



Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare

NRA Office National Regulatory Authority for
UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR

No. 501/NRA.O

Vientiane Capital, Date : 23 June 2022

To: Director General of National Regulatory for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR Office

Subject: The Report on the Achievements of the Second Quarter, 2023 Meeting of UXO/Mine Risk Education Technical Working Group (Q2,2023), and its focused-workplan in Third Quarter, 2023 (Q3,2023)

- In reference to the Decision of Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, No. 4999/MLSW, dated 09th September 2022 on mandates of the Office of the National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR.
- In reference to the Second Quarter, 2023 Workplan of UXO/Mine Risk Education Unit, Office of National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR.

UXO/Mine Risk Education Unit, The Office of National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR has great honor to report on achievement of the Second Quarter, 2023 Meeting of UXO/Mine Risk Education Technical Working Group, and its focused-workplan in the Third Quarter, 2023 (Q3,2023). The meeting was convened in the afternoon of 20th June 2023, at NRA Office, and chaired by Mr. Duangsy THAMMAVONG, Deputy Director General of NRA Office. The detail of the meeting is below:

1. The Objectives of Meeting

- To report on the implementation of UXO/Mine Risk Education Workplan in the Second Quarter, 2023 and focus areas of works in in the third Quarter, 2023.
- To review on the previous technical meeting in first quarter, 2023.
- To update on statistical data of UXO accidents in the second quarter, 2023.
- To mainstream gender equality in UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR.
- To discuss on template of UXO/Mine Risk Education report.
- To discuss and exchange experiences on the implementation of UXO/Mine Risk Education

2. Participants:

The meeting was participated by representatives from Department of Mass Sport, Department of Physical and Art Education, Department of General Education, the Ministry of Education and Sport, Department of Mass Media, Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, Department of Youth Movement, the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, Victim Assistance Unit, Information Management Unit, NRA Office, Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58, Lao National Radio, Representatives from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP Lao PDR), the Lao National UXO Programme, Humanity and Inclusion (HI), HALO Trust, Terra Renaissance Xiengkhuang province, MAG

Xiengkhuang Province, NPA, World Education in Lao PDR (WEL), Lane Xang Minerals Limited.

3. The Conduct of Meeting

The Meeting was conducted in accordance with agenda. Head of UXO/Mine Risk Education Unit presented and reviewed on the first quarter of UXO/Mine Risk Education Technical Working Group (Q1,2023), particularly the outcomes and agreement points in the previous meeting including the result of KAP Survey, and the workplan of second quarter, 2023 (Q2,2023), and the continuation of focused-workplan in Q3,2023 especially organizing MRE training for Terra Renaissance, district and provincial coordinators in Xiengkhuang province, organizing a meeting with the Ministry of Education and Sport for improving coordination and information linkage, strengthening capacity training for village volunteers with Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, and training on Spot Advertising on the danger of UXO/Mine for provincial radios in 10 provinces with the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism. The meeting was reported on UXO accidents in the second quarter (Q2,2023) by Victim Assistance Unit. The UXO accident was occurred 8 times, with total number of 16 victims (06 female, 10 males), 14 injured persons and 02 deaths. Among of them are 02 adults (one female, one male) 04 injured adults and 01 death, 10 children (03 girls, 07 boys), 10 injured children and 00 death. The cause of accident was from set/making fire, slash-and-burn agriculture, digging land for cassava farming. Additionally, the expert from UNDP also delivered presentation on gender mainstreaming in UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR, some recommendations were highlighted as the follows:

- 1.) Policy for Gender Equality, and Coordination Mechanism.
- 2.) Capacity Building on Gender Equality.
- 3.) Gender Equality Development.
- 4.) Expanding Policy on Gender Equality.

4. Outcomes of Meeting

- 4.1 The participants were informed and understood on guidelines for dissemination of the result of Knowledge Attitude and Practice (KAP) Survey in the first quarter, 2023.
- 4.2 The participants were informed on the implementation of the UXO/Mine Risk Education in the second quarter and focused-workplan in the third quarter, 2023.
- 4.3 The participants were updated on the statistical number and causes of UXO accidents.
- 4.4 The participants recognized and understood on the gender mainstreaming in UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR.
- 4.5 The participant recognized on remarkable achievements in UXO/Mine Risk Education through the implementation report of UXO operators in Q2, and focused-workplan in Q3, 2023.
- 4.6 In conjunction with Department of Non-Formal Education, Ministry of Education and Sport, World Education (WEL) successfully coordinate and developed national curriculum on UXO for non-formal education in 10 provinces, Information Dissemination Manual on UXO for secondary school, which currently trials in 05 provinces: Xiengkhuang, Khammouan, Savannakhet, Sekong, and Salavanh.

5. Points of Agreement in the Meeting:

- The meeting agreed to establish focal points for gender mainstreaming in UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR. For MRE Technical Working Group, it is assigned 02 officials as coordinators: Ms. Buala Thongsawat, Head of MRE Unit, NRA Office, and Mr. Vilaysack Saysana, Head of MRE Unit, Humanity & Inclusion (HI).
- The meeting agreed to task MRE Unit to coordinate with the Information Management Unit and UXO operators to deeply study on the draft template for reporting information in database.
- The meeting agreed to determinate or report in database on the achievements of UXO operators in supporting and fulfilling the indicators.
- The meeting agreed to task MRE Unit to seek for budget/resource in organizing trainings on publishing and producing spot advertisement through radio in Hmong language in order to ensure target groups to have access to media/information on UXO.
- The meeting agreed to organize training for youth volunteers of both village and provincial levels as set in programme and budget approval to extend UXO/Mine Risk Education broader and more sustainable, to ensure in raising awareness of students and their family/community to understand on the danger of UXO.
- To continue deep discussion on related activities under UXO/Mine Risk Education by exchange of view and information for better implementation.
- The meeting agreed to put more efforts and enhance in the coordination and collaboration.

6. Proposal of Meeting

- Meeting proposed NRA Office to draft letter of notice to the UXO operators on establishment of focal points for gender mainstreaming in UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR, under MRE Technical Working Group.
- To continue disseminating the result of KAP Survey, to promote the use of spade in agriculture, particularly the risky area of UXO, and to avoid set/lighting fire, as well as to design poster for MRE with more picture for expression of the danger, and avoid to put too many letters on the poster.
- The meeting proposed NRA office to host a meeting to discuss and consult with the UXO operators on the draft report template for database, which will be responding to indicators in the Fifth 5-Years Labour and Social Welfare Development Plan (2021-2025).