



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

No. 0599/NRA.O  
Vientiane Capital, Date : 29 September 2022

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

**Subject:** The Report of the Third Quarter, 2022 Meeting of Mine Risk Education Technical Working Group (Q3,2022)

- In reference to the Decision of Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, No. 3639/MLSW, dated 21<sup>st</sup> 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 Third Quarter 2022 Workplan of Mine Risk Education Unit, Office of 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 Third Quarter 2022 Meeting of the Mine Risk Education Technical Working Group which convened in the morning of the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022, chaired by Mr. Bounpheng SISAWATH, Deputy Director General of NRA Office. The detail of the meeting is below:

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

- To report on the implementation of Mine Risk Education in 9 months;
- To report on the UXO incidents;
- To exchange lesson on the actual implementation of UXO operators as well as to monitor their UXO operations;
- To discuss on the data collection and report in the IMSMA system;
- To discuss on the Mine Risk Education Annual Plan of 2023;
- To discuss on the process for development of MRE workplan for 2022-2025

### **2. Participants:**

The meeting was participated by representatives from Department of Mass Media, Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, Department of Youth Movement, the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, the Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58, Ministry of National Defense, Lao National Radio Station, UXO Lao Programme, Humanity and Inclusion (HI), HALO Trust, MAG Xiengkhuang Province as well as experts from UNDP and MRE Unit, NRA Office.

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

In accordance with the meeting agenda, the meeting has been convened and reported on the implementation of Mines/UXO Risk Education from line ministries and related operators. The detail of the meeting is the follows:

The meeting was reported on the first-nine months implementation of Mine Risk Education Unit, NRA Office and its focused works in the fourth quarter 2022 (Q4,2022), the development progress Mine Risk Education Workplan 2022-2025 and the revision of the National Standards, particularly the Chapter 13. Besides, the meeting was also reported on UXO Accident in between the January to September 2022, which occurred 11 times with 13 victims, 02 deaths and 3 injured. The main cause of accident is setting fire, digging land for agriculture purpose and playing with UXOs.

#### **4. Outcome of Meeting**

- The Meeting was presented on the Mine Risk Education Workplans and focused works by NRA Office;
- The Meeting was acknowledged and noted on the statistic number and the causes of the UXO Accident. With this regard, the participants can exchange and discuss on the way to continue addressing and improving the MRE operation, changing behavior and reducing the UXO accidents;
- The participants were aware of and understood the Plan of MRE activities as shared and exchanged in the meeting by the operators including HI, MAG, the Department of Youth Movement, the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, HALO Trust, UXO Lao Programme and the Lao National Radio Station.
- The participants were realized the situation and difficulty in implementing MRE activities
- The Meeting considered to allow Sam University to conduct the Study on Possibility Research on for Knowledge, Attitude and Behavioral Change Survey.

#### **5. Agreement of Meeting**

- The meeting agreed to organize or convene a meeting to review on the Media for the Publication on the danger of UXOs
- The meeting agreed to task the Department of Youth Movement, the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union who has produced the publication on danger of UXOs in several platforms including songs, theatre, debate which were uploaded on YouTube to share with TWG meeting in order to exchange information with other related stakeholders.
- The Meeting agreed to review on the standards in reducing the risk from UXO in Chapter 13 to adapt with the actual and real situation;
- The Meeting agreed on the report on the development progress of the UXO/MRE action Plan for 2021-2025;
- The Meeting agreed to develop MRE training curriculums for the operators, ministries and related organization;

- The Meeting deeply discussed in detail on the MRE activities and exchanged information to improve the activities.
- The Meeting reviewed on the curriculum regarding the Education on the Danger of UXO implemented in the National UXO Training Center where 7 provincial radio stations have been participated in the training.
- The Meeting agreed to enhance the coordination;
- The Meeting agreed to conduct KAP Survey.

## **6. Recommendations of Meeting**

- It is proposed to add more different forms of the dissemination on the danger of UXO activities for children and adults in the UXO risk area.
- It is proposed the operators and line ministries to submit Annual MRE Workplan
- Lao National Radio Station requested to produce more Spot of Dissemination on the danger of UXO as well as to increase the modern channel for ease access;
- Lao National Radio Station requested to produce two documentaries on UXO (5 minutes for each) for on-air.
- The Specialist from UNDP requested the meeting to conduct the assessment and awareness study on risk behavior in consistence with National Strategic Plan for UXO Sector in Lao PDR 2021-2030 “Safe Path Forward II”.
- Representative from US Embassy recommended UXO Lao Programme to draft proposal letter to request funding support on MRE works.
- For the information dissemination on the danger of UXO, the behavioral change of the target group should be considered.