



INCLUSION OF EQUIPMENT FOR INTERNET ACCESS AND INCREMENT OF REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR INTERNET

Sub-Working Group on Self Sustainment

LIST OF ISSUE PAPERS

Bangladesh #1: Inclusion of equipment for internet access and increment of reimbursement rate for internet

India # 4: Revision of internet access claim

Malaysia # 3: WIFI

Secretariat # 9: Mandated Study – Study on technical aspects of services provided under internet access and propose reimbursement rate

Denmark #3: The use of cell phones as self-sustainment – has been removed from this sub-group.

FOCAL POINTS

Bangladesh

India

Malaysia

Secretariat

SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL

Bangladesh:

Internet is a welfare necessity. Every contingent must have VSAT with specific bandwidth. Incurs additional cost on the part of the contingent, where current monthly reimbursement rates USD 4.00 isn't sufficient. On average, Bangladesh uses USD 27.52\$ per person per month.

1. Proposal:
United Nations can provide the internet access.

Still under discussion

Agreed by the sub-working group on 26/01/2023

AGREED BY WORKING GROUP ON 27/01/2023

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2. Proposal:
TCC/PCC responsible for providing welfare internet but reviewed pricing in line with the minimum acceptable standards.

For internet access reimbursement rate is USD 27.52

India

Same as above.

Proposal

It is observed that average use of data per month by an individual is 5 GB. A maximum reimbursable amount of data be fixed for an individual. Reimbursement should be paid as per prevailing internet rates in that particular mission.

Malaysia

At the moment, the rate of reimbursement is 4 USD per head. Nevertheless, Malaysian Gov is paying 10 USD per head to fulfil the operational needs.

Proposal

Increase the reimbursement of Internet to USD 10 per soldier.

Secretariat

Propose a reimbursement rate that is feasible for most contingents deployed across all the peacekeeping missions so that due consideration to increasing the reimbursement rate for Internet access. In most missions, Welfare Internet services are provided by the TCC/PCC as part of the self-sustainment. Current reimbursement rate of \$4/person/month for Internet access under self-sustainment is insufficient to provide the Internet services. The average equipment cost widely ranged from \$2800 to over \$13,000 per site, depending on the Internet Service Provider and site location.

UN-provided average cost per month/per user ranged from \$13.40 to \$32.87, average of \$19.19/user/month.

TPCC-provided cos ranged from \$21.23 to \$32.87 per user/month, average of \$25.17/user/month.

Proposal:

If UN provides a financial implication to increase to 19.19 user/month.

If TPCC provides reimbursement rate should be increased to 25.17 user/month.

Still under discussion

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PROPOSED TEXT FOR 2023 COE MANUAL

It is proposed to amend COE Manual, Chapter 3, Annex B, Appendix 2 as follows:

Guidelines for Internet access

~~The guide below is based on a battalion of 800 personnel deployed in up to three locations.~~

~~Equipment Quantity~~

~~Internet access equipment 3~~

~~Computers 7~~

~~Printers 3~~

~~Appropriate levels of maintenance, spare parts and bandwidth for the equipment mentioned above~~

Chapter 3, annex B, 52 (d) (page 59)

Miscellaneous general stores 52.

To receive the self-sustainment reimbursement rate for each of the three subcategories of miscellaneous general stores, a unit must provide:

d) Internet access:

Appropriate levels of ~~equipment and internet access and bandwidth~~ in the peacekeeping mission:

- (i) Verification as to whether appropriate ~~quantities of equipment have been provided will be based on~~ Internet ~~access and bandwidth requirements~~ agreed between the troop/police contributors and the Secretariat, and as detailed in the memorandum of understanding in annex C, appendix 2;
- (ii) Access to the Internet is to be established by the troop/police contributor and not linked to existing United Nations communications systems;
- ~~(iii)~~ ~~(iii) A guide to the standard required for providing Internet access can be found in appendix 2 to the present annex.~~

Remove:

Chapter 3, annex B, appendix 2 (page 63)

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Subject to the Working Group's consideration, any new proposed self-sustainment rate for Internet will need to be amended within Annex B of Chapter 8 of the COE manual.

<i>Factors: Extreme environmental conditions, logistics and road conditions, hostile action or forced abandonment</i>	<i>Monthly rate (excluding factors)</i>	<i>Monthly rate (including factors)</i>	<i>Personnel strength ceiling</i>	<i>Monthly reimbursement (including factors)</i>
Field defence stores	34.32			
Miscellaneous general stores:				
Bedding	17.80			
Furniture	23.20			
Welfare	6.73			
Internet access		4.00 6.00		
Unique equipment		Special case		

Still under discussion

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