



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

No. 818/NRA.O  
Vientiane Capital, Date: 22 September 2023

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

**Subject:** The Report on the Achievements of the Third Quarter, 2023 Meeting of UXO/Mine Risk Education Technical Working Group (Q3,2023), and its focused-workplan in fourth quarter, 2023 (Q4,2023).

- In reference to the Decision of Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, No. 4999/MLSW, dated 09<sup>th</sup> 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 achievements of the Third Quarter, 2023 Meeting of UXO/Mine Risk Education Technical Working Group, and its focused-workplan in the Fourth Quarter, 2023 (Q4,2023). The meeting was convened in the morning of 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023, at NRA Office, and chaired by Mr. Bounpheng SISAWAT, Deputy Director General of NRA Office. The detail of the meeting is appeared below:

#### **1. The Objectives of Meeting**

- To report on the implementation of UXO/Mine Risk Education Workplan in the Third Quarter, 2023 and focus areas of works in the fourth Quarter, 2023.
- To review on the outcomes of previous technical meeting in second quarter, 2023, particularly on the achievements of the implementation and remained issues.
- To provide an update on statistical data regarding accidents involving unexploded ordnance (UXO) in the third quarter of 2023, including details about injuries and deaths.
- To report on the outcomes of monitoring and support activities related to MRE in Attapue and Salavan provinces, as well as and NPA's efforts in third quarter.
- To review on the template of UXO/Mine Risk Education report.
- To update the progress of the implementation on gender mainstreaming in UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR.
- To report on the achievements of 9 months of the UXO/Mine Risk Education implementation and further 03 months workplan in 2023.
- To review on the National Standards, especially Chapter 13 on UXO/Mine Risk Education

- To discuss and exchange views and experiences on the implementation of UXO/Mine Risk Education.

## **2. Participants:**

The meeting was participated by representatives from International Organization Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of Mass Sport, Department of Physical and Art Education, the Ministry of Education and Sport, Department of Non-formal Education, Department of Teacher Education, Research Institute for Educational Science, 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 in Lao PDR, World Education in Lao PDR (WEL).

## **3. The Conduct of Meeting**

The Meeting was conducted in accordance with agenda. The UXO operators have updated on the implementation of UXO/Mine Risk Education activities, including the achievements, limitations, and challenges as well as presented their workplans in the fourth quarter (Q4,2023). Furthermore, the Head of UXO/Mine Risk Education Unit presented on the outcomes of MRE monitoring in the third quarter. It is highlighted that the UXO/Mine Risk Education Unit should play and take its role and leadership in monitoring of all MRE activities, implemented by UXO operators to ensure the achievements of their workplans, to prevent the delay (in which reflected and failed in indicators). Related staffs from MRE Unit, to encourage and support the UXO operator to prepare budget plan for training on MRE to strengthen capacity in implementing MRE effectively and efficiently. Besides, the Head of UXO/Mine Risk Education Unit reported on the outcomes of the second quarter, 2023 meeting of UXO/Mine Risk Education Technical Working Group (Q2,2023), raising on the previous points of agreement, the achievements, and remained issues which requires for the improvement. At the same time, the Head of MRE Unit also presented on the achievement of the MRE implementation in 9 months as well as the further 03 months workplan in 2023. It is pointed out that MRE Unit will need to continue monitoring and supporting on MRE related-activities, and allocating budget, which has left from the previous expenditure on MRE campaign through radio in 10 provinces, to spend on training on design and development of plan, journals, and advertising spot in order to enhance media on MRE, and radio-related personnel in 10 provinces; to explore and propose Tetra Tech to providing funding support in conducting trainings for youth volunteers at village level, with the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union in other three provinces including Luang Prabang, Huaphan, and Phongsaly as agreed in Annual Meeting with the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union on 21-22 August 2023, in Thalat, Vientiane province. Additionally, the meeting was informed and updated on the UXO Accident by Victim Assistance Unit in the third quarter, 2023 (Q3,2023). The UXO accident was occurred 16 times, with total number of 28 victims (10 female, 18 males), 21 injured persons and 07 deaths. Among of them, there are 03 adults (one

female, two male) 09 injured adults and 03 death, 12 children (04 girls, 08 boys), 12 injured children and 04 death. The cause of accident was from set/lighting fire, slash-and-burn agriculture, digging land for farming, playing/contacting with UXO.

The meeting was updated on the progress of the implementation on gender mainstreaming in UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR as following detail:

- Successfully achieved in data collection on gender equality in UXO/Mine Action Sector in Bolikhamxay and Xiengkhuang between January to February 2023;
- Reported on the result of Study on gender equality in UXO/Mine Action Sector and will be publishing soon.
- Assigned coordinators responsible for gender equality in each technical working group including EORE, CL, IM and VA.
- Currently drafting roles, duty, and accountability of gender equality coordinators.
- Drafted gender equality action plan in in UXO/Mine Action Sector for 2023-2024.
- Currently in the process of hiring internal and international experts to revise manual on gender equality in UXO/Mine Action Sector.

In the last quarter of 2023, it is going to continue revising the manual on gender equality in UXO/Mine action sector; to convene a meeting to endorse the draft on roles, duty, and accountability of gender equality coordinators, and to conduct training course on gender equality in UXO/Mine action sector.

#### **4. Outcomes of Meeting**

- 4.1 The participants were informed and updated on the implementation of UXO/Mine Risk Education by the UXO operators in the third quarter of 2023 (Q3,2023) and focused-workplan in fourth quarter, 2023 (Q4,2023).
- 4.2 The participants were reviewed on the outcomes of the MRE implementation, in what agreed during the second quarter 2023, including the achievements and remained issues which required to continue working on.
- 4.3 The participants were quarterly updated and informed on the outcomes of MRE monitoring to the UXO operator's implementation in Attapue and Salavan provinces.
- 4.4 The participants were informed on the achievements of the first 09 months implementation of MRE in 2023 and future plan in the last 3 months of 2023.
- 4.5 The participants were updated on the statistical data of UXO accidents with its causes.
- 4.6 The participants were updated on the progress of gender equality mainstreaming in UXO/Mine action sector in Lao PDR.
- 4.7 The participants were informed on the review of National Standards, Chapter 13 on Mine/UXO Risk Education.
- 4.8 The participants were informed on the recommendations based on the KAP survey on the danger of UXOs contamination in Lao PDR.

#### **5. Points of Agreement in the Meeting**

- The meeting agreed on the UXO operators to submit their workplan and activities in each quarter, particularly MRE campaigns, to NRA Office before 01 week of their operations.
- The meeting agreed on the UXO operator to submit outcomes/achievement report and its workplans on 15<sup>th</sup> of the third month of every quarter.
- The meeting agreed to share the latest updates on the statistical data of UXO accident, including number of the injured and death on the MRE Advertisement group as reference for publishing radio news in 10 provinces.
- The meeting agreed on MRE Unit to visit and monitor the UXO operators including Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58 in Bolikhamxay and Vientiane provinces, MAG in Xiengkhuang and Khammouan provinces, Halo Trust and UXO Lao Programme in Savannakhet provinces, HI in Huaphan nad Phongsaly provinces, Terra Renaissance in Xiengkhaung provinc; to monitor and support on MRE radio campaigns in Xaysomboun, Vientaine, Savannakhet, Luang Prabang and Huaphan provinces.
- The meeting agreed on the UXO operators to immediately publishing campaign's tools and flyers/posters to support on MRE works in accordance with MOU, in which stipulated expenditure on publishing. In publishing new posters, it is required to submit the letter through NRA Office in prior.
- For Posters on Mine, which planned by UXO operators to produce and distribute, it is also required to submit letter to NRA for approval.
- The meeting agreed on the UXO operators to invite MRE unit and clearly indicate the name of the unit to ensure the participation of related unit, particularly the conclusion meeting on the implementation of MRE in the first-6 months and the last-6 months of the year.
- The meeting agreed on the UXO operators to strengthening and building capacity of personnel within each organization through MRE training, by inviting related units to join the training.
- The meeting agreed on the MRE Unit to allocate the remained budget, which has left from the previous expenditure on MRE campaign through radio in 10 provinces, to spend on the training for Department of Mess Media and the ten provincial radios in producing news/journal and developing campaign and producing advertisement spots.
- The meeting agreed on the UXO operators to report in database of NRA Office on the beneficiary data. In the report, it is required to identify sexual of adults (female/male), and children (girl/boy);
- The meeting agreed and noted on how to conduct evaluation/assessment of radio/media, TV online, Facebook and YouTube. However, it should provide more details in the platform, for example, detail on number of beneficiaries or views/listeners, or to count number of views and number of downloads, number of responses, reactions/comments from viewers (how many likes, share, save, comments

and so on), number of distributions through media, total on-air time, and number of members or users.

- The meeting agreed on UXO operators to put strong effort in MRE operation, and to ensure the achievement as set in each quarter plan and annual plan 2023.
- The meeting agreed on related organizations including the ministry of education and sport, the ministry of information, culture and tourism, the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, the National Radio and the UXO operators to submit their workplans to NRA Office for compiling and consolidating in the Annual Plan 2024.
- The meeting agreed on the UXO operators to continue their MRE operation, and to update, exchange and discuss within technical working group.

## **6. Proposal of Meeting**

- The meeting proposed MRE unit to take its responsibility and leadership in monitoring and support the UXO operators, since some operators could not successfully implement, reflecting in indicators.
- Halo Trust proposed the meeting to update in the National Standards, Chapter 13, by inserting measures on inspection and evaluation on the presentation of MRE in each time (before and after) particularly face-to-face presentation.
- The meeting agreed on NRA office to host a special meeting to deeply study on designing posters on landmines.
- The meeting agreed on NRA office to allocate the remained budget of 14.000 USD, which has left from the previous expenditure on MRE campaign through radio in 10 provinces, to use in conducting MRE Training on the development of producing publication, advertising spots in three languages: Lao, Hmong, and Kamou to ensure comprehensive understanding for all on the danger of UXOs.