



PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE RIOT CONTROL EQUIPMENT AS MAJOR EQUIPMENT FOR POLICE UNITS

Secretariat Issue Paper #32

Issue Paper Theme: **Major Equipment**

BACKGROUND

The present list of “Individual Kit for members of formed police units: mission-specific requirements” that is contained in the Appendix to Chapter 9, Annex A in the Contingent-Owned Equipment Manual (COE Manual 2020), particularly the personal riot items, requires the deployment of the entire police equipment items (including operational pieces of Crowd Control gear and full protection kit) for the total strength of the deployed FPUs, regardless of the specific duty, specialization and/or assignments of the Unit. This is not a necessary requirement for a modern and professional FPU, nor for other types of formed police units (i.e., Protection Support Units, Guard Units, Riverine Police, Canine, SWAT Units, etc.). Further, this could also result in the delivery of low-quality equipment by some PCCs and eventually disturb the operational capability and readiness of the deployed units.

In addition, being part of the individual kit, the equipment in question is also expected to be deployed for the complete strength of the FPU, regardless of the specific duty, specialization, and/or assignment of the FPU element or the Unit. This requirement creates an unnecessary expenditure for the Member States (police-contributing countries or PCCs)

Furthermore, in view of the low reimbursement rates received by the PCCs for the same items, it may create a sense of inequity and unfairness among peacekeeping operators as the same equipment has been classified and established in the COE Manual for reimbursement under the Major Equipment for contribution by military contingents.

These five items currently in the Individual police kit are as follows:

1. Baton
2. Helmet with visor
3. Shield (Plastic, transparent)
4. Gas mask (2 filters included)
5. Legs/arms/shoulder protection

A mandated study (and associated data) on riot control equipment currently deployed by troop and police contributing countries to field missions has been presented in the Secretariat IP #4.



PROPOSAL

To introduce the modification to the COE manual to revise the police kit in Chapter 9 Appendix to Annex A of memorandum of understanding for formed police units (pages 247-248) with the list at annex A of this issue paper. The required riot control equipment would be included in Annex B of the MOU of police units.

The reimbursement rates for the proposed items to be taken out from the police kit and included in Annex B of the respective MOU have been already established in the COE Manual 2020 under Chapter 8, Annex A, for Major Equipment / Riot Control equipment category contributed by Military Contingents. The proposal is to apply the same principle and standards to the category of Riot Control Equipment contributed by Police Contributing Countries.

PROPOSED MANUAL TEXT

It is proposed to move the above listed five items from the Individual kit for members of the Formed Police Unit in Chapter 9 Appendix to Annex A (pages 247-248) and to be included in Chapter 8, Annex A by adding the word "Police" to text under Riot Control Equipment to read as below:

Personnel equipment
(applicable only to
military/**police** contingents
with riot control tasks)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The COE Manual already provides and establishes the rates for reimbursement of the riot control equipment as "Major Equipment" for military units (riot control personnel equipment). The non-reference to police in Chapter 8 precludes the reimbursement of riot control equipment as major equipment when deployed by FPU.

Amending Chapter 8 annex A and including "police" would result in reimbursing FPUs with riot control mandates, for deploying the items as pieces of major equipment.

Based on current deployments, 36 FPUs are mandated with riot control tasks. The FPU standard units have 12 sections each (10 officers). Reimbursing for the riot control kit deployed by these units would result in an annual financial cost of \$6.1 million (US dollars) as explained in the table below:

Units with Riot Control tasks	Number of Sections per unit	Total number of sections	Reimbursement per kit (\$)	Average Monthly reimbursement (\$)	Annual cost (\$)
36	12	432	1 181	510,192	6,122,304



PREVIOUS HISTORY

This issue was raised at the 2020 COE Working Group, where it was requested that data on numbers of riot control equipment deployed by both military and police units be provided. This paper addresses that request for reconsideration by the 2023 COE WG.

Note: To date, the riot control kit for FPU is included under personnel costs (Chapter 9 Annex A, Para 2) and the details are captured in the Individual Police Kit (Chapter 9, Annex A, Appendix). If this proposal is approved, the next Quadrennial survey will need to deconflict the costs.