

Twenty-seventh Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

18 November 2025

English only

Geneva, 11 November 2025

Item 7 of the Provisional agenda

General exchanges of views

Working paper

Submitted by Ireland^{1, *}

1. Ireland remains deeply concerned at documented uses of mines, booby-traps and other devices in Ukraine, in contravention of Amended Protocol II. Such uses create unacceptable and enduring risk to civilians. Ireland calls for full respect for and compliance with international humanitarian law and for accountability for any violations.
2. Ireland is also deeply concerned by the explosive devices attack across southern Lebanon and Beirut on the 17th of September last year, which killed and harmed civilians. The impacts of this attack were incredibly dangerous, and in apparent violation of Article 7.2 of APII. We reiterate our call for all parties to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law, including this protocol.
3. Ireland attaches great importance to the full implementation of Amended Protocol II, which is a critical instrument of international humanitarian law. Full compliance with its prohibitions and restrictions is essential in limiting the devastating effects of mines, booby-traps and other devices on civilian populations.
4. Ireland echoes the calls for the universalisation of Amended Protocol II, and we urge those States that have not yet joined the Protocol to do so without delay.
5. Ireland has been working to address issues arising from the use of mines other than anti-personnel mines (MOTAPM) for many years within the framework of this protocol, and the CCW generally. It is clear from the data gathered to date that MOTAPM can present acute humanitarian harm, as well as causing significant socio-economic impacts.
6. The great majority of MOTAPM casualties are caused by the detonation of long-life, victim-operated mines placed outside perimeter-marked areas. Ireland is among those who believe that more focused rules on the use of MOTAPM, including a prohibition on the laying of such mines outside perimeter marked areas, would significantly reduce the humanitarian risk arising from their use.
7. We note widespread support expressed by many delegations, including the EU, for further work on MOTAPM. Ireland recognises there are divergent views, but we believe there is a way forward and will continue to work with other delegations on addressing this issue.
8. To that end, Ireland proposes that this year's final report include a decision requesting the President-designate of the 28th Annual Conference next year to consult with delegations on the possibility of including discussions on good practices in the implementation of the Protocol

¹ In lieu of delivery of prepared statement which was not possible due to procedural nature of discussion/lack of general debate or discussion.

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



9. We reiterate that we are simply asking for the President-designate to consult with delegations on the possibility to include discussions on good practices in the implementation of the Protocol with respect to MOTAPM, and not to reintroduce as an agenda item, which would have been our preference.

10. Ireland also recognises the serious threat that improvised explosives devices (IEDs) present around the world, and the need for coordinated action. We remain deeply concerned with the proliferation in use of IEDs, and, in particular, the humanitarian harm arising from their indiscriminate effects.

11. We are committed to working with High Contracting Parties, international organisations and civil society to its full implementation to address the humanitarian impacts caused by IEDs. We urge States Parties to continue to enhance their information sharing and reporting under Amended Protocol II, and to meet their obligations in this regard.
