

POSITION PAPER

NAME OF THE DELIGATE:

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COMMITTEE: United Nations Security Council(UNSC)

COUNTRY: Iraq

AGENDA: The Threat of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) Especially During War Situations.



Contamination from explosive ordnance has been a problem in Iraq for decades, going back to earlier battles. More than half of the combat deaths among U.S. military personnel were as a result of the use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), a relatively new and significant threat in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. From the start of combat operations in 2001 to a peak in March 2007, their use climbed significantly, with the highest number of IED-related fatalities occurring in June 2007.

The threat posed by explosive ordnance contamination, such as IEDs and legacy mines, continues to put the lives of Iraqis in peril. It also makes it difficult for displaced communities to return home safely and prevents the productive use of land for houses and other forms of subsistence. Unexploded remains are especially deadly for children since they are drawn to them for their sometimes bright appearance and are not aware of how dangerous they are. Explosive ordnance survivors may suffer from a variety of physical and social effects, such as being cut off from or subjected to prejudice by family and community members, having trouble becoming financially independent, and having fewer possibilities for marriage. Additionally frequently subjected to social shame, rejection, and unemployment are amputees.

In order to lower the danger of children being hurt or killed by explosive remnants of war and other explosive ordnance, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is collaborating with partners in Iraq to develop child

protection mechanisms and risk education programming. Nearly 69,000 children who were at risk were reached by UNICEF in Iraq in 2021, and more than 4,000 professionals received training in the dangers of explosive ordnance. Force protection will continue to be the top priority in any land or marine operation involving asymmetrical threats, and NATO must be ready to counter IEDs. To protect the safety and wellbeing of all people and communities affected by this problem, it is crucial to increase awareness about the destructive effects of explosive ordnance contamination and to work towards its prevention and removal.