



DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDIZED RATES FOR AMMUNITION

Secretariat Issue Paper #24

Issue Paper Theme: **Cross-cutting**

BACKGROUND

The COE Manual defines ammunition as a consumable. Troop and Police Contributing Countries are however eligible for reimbursement for operationally expended ammunition in UN peacekeeping operations, when the ammunition deployed becomes unserviceable while in the mission area, or when expended on training beyond accepted United Nations readiness standards authorized. The T/PCCs submit the claims to UNHQ for reimbursement. The prices for the same types of ammunition differ significantly between the different T/PCCs, which presents hindrances to the ability of missions to properly plan resources, set their annual budgets and cover those expenses. In addition, complicated and lengthy procedures coupled with absence of rates of old vintage ammunition due to changes of costs over time, limits T/PCCs ability to forward the claims in a timely manner, causing further delays in reimbursements.

While each country's costs for ammunition differ depending on the individual country circumstances, many natures of ammunition have similar costs, particularly the high usage common natures ammunition such as small arms. Accordingly, there would be significant benefit in the COE Manual articulating a reimbursement value for these ammunition natures. This issue paper will propose costs to common ammunition natures that would represent a fair reimbursement value and significantly reduce reimbursement timeframes.

PROPOSAL

It is proposed to introduce standardized rates for commonly utilized ammunition by the troop and police contingents. The proposed reimbursement rates for these ammunition types are contained in Annex A to this paper.

The Quadrennial Survey methodology has been used to determine these rates, based on which 10 countries were requested to submit data on ammunition costs. It should be noted, however, that there were insufficient data to produce standardized ammunition values for all types of ammunition. Accordingly, only those ammunition types where sufficient data was available was used to determine standardized rates.



PROPOSED MANUAL TEXT

If the COE WG recommends the standardized rates as presented in Annex A, the following text in the COE Manual (Chapter 3, Annex A, paragraph 30) will be amended as follows:

30. Additionally, the United Nations will reimburse ammunition and explosives expended on training beyond accepted United Nations readiness standards authorized and directed by the Force Commander/Police Commissioner, but not for other training or exercises within accepted United Nations readiness standards. For the latter, ammunition is considered a consumable covered under either the wet lease rates or reimbursement for contingent personnel (as part of clothing, gear and personal weaponry). ~~Operational ammunition will be reimbursed upon presentation of a claim by the Government and an operational ammunition expenditure certificate from the mission.~~ **Reimbursement rates for those common types of ammunition can be found in Appendix 4 to this Annex. All other ammunition will be reimbursed upon presentation of a claim with related invoice by the Government and an operational ammunition expenditure certificate from the mission.**

Insert new Appendix 4 to Annex A, Chapter 3 as per Annex A.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The reimbursement rates for these ammunition types will be applied across all T/PCC reimbursement submissions and because they are averaged out, the financial implications are estimated to be minimal. This will, however, increase efficiency and timeliness of reimbursements, leading to improved budgetary management across all field missions.

PREVIOUS HISTORY

This proposal has not been previously made to the COE Working Group; however, it forms part of the reforms proposed following the 2020 COE Working Group 2020 request that the “*Secretariat undertake a comprehensive study on streamlining and simplifying the process of submitting claims for reimbursement of expended or expired ammunition and that it presents the results to the 2023 Working Group*”.



Annex A

The Annex is under development