



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF EXTERNAL POLICY

UNGA Resolution 79/53 on “Countering the Threat posed by Improvised Explosive Devices”

Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) continue to pose a serious threat to global security and development. Their use has severely affected the delivery of humanitarian assistance within the UN framework, particularly in multilateral peacekeeping operations aimed at protecting civilians. The proliferation of IEDs provides terrorists, insurgent groups, and transnational criminal organizations with an asymmetric advantage against technologically superior conventional forces.

Recent developments in the use of IEDs by non-State actors have become increasingly concerning, particularly regarding the sophistication of their manufacture, design, and deployment. The production of improvised anti-personnel mines, the diversion of commercial products for IED manufacturing, and the use of uncrewed aerial vehicles to deliver explosive devices demand enhanced awareness, prevention, mitigation, and response measures at both national and regional levels.

Countering the threats posed by IEDs therefore represents a complex challenge that requires comprehensive policy approaches, alongside effective international and regional cooperation.

Against this backdrop, the following actions are considered relevant for improving the implementation of UNGA Resolution 79/53:

1. **Strengthening international legislation:** Support and promote the adoption of more rigorous international legislation to prevent the manufacture, possession and use of IEDs, including measures to hold perpetrators and those who support them accountable.
2. **Information sharing and international cooperation:** Incentivize an effective exchange of information between UN Member States, regional organizations and other relevant entities, in order to identify and counter IEDs manufacturing and financing networks.

3. **Capacity-building and technical assistance:** Support capacity-building programs and provide technical assistance to Member States to strengthen the ability to detect, disarm and destroy IEDs, as well as to protect civilian populations against these threats, also in cooperation with Armed Forces competences in this regard.
4. **Education and public awareness:** Promote public awareness of the dangers of IEDs and their impacts on local communities, encouraging education on preventing, recognizing and responding to these threats, also defining tailored approaches to countries with high occurrence of IEDs.
5. **Protection of civilians and humanitarian assistance:** Guaranteeing the protection of civilians affected by conflicts where IEDs are used, providing adequate humanitarian assistance and supporting efforts to minimize the damage caused by these devices.
6. **Development of detection and disarmament technologies:** Support the research and development of innovative technologies for the detection, disarmament and safe destruction of IEDs, aiming for the minimization of the risk upon security forces and local communities.
7. **Counter terrorism financing:** Intensify the traceability of suspicious financial assets.
8. **Rehabilitation and reintegration of combatants:** Support rehabilitation and reintegration programs for ex-combatants.
9. **Empowerment of women and girls:** Recognize the crucial role of women and girls in preventing and mitigating the impacts of IEDs, promoting their active participation on security and peace initiatives.
10. **Integrated approach to security and development:** Adopt an integrated approach that bridges security measures with sustainable development and peace-building initiatives, aiming to address the underlying causes of the use of IEDs and promoting long-term stability.
11. **Regulation and control of precursor materials:** Promote stricter regulation, monitoring and control of precursor materials commonly used in the manufacture of IEDs, including fertilizers, chemicals and electronic components, through licensing systems, supply-chain monitoring and cooperation with private sector stakeholders, also ensuring tailored approaches to countries and regions with high occurrence of IEDs in line with national legislation and local practices.

12. **Border security and customs strengthening:** Enhance border management systems and customs capabilities to detect and intercept illicit trafficking of materials, components and technologies that may be used in the construction of IEDs, including the use of advanced screening and risk-profiling tools.
13. **Protection of critical infrastructure:** Develop and implement specific protective measures for critical infrastructure, including transport systems, energy facilities, public institutions and communication networks, which are often primary targets of IED attacks.
14. **Standardization of training and operational procedures:** Encourage the development of standardized training curricula, operational guidelines and certification mechanisms for personnel engaged in IED detection, disposal and response, ensuring interoperability among national and international forces, and aligned with national context and practices.
15. **Post-blast investigation and forensic capabilities:** Strengthen forensic and investigative capacities to conduct post-blast analysis, enabling the identification of networks, tactics, techniques and procedures associated with IED incidents and supporting judicial accountability.
16. **Data collection, analysis and lessons learned mechanisms:** Support the establishment of centralized databases and analytical platforms to collect, store and share information on IED incidents, trends and emerging threats, facilitating evidence-based policy responses.
17. **Engagement with the private sector and industry:** Promote partnerships with private companies, including manufacturers, transport operators and digital platforms, to prevent the misuse of commercial technologies and materials for IED construction.
18. **Addressing the use of emerging technologies:** Monitor and regulate the misuse of emerging technologies, including unmanned systems, remote triggering mechanisms and commercially available electronic devices, which may enhance the lethality and sophistication of IEDs, also ensuring, when possible, the traceability and identification of origin of raw materials, electronic components and other.
19. **Environmental remediation and recovery:** Support environmental assessment and remediation efforts in areas contaminated by explosive remnants or IED components, ensuring safe land use and enabling the return of displaced populations.

20. **Victim assistance and long-term recovery:** Strengthen comprehensive assistance programmes for victims of IED incidents, including medical care, psychological support, prosthetics, rehabilitation and socio-economic reintegration.