



**REPORT ON PROGRESS  
AT THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION**

**STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE,  
STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON  
THEIR DESTRUCTION (Ottawa Convention)**

22-23 June 2011, Geneva, Switzerland

**Co-Chairs,  
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I would like to express my appreciation and acknowledgement to Australia and Uganda for taking Co-chairmanship of the Standing Committee, supporting Cambodia and other States Parties that have reported ~~of~~ responsibility for significant numbers of landmine victims.

Cambodia has strongly fulfilled its commitments made in Cartagena Action Plan, to do its utmost in providing assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and socio-economic reintegration, of mine victims and other persons with disabilities.

Cambodia Socio Economic Survey 2009 indicated that ~~there is~~ 8.1% (approximately 1 million persons) of the total population are having living with disabilities. ~~There are~~ 63,888 Mine/ERW casualties from 1979 to April 2011 were recorded by Cambodian Mine/ERW Victim Information System (CMVIS). ~~In 2010, Yet~~ only 47,246 persons with disabilities received the services in 2010. This includes 14,538 mine survivors and 511 ERW survivors.

Persons s with disabilities and Mine/ERW survivors in Cambodia still have overwhelming needs and, although efforts have been made by our government with our limited resources together with donors and development partners to address their needs.

**Co-Chairs, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Since the 10MSP, we would like to highlight the main progress and achievements to help improve the social welfare for persons with disabilities including landmine/ERW survivors as follow:

- Coordination between Ministry of Social Affairs, Veteran and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY) and Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA) in reporting progress made in Cambodia in implementing the Cartagena Action Plan on victim assistance related issues. The information has been put in writing for relevant uses and make aware at ground level through peer to peer meetings.
- Improvement of relationship and respect among development partners, especially AusAID, UNICEF, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY) and the Disability Action Council (DAC), which is useful in reducing turnaround time for decision and action related to disability issues.

- MoSVY, CMAA and DAC leadership of National Disability Coordination Committee (NDCC) mechanism and its 6 Sub-Committees were fully aware and agreed on actions to be taken in ensuring implementation and reviewing of the NPA-PWD as well as promoting ownership and capacity of NDCC and its 6 sub-committees.
- Development of required legal documents to implement the Law on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. As results, 4 Sub-Decrees have been approved.
- Subsequent legal documents for supporting the implementation of national disability legislation are drafted for discussion and approval.
- Good communication and cooperation between MoSVY and IOs involving in PRCs to ensure the effective implementation of the MoU on Implementation of Rehabilitation Services in Cambodia.
- Promotion of CBR services in 18 out of 24 provinces as means to mobilise and involve community to address the needs of persons with disabilities.
- Mobilization of technical inputs and support in collecting reference information to prepare initial documents with useful and clear information on benefits and consequences toward ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Its Optional Protocol.
- Health services provisions to new mine/ERW survivors are improved in some communities affected by landmine/ERW. The monitoring on mine/ERW survivors assistance services are regularly conducted in 2011 in mine affected areas.

With these progress and achievements, the challenges in assisting the Mine Victim and person with disability are still remaining including the limited capacity of staff, financial and technical assistance, and lack of awareness to ensure effective participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities for decision making, planning, implementation plan, evaluation and monitoring process.

Cambodia along with development partners will:

- Organize a national workshop to raise awareness of the Cartagena Action Plan within the relevant stakeholders to promote victim assistance services provision.
- Work to ensure real and effective implementation of national laws and policies.
- Facilitate understanding, contribute to and commit in addressing the needs and rights of persons with disabilities by government and all stakeholders including persons with disabilities.
- Promote the implementation of the National Plan of Action for Person with disability including landmine/ERW survivors at ground level.

From this important meeting, Cambodia hopes that, it will additionally enhance-induce the States having important-significant numbers of landmines/ERW survivors in country in order to match their services with survivors' needs. Cambodia wishes-alsobelieves that this meeting will contribute to the preparations for the 11MSP in November in Phnom Penh where the legacies of landmine/ERW can be felt and which is the birth place of mine ban movement.

I would like to take this occasion to thank the respective governments, UN agencies, IOs and NGOs who contribute to address the needs of persons with disabilities including mine/ERW victims and we are ready to work with you all for the next to advance our cause at the 11MSP-in Phnom Penh.

***Thank you for your attention.***

