



Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
NRA Office National Regulatory Authority for
UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR

Minutes of the Fourth Quarter, 2021
(Q 4, 2021) Meeting of UXO Survey-Clearance Technical Working Group

I. Date, Place and Participant

The Fourth Quarter, 2021 Meeting of UXO Survey-Clearance Technical Working Group was virtually convened between 08:30 am to 16:15 pm on 16th December 2021, at the Meeting of NRA Office, chaired by Mr. Bounpheng SISAWATH, Deputy Director General of NRA Office and participated by representatives from Quality Management Unit, Information Management Unit, Public Relations Unit, Head and Technician of Clearance Unit, NRA Office, foreign experts, Lao Technical Operation Staff from 07 related humanitarian assistance operators including UXO Lao Programme, Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58, NPA, Halo Trust, HI, MAG, Tetra Tech, and 25 companies who working on UXO survey and clearance. The total number of participants is 57 people.

II. Objective of Meeting

- To exchange the technique of UXO survey and clearance;
- To improve the coordination of the operators responsible for UXO action;
- To exchange information, methods in developing action plan in the UXO sector and to review on the national standards.

III. Important topics to discuss in the meeting

- To discuss on the UXO survey workplan in 2022
- To discuss and interpret the action plan to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of the operators.
- To exchange on the information and working mechanism of M83 cluster;
- To discuss on the Mine survey and clearance in Savannakhet province and other provinces;
- To report on the progress and evaluation of the implementation of UXO survey and clearance between January – November 2021;
- To update on the process of the survey and clearance plan development of UXO Lao Programme, the milestone and report on the progress of using Vallon VMH4-VS30;
- To report on the progress of SOED4 training project and to exchange information on the training in 2022 of the training center.
- To present on the concept and prioritization of UXO survey and clearance project;
- To update on the progress of revising the national standards;
- To report on the UXO accidents of UXO operators and prevention measures.

- Other matters relating to the topic.

IV. Content of Meeting

During 11 months previous, many operators have effectively and adequately implemented UXO survey and clearance in consistence with action plan of UXO sector despite having the outbreak of COVID-19 and natural disaster. However, it is noticed that the number of expected outcomes as stipulated in the annual plan 2021 is dramatically decreased if comparing with the previous annual plan 2020. The implementation of annual plan 2021 will be ended within 01 month. Therefore, NRA office proposed the operator as the following details:

- The meeting discussed on the development of annual survey and clearance plan 2022;
- The meeting discussed on the development of clearance plan and combine them in the MOU of the operators;
- The meeting shared the technical information on the working mechanism, danger, and prevention method in moving and destroying M83 cluster.
- The meeting presented on the progress of Mine survey and clearance implementation in Savannakhet province and the necessary recommendations in providing the technical training for other provinces.
- The meeting reported on the progress of SOED4 technical training project and exchanged training information in 2022 of training center.
- The meeting presented on the concept and plan for the development and prioritization of UXO survey and clearance project. The meeting proposed the operators to provide document on the selection of priority of the operators in order to jointly study and develop as a part of UXO action sector.
- The meeting reported on the inputs of operators to the revision of national standards.
- The meeting discussed and exchange the experiences on the UXO accident and prevention methods and how to avoid from the accident during the operation.
- The meeting also exchanged information on the UXO action in provinces where didn't have the operators based in, particularly the information on the UXO survey and clearance.

V. Conclusion

1. The meeting proposed the operators to coordinate with the provincial authority regarding the new change of date and suitable method in order to avoid the impact or delay of workplan implementation during the outbreak of COVID-19;
2. In collecting UXO survey and clearance information for developing annual workplan or related plan to corporate into MOU, It is requested to collect clear and precise information and ensure the transparency and inspectable by coordinating with selected provincial, district and village administration;
3. It is requested to continue exchanging lesson learnt and best practices on the UXO accident response and prevention method. To continue increasing and providing higher level of

technical training within sector. To continue revising the national standards in timely manner.

4. It is requested to continue preparing and conducting the SEOD technical training as plan in the workplan;
5. It is requested to continue developing prioritization document of UXO action sector and ensure the inclusion of related stakeholders.
6. It is requested to continue sharing information and new techniques that operators would like to share. The meeting is always welcome for new experiences and lesson.

Before closing session of the meeting, the chair of the meeting extended best wishes to all participant for a good health and stay safe from COVID-19.

The meeting was officially closed at 16:15 pm of 16 December 2021

Chair of the Meeting

(Signed and Stamped)

Bounpheng Sisawath

Prepared by

(Signed)

Buala