Other / Cross-cutting

2. SUMMARY / BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS HISTORY

The 2020 COE Working Group introduced a time limit of 90 days on the reimbursement of major equipment and eligible categories of self-sustainment for units following the issuance of a cease of operation order, termination of a mission, or date of re-hatting, with exception of circumstances outside of control of a T/PCC. This time maximum was intended to indicate a responsible financial limit on reimbursement eligibility for equipment left behind by contingents (be it abandoned or transitioned to an entity outside UN purview, i.e. re-hatted for use by a regional mission). The Secretariat proposes applying the same 90-day principle to personnel reimbursement, including cases where Member State elect to repatriate unit/s by own means under LOA. While the personnel reimbursement rate is determined through the separate Quadrennial Troop Cost Survey process, it is suggested this specific proposal relates to the procedural application of the rates and language contained in Chapter 4 'Preparation, deployment, repatriation and transportation of contingents' and in the Model Memorandum of Understanding - and may therefore be considered for discussion by the Contingent Owned Equipment Working Group.

The proposal has not previously been considered by the Contingent-Owned Equipment Working Group.

3. DETAILED PROPOSAL

The Secretariat proposes applying the 90-day principle to personnel reimbursement via the addition of new language to Chapter 4 'Preparation, deployment, repatriation and transportation of contingents' and in the Model Memorandum of Understanding.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The aim of this policy proposal is to reduce the financial liability of the United Nations in the event of unnecessary delays in the repatriation of personnel.

5. PROPOSED 2026 COE MANUAL TEXT

To effect this change, the following changes to the COE Manual and model Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) template are recommended:

Proposed a new paragraph 16 for Chapter 4, Section IV. Deployment and repatriation of equipment (p. 144/281), to be inserted between existing paras 15 and 16, add the text in bold and revise the subsequent para numbering accordingly.

16. Reimbursement for contingent personnel will be in effect until 90 days following the date of cessation of operations for a troop/police contributor, or termination of the mission. This 90-day limit will apply to both repatriations organized by the United Nations and in cases where a troop/police contributor elects to repatriate unit/s by own means under LOA. Thereafter, personnel reimbursement will cease, except in those instances deemed to be outside the control of the troop/police contributor, as determined by the United Nations.

The above-mentioned edits shall also be replicated in the model Memorandum of Understanding template for military units in Chapter 9, Article 6, Reimbursement and support from the United Nations, paragraph 6.4, p. 207/281).

Proposed additional text to Article 6.4 in bold:

6.4 Reimbursement for contingent personnel will continue at full rates until the departure of the personnel. **Reimbursement for contingent personnel will be in effect until 90 days following the date of cessation of operations for a troop/police contributor, or termination of the mission. This 90-day limit will apply to both repatriations organized by the United Nations and in cases where a troop/police contributor elects to repatriate unit/s by own means under LOA. Thereafter, personnel reimbursement will cease, except in those instances deemed to be outside the control of the troop/police contributor, as determined by the United Nations.**

The above-mentioned edits shall also be replicated in the model Memorandum of Understanding template for police units in Chapter 9, Article 6, Reimbursement and support from the United Nations, paragraph 6.4, p. 248/281).

Proposed additional text to Article 6.4 in bold:

6.4 Reimbursement for police personnel will continue at full rates until the departure of the personnel. **Reimbursement for police personnel will be in effect until 90 days following the date of cessation of operations for a troop/police contributor, or termination of the mission. This 90-day limit will apply to both repatriations organized by the United Nations and in cases where a troop/police contributor elects to repatriate unit/s by own means under LOA. Thereafter, personnel reimbursement will cease, except in those instances deemed to be outside the control of the troop/police contributor, as determined by the United Nations.**