



Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare

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

No. 0097/NRA.O

Vientiane Capital, Date : 14 February 2022

To: Director General of NRA Office

Subject: The Report of the First Quarter, 2022 Meeting of Mine Risk Education Technical Working Group (Q1,2022)

- In reference to the Decision of Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, No. 3639/MLSW, dated 21st September 2018 on the mandates of the Office of the National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR;
- In reference to the First Quarter 2022 Workplan of The National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR.

Mine Risk Education Unit, The Office of National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR has the great honor to report on the First Quarter 2022 Meeting of the Mine Risk Education Technical Working Group which virtually convened in the morning of the 10th February 2022, chaired by Mr. Bounpheng SISAWATH, Deputy Director General of NRA Office. The detail of the meeting is below:

1. The Objectives of the Meeting

- To seek, discuss and exchange lesson and experience on the implementation of workplan in the previous. To jointly report and update on the status of the implementation as well as to continue exchanging views in order to improve the activity implementation effectively in pursuant to the government's policy.
- To discuss on the issue and challenge during the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Participants:

The meeting was participated by representatives from NRA office, Department of Mass Media, Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, Department of Youth Movement, the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, Department of Mass Sport, Physical and Education, Ministry of Education and Sport, Xiengkhuang Terra Renaissance, Humanity and Inclusion (HI), and World Education (WE).

3. The Conduct of Meeting

The meeting has briefly reported on the implementation of Mines/UXO Risk Education in the Fourth Quarter, 2021, the First Quarter, 2022 and way forwards of MRE in 2022-2025. Furthermore, the meeting was also reported on the UXO accident by Victim Assistance Unit. Most of incidents were occurred in Savannakhet province. The causes of incident were from playing by children, dismantling of UXOs, setting/lighting fire. In the beginning of 2022, there was also an accident from the UXO explosion to children who

were sitting around fire for warming their bodies in Khammuan Province. In this connection, the meeting has discussed, shared and exchanged information on the accident and seeking for the way to address this issue. The meeting also noted on the reports and the presentation of operators regarding the implementation of Risk Education during the fourth quarter of 2021 and first quarter of 2022. The meeting also discussion on remain issues and challenges during the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.

4. Outcomes of Meeting

- The participants are acknowledged and understood on the Mine Risk Education Workplans of the operators;
- The participants are realized on the situation of the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic which impacted to the implementation of MRE activities. Each operator faced several difficulties particularly having an access to target village and the participation of villagers in the activity seem to be main problems during the outbreak of COVID-19.
- It is noted that the key issue and challenge of the operators in implementing MRE is the wide spread of COVID-19, delaying and cancelling some activities in many provinces. Some operators had to conduct MRE activities through local radio towers of the village.

5. Recommendations

- The operator to use new appropriate platforms for MRE implementation based on the situation and conditions.
- It is requested the operator to consult with related authority if they have intention to develop any social media publication.
- Terra Renaissance conducted MRE in the local particularly the five villages where has Hmong and Kamu population particularly Hmong and Kamu children in the schools. Therefore, it is a challenge in conducting MRE because they have to do in two different languages.
- For those who would like to conduct trainings, it is requested to submit the letter to NRA office for consideration.
- For the next MRE technical meeting, it is requested MRE Unit to compile the quarter report and annual workplan and the operator also to submit its MRE workplans
- National Radio Station requested to joint site visiting in the province in order to take photos and collect information for the making new journals for all lao people.
- Department of Mass Media request to have consultation meeting on drafting agreement and producing radio program for Xaysomboun and Vientiane Province and all details of document.
- It is requested MRE Unit to coordinate with any operator who have experiences on children's puppet show on MRE to share and exchange lesson on the show in order to help HI's staff to join this show training

Chair of the Meeting

(Signed and Stamped)

Bounpheng Sisawath

Prepared by

(Signed)

Buala