

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 0427 /NRA.O. QM
Vientiane Capital, Date : 11 July 2022

To: Director General of NRA Office

Subject: The Mission Report on the Visit and Monitoring to UXO Clearance Operations of
the Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58

I. Introduction

In reference with the Approval letter of the Director General of NRA Office, No. 0369/NRA.O, dated 10th June 2022. In conjunction with Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58 and PRA Xaysomboun and Vientiane provinces, the Quality Management Unit of NRA Office has visited and monitored to the UXO Survey, Clearance and Disposal operations of the Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58. The member of monitoring teams is listed below:

1. Mr. Bounthavy Keovilay, Technician, QM Unit, NRA Office
2. Mr. Bounhieng Soukchanhthalavong, Technician, QM Unit, NRA Office
3. Mr. Phouvong Sisamak, Technician/Driver, QM Unit, NRA Office
4. Mr. Bounpone Thammavongsa, Medic/Technician, QM Unit, NRA Office
5. Mr. Khanthaly Vienthasing, Technician, QM Unit, NRA Office
6. Mr. Khamkeng Yasongkua, Director General of Provincial Department of Labour and Social Welfare, Saysomboun
7. Mr. Kaoyang Pasong, PRA Saysomboun Province
8. Mr. Bounthoom Phongvilay, Deputy Director General of Provincial Department of Labour and Social Welfare, Saysomboun
9. Mr. Phousaythong Bounsongkham, PRA Vientiane Province.

Representatives from the Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58

1. Mr. Phonekeo Oradom, Chief of the Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58;
2. Mr. Bounpone Vongvisay, Field Supervisor, Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58
3. Mr. Petsamone Khounthanon, Field Supervisor, Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58

II. Purpose of Monitoring

To monitor and inspect on the UXO clearance operations which highlight and focus on the techniques of EODs, the administration/control, the technique of UXO Clearance and Disposal to ensure high efficiency, being safer and improving the operations as well as to tracking on the progress of work plan implementation and for controlling as a uniform system in the same standard.

III. The Detail of the Monitoring and Inspection.

The monitoring team has coordinated with the related field supervisors of the Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58 to inspect and monitor the UXO survey, clearance and disposal in the sites as stipulated in the second quarter of annual workplan 2022.

▪ **Personnel of the Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58:**

Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58 implements its UXO survey, clearance and disposal in Long Chaeng district, Saysomboun province with 02 AC teams, 01 RV team (25 staffs in total); in Vang Vieng District, Vientiane Province with 02 combined teams of MRE+TS (12 staffs) and in Kasi District, Vientiane with 01 AC team (13 staffs). Therefore, the total number of staff in the two provinces is 50 people.

▪ **Site visit and monitoring:**

- Visited an ongoing site in Long Chaeng village, Long Chaeng district, Saysomboun Province. The UXO clearance operation in this site is under the support of the Government, it conducted in the area where the new District Administration Office will be constructed. The Task ID: Army58_AC_2022_1803001_001, total S= 19,189 m², cancellation of clearance area (due to the exist building) = 2,713 m², the operation started on 25 May 2022 and completed on 14 June 2022. The clearance team found 02 artillery shells (size 85mm), 01 bullet (size 40 mm), 01 mortar shell (size 60mm), the detectors using in the site were Vallone and Ebinger Large Loop 740 M. The Monitoring team has also observed the process of moving the UXO (moveable UXO) by the technician of Army 58 to destroy at the prepared site in Long Chaeng district for the closing site ceremony at GPS point (48q2838212113242). However, the monitoring team have not participated in this UXO disposal.
- Visited ongoing site (agriculture land) in Nam Kaen village, Kasi district, Vientiane province under the financial support of KOICA, Task ID: Army58_AC_2022_1004055_002, total S=25,619 m², cancellation of clearance area= 4,625 m², the operation started on 23 May 2022 and completed on 21 June 2022. The clearance team found 01 artillery shells (size 105 mm), 03 bullets (size 40mm), 01 mortar shell (WP, size 60mm), 01 mortar shell (HE, size 60mm) and 02 BLU26s. The detectors using in the site were Vallone and Ebinger Large Loop 740 M. The Monitoring team has also observed on the UXO Disposal of team leader. According to the observation and monitoring, it is found that techniques for UXO disposal of the team leader was satisfied (GPS point of disposal 48q 224303-2140014).
- Visited and monitored to the Non-Technical Survey and Technical Survey (NTS, TS) in Phonpheng village, Vang Vieng Distric, Vientiane Province. total number of participants is 98 people, 35 females. 5 evident points were reported by villagers including: 02 BLU17s, 01 M34 WP, 01 artillery shell (size 155mm), 01 artillery shell (Phosphorus, size 75mm), 02 mortar shells (size 81 mm).

Conducted Quality Control of Cleared Site:

- Task ID: Army 58-AC-2022-1803001-001, Area= 19,189 m², NRA_QC=2,08%(4 m²x 100m²). The QC of this cleared site is passed.

- Task ID: Army 58-AC-2021-1004055-001, Area= 12,821 m², NRA_QC=3,11%(8 m²x 50m²) The QC of this cleared site is passed.
- Task ID: Army 58-AC-2022-1004055-002, Area= 25,619 m², NRA_QC=2,34%(6 m²x 100m²). The QC of this cleared site is passed.
- Total area number of sites is 57,629 m², the QM unit, NRA office has conducted 2% QC= 7,53%. These cleared sites are safe and not found any fragments that bigger than a half (1/2) of BLU26 as indicated in the national standards.

IV. Achievement/Good points

After visiting and monitoring, it can be concluded as the follows:

- The Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58 has a document system and manage the information systematically. The relevant sets of documents such as Report of NTS, Report of TS, Completion Report Level 3, the Internal Quality Control Form, Daily Record, Unidentified UXO Report Form, Accident Response and Evacuation Plan, Record of Staff Blood Group and allergy and other related documents which were considered as completed as per formulated in the National Standards.
- The UXO Clearance Operations in the site have been safe.
- The team leader and the assistant have their qualification/competency, all technicians have passed the training course from UXO Lao Training Center and its Training Center.
- The administration/control point, medical operation point, UXO detectors storage, parking point, rubbish pit, toilet, metal fragment storage, explosive storage, and storage for moveable UXO and evacuation Plan are established in consistence with the SOP and National Standards.
- The clearance operations have been implemented in accordance with the annual plan. The information of clearance areas was from TS and NTS teams.
- The clearance operation is conducted along with the disposal operation. in case, if they found an unmovable UXO, the team will destroy it within the day.
- After completing the clearance in any box, the team leader always conducts 10% of QC and later the site leader will also reconduct another 2% of QC on the whole cleared site before issuing handover certificate to the owner of the land.

V. Remaining issues for further improvement.

According to the monitoring and inspection, the QM team, NRA office found that:

- Some of Medical Equipment were expired including
 - 1.) Three triangular bandages (size 6 inches) were expired on 19 August 2021
 - 2.) One Medical Injector (50 cc) was expired on 1 April 2021.
 - 3.) Three pairs of disposable sterile gloves were expired on 1 April 2021

It is required to follow the National Standards, Chapter 16 Medical Support for UXO Clearance, Appendix A.

- The Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58 does not have Handover Form of transportation, Dailly Records of Explosive C4 Utility and Electric dets.
- Lack of other documents or record of the equipment using in the clearance team.

In conclusion, the UXO clearance operations of the Humanitarian UXO Demining of Army 58 in the site have good quality, safe and sufficiency which is in consistence with its SOPs and existing national standards.