



SIMPLIFYING TEXT ON AMMUNITION REIMBURSEMENT AND ADDITION OF INVOICE WHILE PRESENTING A CLAIM FOR AMMUNITION REIMBURSEMENT

Secretariat Issue Paper #28

Issue Paper Theme: **Cross-cutting**

BACKGROUND

COE Manual 2020 Chapter 3 Annex A Paragraphs 28 to 31 bis contain information about armaments and ammunition. The information contained in these paragraphs is required to be updated to include essential guidelines developed in parallel manuals, deletion of duplications and outdated information as well as addition of details to bring clarification in circumstances where ammunition becomes reimbursable to troop and police contributing countries.

PROPOSAL

Troop and police contributors are eligible for reimbursement for ammunition consumed operationally, expired due to fair wear and tear in the mission area or used on training beyond accepted United Nations readiness standards authorized and directed by the force commander / police commissioner. This proposal aims to simplify the existing text related to ammunition. (Chapter 3, Paragraph 30). This is because the stipulation is included at the end of a paragraph which refers exclusively to the ammunition and explosives expended on training beyond accepted UN readiness standards. Consequently, it may point to the conclusion that it covers only this case. The term “operational ammunition” used in this paragraph is not defined to eliminate the confusion by specifying that the norm stated at the end of the paragraph refers to all types of ammunition and usage conditions which are reimbursable (ammunition expended in military operations covered by the mission’s mandate, expired ammunition and ammunition used in training beyond accepted UN readiness standards). To address this, a new paragraph needs to be included highlighting the circumstances where ammunition will be reimbursed along with the documentation required for the purpose. In addition, the proposed paragraph also covers aircraft and vessels operational ammunition.

- a. There is a duplication of line ***“The quantities of each category of ammunition to be deployed by troop/police contributors must be in accordance with the quantities prescribed in the United Nations Manual on Ammunition Management”*** in paragraph 28 under the heading Armaments and the same is repeated in the continuous paragraph 29 ***“Troop/police contributors are responsible for deploying ammunition according to the prescribed quantities in the United Nations Manual on Ammunition Management.”*** This line in paragraph 28 is proposed to be deleted.



- b. Paragraph 30 talks about United Nations will reimburse contributing countries for deploying ammunition to and from the mission area. The essential information about applicability of replacement of ammunition at UN expense on premature expiry due to poor storage conditions is required to be included at the end of the proposed paragraph 30 to ensure that troop and police contributor ensure serviceability of ammunition during storage in the field mission.
- c. The information contained in the first three lines of paragraph 31 is required to be deleted. ***“Reimbursement will be made for ammunition that becomes unserviceable while in the mission area. Troop/police contributors are responsible, however, for deploying ammunition with an expected life in excess of the anticipated length of deployment”***. The first part of this information is amply covered in the newly proposed paragraph defining circumstances where ammunition will be reimbursable. This line in result will become redundant. The second part of the line should be deleted due to a policy change, as troop and police contributors are now required to deploy ammunition with minimum of 50 % balance shelf life at the time of deployment.

PROPOSED MANUAL TEXT

It is proposed to amend COE Manual, Chapter 3, Annex A as follows:

Existing paragraph 28, remove the struck-out text:

Armaments

28. Crew-served weapons must be operationally serviceable at a 90 per cent rate. Serviceability includes sighting and calibration of weapons and periodic test firing as permitted in the mission area. ~~The quantities of each category of ammunition to be deployed by troop/police contributors must be in accordance with the quantities prescribed in the United Nations Manual on Ammunition Management.~~ The United Nations defines a crew-served weapon as any weapon operated by more than one designated soldier. Ammunition for sighting, calibration, test-firing and training is a consumable and is included in the wet lease maintenance rate. Therefore, training ammunition is a national responsibility unless the Force Commander/Police Commissioner specifically authorizes and directs special training beyond accepted United Nations readiness standards. When weapons are provided through the United Nations, sufficient United Nations spare parts stock will be maintained in theatre to ensure the serviceability standards.

New paragraph 28 as amended:

28. Crew-served weapons must be operationally serviceable at a 90 per cent rate. Serviceability includes sighting and calibration of weapons and periodic test firing as permitted in the mission area. The United Nations defines a crew-served weapon as any weapon operated by more than one designated soldier. Ammunition for sighting, calibration, test-firing and training is a consumable and is included in the wet lease maintenance rate. Therefore, training ammunition is a national responsibility unless the Force Commander/Police Commissioner specifically authorizes and directs special training beyond accepted United Nations readiness standards. When weapons are



provided through the United Nations, sufficient United Nations spare parts stock will be maintained in theatre to ensure the serviceability standards.

New paragraph 29 inserted into Chapter 3, Annex A as follows:

29. The United Nations will reimburse ammunition in the following circumstances:

- (a) Ammunition expended for operational purposes.**
- (b) Ammunition expended to meet training standards beyond accepted United Nations readiness standards that have been 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).**
- (c) Ammunition which gets expired in the mission area. Troop/police contributors are responsible, however, for deploying ammunition and explosives with a minimum of 50% of shelf life remaining.**
- (d) Ammunition will be reimbursed upon presentation of a claim by the government including invoice and an operational ammunition expenditure certificate from the mission.**
- (e) The reimbursement for ammunition related to aircraft will be as per the attachment to the Letter of Assist (LoA). Refer Para 25, Chapter 3, Annex A.**

Amend paragraph 31 of Chapter 3, Annex A by deleting the first three lines as follows:

31. ~~Reimbursement will be made for ammunition that becomes unserviceable while in the mission area. Troop/police contributors are responsible, however, for deploying ammunition with an expected life in excess of the anticipated length of deployment.~~ During the rotation of a unit, when the United Nations is providing transportation for a troop/police contributor, or transportation is being provided under a letter of assist by that country, where there is spare capacity within United Nations or United Nations-contracted transportation or within the transportation provided by the troop/police contributor, to achieve greater efficiencies for that country, this spare capacity can be used to move authorized ammunition to replace expended or expired stock. The use of any spare capacity must be cost neutral to the United Nations; in such a case, this efficiency gain will not result in a charge to the troop/police contributor.

Paragraph 31 of Chapter 3, Annex A proposed text as follows:

31. During the rotation of a unit, when the United Nations is providing transportation for a troop/police contributor, or transportation is being provided under a letter of assist by that country, where there is spare capacity within United Nations or United Nations-contracted transportation or within the transportation provided by the troop/police contributor, to achieve greater efficiencies for that country, this spare capacity can be used to move authorized ammunition to replace expended or expired stock. The use of any spare capacity must be cost neutral to the United Nations; in such case, this efficiency gain will not result in a charge to the troop/police contributor.



FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to this proposal.

PREVIOUS HISTORY

The issue paper has not been previously submitted to the Contingent-Owned Equipment Working Group for its consideration.