

# **Lao People's Democratic Republic**

Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity



**Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare**

NRA Office National Regulatory Authority for

No 0347 /NRA.O. QM

UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR

Vientiane Capital, Date : 31 May 2022

**To:** Director General of NRA Office

**Subject:** The Results of Monitoring on Quality Control to NPA Operations in Attapue Province, on 13<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 in Attapue Province.

## **I. Introduction**

In reference to the Approval letter of the Director General of NRA Office, No. 0305/NRA.O.A, dated 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022 regarding the assignment of the Quality Management Unit of NRA Office to visit and monitor to NPA operations in Attapue province particularly the implementation of MOU and its SOPs. The mission was started from 13<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 and jointly participated by QM Unit, NRA office and PRA Attapue province. The member of monitoring team is listed below:

1. Mr. Bounthavy Keovilay, Technician, QM Unit, NRA Office
2. Mr. Bounhieng Soukchanthalavong, Technician, QM Unit, NRA Office
3. Mr. Bounpone Thamavongsa, Medic, QM Unit, NRA Office
4. Mr. Vongseng Sisoulit, Technician, QM Unit, NRA Office
5. Mr. Souksamer Senkunya, Technician/Driver, QM Unit, NRA Office
6. Mr. Kitvongxay Phouthavong, Technical Officer, PRA Attapue province.

### **NPA representatives:**

1. Mr. Souksomesy Sanekunya, Attapue Provincial Coordinator, NPA

## **II. Purpose of Monitoring**

To follow up and monitor the operations, which highlighted and focused on the techniques of UXO clearance, the administration/control, techniques of UXO Non-Technical Survey, Technical Survey, Clearance and Disposal in the sites to ensure high efficiency, being safer and improving the operations as well as to tracking on the progress of workplan implementation and for controlling as a uniform system in the same standard.

## **III. The Visit of Monitoring Team:**

The monitoring team from QM Unit, NRA Office in conjunction with Field Operation Manager of NPA has visited and monitored the UXO survey, clearance and disposal in the sites as stipulated in 2022 Annual Workplan.

#### **IV. Number of NPA Personnel in Attapue Province**

Currently, the total number of NPA staff in Attapue province is 90 people, which comprise of 03 administrative staffs, 87 site operation staffs, 30 females (10 Clearance Operation Support Team from Champasack Province including 03 clearance teams, 05 survey teams and 02 roving teams). These staff are implementing the UXO clearance and disposal operations in 4 districts namely Xaysettha, Sanamxay, Xansay, Phouvong as per NPA's annual workplan 2022.

Some completed activities which successfully implemented during the first month to fourth month in 2022 is appeared below:

- **Land Release:** According to 2022 Annual Workplan, the total number of target area is 2,575,161 m<sup>2</sup>. To the date, NPA Attapue province completed 635,409 m<sup>2</sup> and 412 clusters and 01 explosive ordnance were found and destroyed. The total number of beneficiaries is 2,401 people, 1,167 males and 1,234 females. For the pending area, NPA will continue implementing its operation as indicated in its annual workplan.

#### **V. Result of the Monitoring in the site.**

The monitoring team visited ongoing sites in Donkhane village, Xansay district, Attapue province, Task ID: NPA-AC-2022-1704008-006, There are 06 teams (61 staffs including 06 team leaders, 07 deputy team leaders, 38 EODs, 09 vegetation cutting staffs, 01 camp keeper). This site is agriculture land with the total number area 111,321 m<sup>2</sup>, completed area 49,250 m<sup>2</sup>, pending area 62,080 m<sup>2</sup>. The operation was started since 03 May 2022, and expected to complete on 24 May 2022. To the date, the teams found 21 BLU26s, the detector using in the site is Vallon VMXC 1-3/10. The total number of beneficiaries is 03 families, 26 people, 12 males and 14 females.

In this site, the QM team from NRA Office has also monitored to the Accident Response and Evacuation Plan (the case of losing right arm) through observation, it is found that the field medic has greatly provided first aids to the patient.

Besides, the QM team from NRA Office has monitored to the UXO disposal particularly a BLU26 which was found by an EOD at the GSP point 48q 735891-1846124. Through the monitoring to the disposal of the NPA Team Leader in the site, it is observed that some disposal techniques are not inadequately implemented particularly handling with explosive-electric det and explaining detail all staffs in the teams.

For the Quality Control of the cleared sites, the QM team has randomly conducted QC in the 06 villages with 07 boxes including Donsin, Darkkieng, Donkhane, Tardkoum, Vangkhaen, Hardsun viallge, all details are below:

- Donsim village, Phouvong district, Task ID: NPA\_AC\_2022\_1701016\_003, Area= 40,810 m<sup>2</sup>, QC 2% = 3,06%, 25x25x2 boxes=1,250 m<sup>2</sup>

- Darkkieng, Xansay district Task ID: NPA\_AC\_2022\_1704003\_001, Area=58,520 m<sup>2</sup>, QC 2% = 2,92%, 25x50x2 boxes=2,500 m<sup>2</sup>
- Donkhane village, Xansay district, Task ID: NPA\_AC\_2022\_1704008\_001, Area=85,520 m<sup>2</sup>, QC 2% = 1,50%, 25x25x2 boxes=1,250 m<sup>2</sup>
- Tardkoum village, Xansay district, Task ID: NPA\_AC\_2022\_1704060\_017, Area=81,150 m<sup>2</sup>, QC 2% = 2,46%, 20x50x2boxes=2,000 m<sup>2</sup>
- Tardkoum village, Xansay district, Task ID: NPA\_AC\_2022\_1704060\_016, Area=49,095 m<sup>2</sup>, QC2%=2,46%, 25x25x2boxes=1,250m<sup>2</sup>
- Vangkhaen village, Phouvong district, Task ID: NPA\_AC\_2022\_1705026\_011, Area=28,420 m<sup>2</sup>, QC 2%=2,11%, 20x30x1box=600m<sup>2</sup>
- Hardsun village, Xaysettha district, Task ID: NPA\_AC\_2022\_1701011\_044, Area=89,660 m<sup>2</sup>, QC2%=2,78%, 50x50x1box=2,500 m<sup>2</sup>

Through QC conduct in 7 sites, it is not found any fragment that bigger than a half (1/2) of BLU26, All sites is estimated in percentage as 17,37%.

## VI. Achievements

After the monitoring and evaluation, it can be concluded as following details:

- NPA has a document system and manage information systematically such as Non-Technical Survey Report, Technical Survey Report, Completion Report Level 3, Internal Quality Control Form, Daily Record of Detector Testing, Unidentified UXO Report Form, Accident Response and Evacuation Plan, Staff Blood Group and other documents which were considered as completed as per formulated in its Standard of Operating Procedures;
- NPA has qualified field supervisor as well as the assistant. All technicians have passed the training course, provided by NPA.
- Administration and Control Point, medical support zone, detector storage, vehicle parking, Rubbish pit, toilet, metal collection point, explosive storage, removed UXO storage and Accident Evacuation Plan are technically established and set.
- All clearance teams always conduct UXO disposal within the day if unmovable UXOs were found.
- After completing clearance in any box, Deputy Team Leaders always conduct QC for 30% and Team Leader 15% respectively;
- When all sites are successfully cleared, the assistant to SEOD4 will conduct QC 2% before SEOD4 repeats it again and further issuing handover certificate to the owner of the land.

VII. Pending Issues:

- It is suggested the team leader to pay higher attention in handling with explosives-electric det to ensure safety and implementation of National Standard, Chapter 8 on Explosive Ordnance Disposal, No. 8.1 and No.14 and its SOP, Chapter 5 UXO Disposal, No. 2 .
- It is suggested to keep the monthly medical support drill document in the site as per the National Standard, Chapter 16, Medical Support to UXO Clearance, No.7.5 Briefing and practice.

To sum up, NPA greatly implements UXO clearance in the sites with good quality, effectiveness, safe and consistence with its SOP and National Standard.