



American Model United Nations
General Assembly First Committee

GA First/I/4

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly First Committee

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1 *Building upon* the valuable progress already made through programs and organizations such as the United
2 Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), Anti-Personnel Landmines Detection Product Development (APOPO),
3 Programme Global Shield, Project Watchmaker and others,

4 *Noting* that landmines are often crucial parts of IEDs (Report of the Secretary General A/71/187) and
5 that the small size and low weight threshold of rats make them optimal for landmine detection, further proven via
6 previous efforts which have used 151 trained rats to detect landmines with great success by detecting more than
7 50,000 landmines,

8 *Acknowledging* the danger and life threatening nature of detecting explosive devices as well as the alarming
9 need to remove Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) in countries post-conflict,

10 *Expressing appreciation* for the past attempts at IED reform such as A/RES/70/46 and United Nations
11 Mine Action Service (UNMAS) efforts,,

12 *Aware of* the difficulties surrounding efforts to end production of IEDs, due to the fact that the materials
13 needed to produce them are widely available to civilians,

14 *Affirming* the need for international unity and cooperation in counter-IED intelligence regarding patterns of
15 proliferation,

16 *Emphasizing* how education directed towards civilians prevents casualties of IEDs by minimizing lack of
17 awareness, giving them the knowledge they need to spot a threat of an IED and find the best escape route,

18 *Understanding* that the United Nations itself references conventional munitions “such as artillery shells,
19 mortar bombs, and landmines” as sources of IEDs, inextricably linking the removal of these munitions from potential
20 civilian access to countering IEDs,,

21 *Recognizing* the dangers that IEDs pose to civilians, due to the death, injury and psychological trauma
22 experienced by victims of IED attacks, ,

23 *Emphasizing* the importance of transparency and cooperation in UNMAS,,

24 *Recognizes that*, while IEDs will persist as a threat so long as information on how to build IEDs remains
25 easily accessible, this body can work to remove the most dangerous and most easily accessible methods of obtaining
26 and using IEDs against civilian and military forces alike,

27 *Acknowledges* the threat posed by the IED black market and lack of security around national borders that
28 allow for international trading of both legal and illegal materials (United States Department of Homeland Security,
29 “Introduction to Explosives”),,

30 *Aware* of the importance of educating civilian populations and the necessity of utilizing online resources,

31 *Acknowledging* the transnational nature of terrorism and the significance of border security in pursuit of
32 cybersecurity and IED nonproliferation,

33 *Recognizes* the threat that terrorism poses to border security and the importance of strengthening IED
34 prevention programs already in operation,

35 *Affirms* the importance of national sovereignty in cooperation with regional organizations in the prevention
36 of infrastructure damage and civilian casualties,

37 1. *Strongly recommends* that states focus their efforts on the removal of landmines as to ensure that they
38 cannot be repurposed as a component of IEDs, through:

39 (a) Continuing the work done by the UN Peacekeeping Force and their Strategic Training Materials
40 as applied to Explosive Ordnance Disposal;

41 (b) Establishing the efficacy of landmine-sniffing rats and allocating resources to build upon the
42 successful procedures instituted by APOPO and train more African giant pouched rats, the species previously used
43 by APOPO due to ease of training and access, to detect IEDs and landmines. Given the fact that African giant
44 pouched rats are light enough to detect explosive devices without detonating them and additionally noting that
45 this species of rat has a highly sophisticated sense of smell that makes them adept to detection of IEDs and other
46 explosive devices even more so than both dogs and humans;

47 (c) Encouraging Member States to focus their efforts on furthering research into the creation of
48 machinery that would properly disassemble and dispose of landmines and IEDs after they are discovered;

49 (d) Partnerships with initiatives such as UNMAS;

50 2. *Encourages* states who are responsible for residual unexploded ordnances to volunteer resources to help
51 remove them to prevent them from being used as a component in IEDs;

52 3. *Strongly suggests* greater support from Member States for UNMAS minesweeping and IED prevention
53 operations by:

54 (a) Enabling the exchange of information from states with greater expertise and technological re-
55 sources pertinent to mine clearing operations to assist and train states with less capabilities and experience;

56 (b) Increasing voluntary assistance to UNMAS and its affiliate programs, as affirmed in resolution
57 A/RES/70/46 and International Mine Action Standard 12.10 of 1 October 2001;

58 4. *Implores* Member States to further explore devoting more resources to limiting the ability of non-state
59 actors to produce IEDs;

60 5. *Invites* interested states to establish greater security measures for their existing military establishments
61 and armories in order to secure components and technology that could be used in the creation of IEDs by sharing
62 techniques and resources to better protect vulnerable supplies;

63 6. *Further encourages* all members of this body voluntarily move towards reducing corruption, insecurities
64 and inefficiencies in regards to munitions stockpiles:

65 (a) Defining munitions stockpiles as military bases and armories holding explosive materials or other
66 materials which could be used to create an IED;

67 (b) Providing monitored needs-based funding grants, overseen by the United Nations Environment
68 Programme to states requesting aid in redoubling their military base security;

69 (i) The funding pool for this will be provided voluntarily by states; all states are to be allowed to
70 set their own limits on how much money they wish to provide;

71 (ii) Monitoring will be done yearly by International Criminal Police Organization's (INTERPOL)
72 to ensure relative impartiality, reporting yearly to this body on progress made by funded states;

73 (iii) Funding shall be withheld if inspection yields a clear lack of progress or other signs of misuse
74 of funding when grants are up for renewal;

75 7. *Requests* education funding for civilians, especially those most at risk because of IEDs, such as children,
76 through:

77 (a) Establishing the Further Education on Improvised Explosive Devices (FEIED) initiative to pro-
78 vide global weapons education to areas that are most victimized by IEDs with the use of increased funding;

79 (b) Cross-national cooperation, including sharing resources and knowledge to educate potential
80 victim populations whose governments might need assistance in this endeavor;

81 8. *Endorses* the expansion of the World Customs Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and
82 Crime, and INTERPOL's Programme Global Shield and INTERPOL's Project Watchmaker to:

- 83 (a) More extensively track the international movement of common IED components;
- 84 (b) Include the monitoring and exchange of information about the illicit trade of stolen munitions
85 and functional IEDs;
- 86 (c) Provide current information about the types of devices being created;
- 87 9. *Further recommends* a partnership between UNMAS and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
88 to encourage the use of sustainable production of engineered soils from local materials, in place of fertilizers which
89 can also be used to build IEDs:
- 90 (a) The use of chemicals in fertilizers can be directly linked to the creation of IEDs due to the fact
91 that they contain chemicals such as ammonium nitrate and nitromethane;
- 92 (b) Ammonium nitrates decomposition into nitrous oxide and water vapor can cause a force that is
93 capable of knocking the people to the ground;
- 94 10. *Encourages* Member States to allocate resources towards limiting the availability of information on how
95 to build IEDs online in order to reduce the ongoing threat of non-state actors learning how to make and deploy IEDs,
96 by:
- 97 (a) Allocating resources towards the implementation of IED Online Detection (IEDOD), an online
98 program which would locate and red-flag online publications containing explicit, detailed information on the creation
99 or deployment of IEDs;
- 100 (b) Providing this database of publications to Member States to offer them the opportunity would
101 be left to their own discretion in choosing to act upon this information and regulate their citizens' level of access to
102 these materials;
- 103 11. *Endorses* all states creating alert systems for communicating with civilians about potential explosive
104 devices and dangerous situations, which would:
- 105 (a) Be managed by local governments, with alerts coming in from local authorities to nearby citizens
106 if a credible report of a suspicious package or other clear threat of explosion;
- 107 (b) Include the voluntary use of cellular data and GPS data to better plan who's in urgent need of
108 evacuation with clear and stringent policies towards citizen privacy;
- 109 (c) Facilitate the sharing of software between countries as and when such technology is built;
- 110 12. *Strongly recommends* that all states redouble their efforts to crack down on the global munitions and
111 IED black market as an issue facing the international community, including:
- 112 (a) Increased enforcement at national borders against smuggling of weapons, as many IEDs are used
113 in different states than the one they originate from;
- 114 (b) All states tighten security at points of entry to further halt IED usage in conflict;
- 115 (c) Increased resource allocation towards cyberintelligence agencies in tracking movements of legal
116 & illegal materials used in IED production;
- 117 13. *Invites* an increase of funding for the United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism and the Counter
118 Terrorism Executive Directorate to further strengthen the current IED prevention program, as well as increasing
119 efforts similar to the IEDs Programme Global Shield that aim to counteract international trafficking of components
120 commonly used for IED development;
- 121 14. *Calls upon*, the Security Council to revise the role of UNMAS and their work in Explosive Ordnance
122 Disposal (EOD) technicians from United Nations Member States to curb the casualty count from IEDs, with the
123 responsibilities of:
- 124 (a) Specializing in teaching state and local militaries and police how to deal with IEDs and consult
125 on critical infrastructure security when invited;
- 126 (b) Deploying at the discretion of the host state, in deference to national sovereignty..

Passed by consensus, with 10 abstentions