
Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

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English only

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Item 10 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Clearing mined areas and mine risk education and reduction:
Conclusions and recommendations related to the mandate of
the Committee on Article 5 Implementation**

Updated Work Plan

Submitted by Cambodia

The decision taken by the Fourth Review Conference of the States Parties on the request submitted by Cambodia for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of antipersonnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention¹, indicates that:

“The Conference, in recalling that the implementation of Cambodia’s national demining plan may be affected by pending survey and the agreement on work plans to address anti-personnel mines in un-demarcated border areas, requested that Cambodia submit to the States Parties, by 15 August 2022 and 30 April 2024, an updated work plans for the remaining period covered by the extension request. The Conference requested that these work plans contain an updated list of all areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, annual projections of which areas would be dealt with each year by which organizations during the remaining period covered by the request, and a revised detailed budget.

Also, in granting the request, the Conference noted that both Cambodia and all States Parties would benefit if Cambodia’s national demining plan incorporated its intentions concerning mined areas it has reported along the Cambodia - Thailand border, including by providing additional clarity on the location and status of areas suspected to contain mines along that border. The Conference noted the importance of Cambodia keeping the States Parties informed by reporting on information on and plans to deal with mined areas along Cambodia’s common border with Thailand.”

On 29 August 2022, Cambodia requested in writing an extension for the submission of its work plan due to the “momentous results which are anticipated for the remaining six months of 2022, which will drastically change the work plan for the remaining period and will result in the need to submit an additional, revised work plan in the near future, adding unnecessary administrative costs to the CMAA at a time of great achievement.”

Cambodia’s Updated Work Plan was received on 10 May 2023.

¹ APLC/CONF/2019/5.



Annex*

[English only]

Revised Workplan Cambodia

1. Time period of the work plan

This revised workplan is to be implemented for a period of three years from 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2025, the deadline to which Cambodia was granted to complete Article 5 obligation.

2. Remaining challenge to be addressed by the work plan

As of 01 January 2023, Cambodia still has 681,284,511 sqm of land contaminated by anti-personnel (AP) mines covering 12 provinces recorded in the national database. Table 1 below presents AP mine contamination records and perceived degree of difficulty by province.

Table 1

No.	Provinces	# Minefield	Size (SQM)	Degree of difficulty
1.	PREAH VIHEAR	904	149,401,611	High
2.	BATTAMBANG	1,251	112,751,444	High
3.	BANTEAY MEANCHEY	1,664	103,581,047	High
4.	ODDAR MEANCHEY	1,011	90,303,393	High
5.	PURSAT	722	72,308,226	High
6.	KOH KONG	355	22,846,585	High
7.	PAILIN	327	17,654,046	High
8.	SIEMREAP	568	48,257,278	Medium
9.	KAMPONG THOM	410	37,589,564	Medium
10.	KRATIE	103	15,903,394	Medium
11.	MONDUL KIRI	62	8,399,249	Medium
12.	RATANAK KIRI	15	2,288,674	Medium
Total		7,392	681,284,511¹	

¹ Included AP minefields in workbench (137.9 km²), newly discovered AP minefields submitted by operators and subject to verification by the CMAA.

* Annex is reproduced as received.

3. Survey activities to determine the actual location, size and other characteristics of mined areas and methodologies and standards to be employed

The baseline survey of Cambodia was completed in 2020. This included the eastern provinces mostly contaminated by explosive remnants of war (ERW), including cluster munitions. With this, the sector has a full picture of the weapons contamination in the country.

Cambodia will continue to deploy survey teams to revisit previously identified AP minefields (recorded on the national database) in order to release minefields, if applicable, through non-technical survey (NTS). The NTS work will accurately define the location and the size of remaining contaminated area to support the national planning and prioritization process, and to ensure that clearance resources are directed to areas actually requiring clearance. CMAA estimated nationally that on average 20 percent of AP contaminated land can be released through NTS, leaving 80 percent to be addressed by technical survey and/or clearance.

CMAC, the HALO Trust, MAG and NPA are currently implementing NTS. The CMAA will continue to encourage these operators and others to expand and implement NTS, where appropriate to promote effective and efficient land release and utilization of resources to achieve the 2025 target.

With potential lessons learned from the field, the CMAA is in the process of reviewing the Cambodian Mine Action Standards on Non-Technical Survey and Technical Survey to ensure safe, effective and efficient land release activities meeting the local context.

4. Clearance activities to take place over the period of the work plan

The Cambodian mine action sector has a mixed toolkit of manual, mechanical and animal detection system to address minefields with different degrees of difficulty and size. Clearance operators have the liberty to decide on the deployment of the tools they have to tackle the minefields in their workplans. The CMAA Quality Management Teams (QMT) will continue to conduct QA/QC of the operators' field activities to inspect products (cleared land), processes, and provide recommendations to improve the safety, effectiveness, and efficiency of operations.

From 2020 to 2022, Cambodia released 393,281,468 sqm of AP minefields. Land release in 2021 saw an increase of 124% from 2020 and land release in 2022 saw an increase of 171% from 2021. Table 2 presents AP minefields released from 2020 to 2022.

Table 2

No.	Provinces	AP minefields released in 2020 (sqm)	AP minefields released in 2021 (sqm)	AP minefields released in 2022 (sqm)
1.	BANTEAY MEANCHEY	13,142,442	19,010,105	13,847,984
2.	BATTAMBANG	30,789,997	40,317,088	46,887,239
3.	KAMPONG CHAM	216,285	22,138	475,355
4.	KAMPONG CHHNANG	1,079,235	985,066	1,488,577
5.	KAMPONG SPEU	181,724	935,164	24,528,794
6.	KAMPONG THOM	1,736,268	2,566,528	12,742,658
7.	KAMPOT			15,858,187
8.	KANDAL			56,222
9.	KEP		190,644	878,660
10.	KOH KONG	91,300		
11.	KRATIE	1,119,006	899,479	1,213,921
12.	ODDAR MEANCHEY	17,748,242	20,681,788	13,589,747
13.	PAILIN	8,920,408	8,109,986	7,440,078
14.	PHNOM PENH			1,380,306
15.	PREAH SIHANOUK			1,922,013
16.	PREAH VIHEAR	5,336,708	5,051,401	9,129,058
17.	PREY VENG			5,900
18.	PURSAT	2,199,463	7,385,385	11,181,255
19.	RATANAK KIRI			460,036
20.	SIEMREAP	7,339,655	5,684,331	13,757,672
21.	SVAY RIENG			9,646,085
22.	TAKEO			4,233,932
23.	TBOUNG KHMUM			817,953
Total		89,900,733	111,839,103	191,541,632

Of the remaining challenge: 681,284,511 sqm, 353,402,819 sqm (52 percent) is located less than seven (7) kilometers from the borders and 327,881,692 sqm (48 percent) is located greater than seven (7) kilometers from the borders of neighboring countries. To comply with the Executive Order issued by the Office of the Council of Ministers dated 04 January 2022, the CMAA will coordinate activities to release AP minefields located greater than seven (7) kilometers from the borders in 2023 and the remaining AP minefields from late 2023 to 2025.

Clearance in 2023 and 2024 will have to be prioritized by the affected communities under the coordination and facilitation of the provincial Mine Action Planning Units (MAPU) to ensure that clearance addresses the needs of the affected communities. The provinces targeted to be mine-free by end of 2023 are highlighted in green, and the rest by 2025. Table 3, presents AP minefields located less and greater than seven (7) kilometers from the borders with neighboring countries.

Table 3

Provinces	Less than 7 kilometers from border		Greater than 7 kilometers from border	
	# Minefield	Sqm	# Minefield	Sqm
PREAH VIHEAR	523	96,396,893	381	53,004,718
BATTAMBANG	482	32,109,629	769	80,641,815
BANTEAY MEANCHEY	1,412	85,312,931	252	18,268,116
ODDAR MEANCHEY	660	69,454,552	351	20,848,841
PURSAT	395	34,581,094	327	37,727,132
KOH KONG	324	20,403,677	31	2,442,908
PAILIN	256	12,430,240	71	5,223,806
SIEMREAP	0	0	568	48,257,278
KAMPONG THOM	0	0	410	37,589,564
KRATIE	13	917,225	90	14,986,169
MONDUL KIRI	0	0	62	8,399,249
RATANAK KIRI	10	1,796,578	5	492,096
Total	4,075	353,402,819	3,317	327,881,692

5. Annual cost and resource mobilization

Costing of the revised workplan is calculated based on costing projected in the NMAS three-year implementation plan (2021-2023). It was projected that to release 681,284,511 sqm, the sector will require \$175,090,119. Table 4 presents annual AP minefield clearance target and budget required each year. Required financial resource in 2024 and 2025 will be adjusted later to reflect the increasing cost of releasing minefields with higher density of mines and harder terrain when Cambodia move closer to the border areas.

Table 4

Year	AP minefields released (sqm)	Financial resource (USD) *
2023	345,284,511	\$ 88,738,119
2024	168,000,000	\$ 43,176,000
2025	168,000,000	\$ 43,176,000
Total	681,284,511	\$ 175,090,119

* Costs of clearing ATM and cluster munitions, EORE, EOD, victim assistance, training, management etc. are not included.

CMAA, representing the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) and clearance operators will continue to engage with current and potential donors to mobilize resources required for the

sector. The Royal Government of Cambodia contributed \$30 million for mine clearance in 2023 and will continue about the same level in 2024 and 2025.

The Mine-Free Village program (an initiative to clear all the minefields in a village in order to declare the village mine-free) has been recently introduced to attract potential donors (including foundations, associations, private sector, individuals) to mobilize additional resource to expedite clearance progress toward achieving 2025 target. In 2022, about \$18 million was mobilized to fund clearance of AP minefields.

6. Capability/capacity

CMAA will continue to coordinate clearance activities to ensure concerted efforts are directed to national priorities addressing the needs of the affected communities through clearance of minefields prioritized under the coordination and facilitation of the provincial mine action planning units (MAPU). Currently, there are eight operators involved in AP minefields survey and/or clearance, and they are listed on table 5.

Table 5

Operators	Personnel
a. Cambodian Mine Action Center (CMAC)	1,827
b. Royal Cambodian Army (RCA)	1,150
c. The HALO Trust (HALO)	1,150
d. National Center for Peace Keeping Forces, Mine/ERW Clearance (NPMEC)	806
e. Mine Advisor Group (MAG)	600
f. Norwegian People Aid (NPA)	89
g. Anti-Personnel Landmines Detection Product Development (APOPO)	59
h. Cambodian Self Help Demining (CSHD)	35
Total	5,716

7. Potential risk factors/challenges

The sector perceives the following challenges may affect the sector’s ability to achieve the targets of this revised workplan:

- a. The sector does not receive financial resources it needs, and
- b. Un-demarcated border area preventing clearance of minefields along border.

The CMAA will monitor the challenges, seek ways to overcome them, and report progress to the Ottawa Treaty States Parties through the Implementation Support Unit (ISU).

8. Monitoring and review of the work plan

Progress in the implementation of this revised workplan will be monitored and measured annually by the CMAA based on information and data extracted from the national database and other sources. CMAA will review progress in the implementation of this revised workplan in April 2024 and report to States Parties through the ISU.

Efforts to exclude civilians from the affected areas until they have been addressed

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) remains an important component until all known contamination has been cleared to reduce the potential incidence of casualties and the negative impact of mines and ERW on communities. Building on the successful implementation of EORE in previous years, CMAA will continue to work with EORE operators to target EORE to high-risk groups, including the mobile population.

Cambodia will also work to strengthen the capacity of operators to provide effective EORE in high-risk areas. CMAA will also ensure that EORE remains mainstreamed in the school curriculum, consulting with Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS) to update EORE in both primary and secondary school curriculums when needed. In addition, community-based risk education will be reinforced, developing EORE messages and monitoring such activities. The sector aims to provide EORE to 1.4 million men, women, boys and girls each year from 2023 to 2025.

CMAA will continue to organize National Mine Awareness Day campaigns, and install mine awareness billboards in high-risk areas to maintain/raise awareness of the public on the danger of mines and ERW to reduce potential casualties.

9. Government efforts to link mine action to development, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals, and consideration of gender issues in the implementation of Article 5

a. Mine action and development

In a small country like Cambodia, mine action and development are closely related. In 2021, GICHD completed a study to understand the sustainable development outcome of mine action. The study presents evidence of the multidimensional and transformative role of mine action by identifying its direct contribution to 13 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to at least 48 of their targets in Cambodia. Hence, the mine action sector has clearly contributed to the five dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: partnership, peace, people, planet and prosperity.

After the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the UN General Assembly in 2015, Cambodia adapted and adopted all of the 17 SDGs and added an additional, 18th Goal entitled 'End the negative impact of mines/ ERW and promote victim assistance'.

b. Gender mainstreaming in mine action

Cambodia will continue to implement the Gender Mainstreaming in Mine Action Plan (GMAP 2021-2025), which is aligned to Goal 8, objective 3 of NMAS 2018-2025. This includes revising the gender mainstreaming guidelines and strengthening the capacity of the sector in implementing such guidelines. In addition, Cambodia will promote participation of women in mine action processes, services for survivors, EORE and advocacy activities by updating record and report formats through inclusion of age, sex, and disability data.

10. Cambodian mine action sector coordination mechanism

There are three levels of coordination in the mine action sector in Cambodia. The first (top) level is the Technical Working Group on Mine Action, the second (middle) level is the Mine Action Coordination Committee, and the third (bottom) level is the Technical Reference Group.

a. Technical Working Group on Mine Action

CMAA will continue to lead the Technical Working Group on Mine Action (TWG-MA). The TWG-MA is the consultative mechanism between the Government and development partners to discuss policy issues with the aim of improving overall coordination, promoting alignment and harmonization of aid for the mine action sector. The TWG-MA mandate is to support Government leadership in coordinating with relevant RGC Ministries, TWGs from other sectors, development partners and NGO led activities and resources, and to promote aid effectiveness consistent with the Cambodian Declaration on Enhancing Aid Effectiveness and the Royal Government of Cambodia's Action Plan on Harmonization, Alignment and Results.

b. Mine Action Coordination Committee

To ensure better coordination, CMAA will continue to convene the Mine Action Coordination Committee (MACC) meeting. The MACC allows mine action stakeholders to discuss strategy implementation, operational matters, share information on the development of the sector and allows CMAA to coordinate the sector more effectively.

c. Technical Reference Group

At the technical level, the CMAA will continue to convene Technical Reference Groups meetings to facilitate technical coordination and address technical issues. The following are the established Technical Reference Groups:

- Survey and Clearance,
- Information Management,
- Victim Assistance,
- Explosive Ordnance Risk Education,
- Gender Mainstreaming,
- Performance Monitoring,
- Capacity Development, and
- Cluster Munitions.

Attachments:

Annex 1: List of AP minefields remaining to be addressed from 01 January 2023 breakdown by district.

Annex 1

Provinces	Districts	# of AP minefields	Size of AP minefields (sqm)	Degree of difficulty
Preah Vihear (PVH)	Chey Saen	29	2,823,188	High
	Chhaeb	5	268,900	
	Choam Khsant	710	131,286,270	
	Kuleaen	84	10,743,801	
	Preah Vihear	1	35,324	
	Rovieng	36	2,126,948	
	Sangkum Thmei	31	1,686,231	
	Tbaeng Mean chey	8	430,949	
Total PVH		904	149,401,611	
Battambang (BTB)	Aek Phnum	49	9,097,808	High
	Banan	37	4,360,628	
	Bavel	14	899,108	
	Kamrieng	39	1,964,843	
	Koas Krala	192	25,478,981	
	Moung Ruessei	3	64,750	
	Phnum Proek	69	2,346,732	
	Rotanak Mondol	96	8,208,667	
	Rukhak Kiri	2	25,657	
	Samlout	665	54,935,143	
	Sampov Lun	36	1,499,174	
	Sangkae	18	1,585,925	
	Thma Koul	31	2,284,028	
Total BTB		1,251	112,751,444	
Banteay Meanchey (BMC)	Malai	566	37,876,980	High
	Mongkol Bourei	6	59,891	
	Ou Chrov	123	13,033,727	
	Paoy Paet	60	4,728,745	
	Phnum Srok	6	211,396	
	Preah Netr Preah	14	904,936	
	Serei Saophoan	4	35,676	
	Svay Chek	249	18,315,707	
	Thma Puok	636	28,413,989	
Total BMC		1,664	103,581,047	
Oddar Meanchey (OMC)	Anlong Veaeng	275	24,198,696	High
	Banteay Ampil	206	12,749,010	
	Chong Kai	7	223,468	
	Samraong	288	31,802,164	
	Trapeang Prasat	235	21,330,055	
Total OMC		1,011	90,303,393	
PURSAT (PUS)	Kandieng	3	62,141	High
	Phnum Kravanh	214	25,358,034	
	Veal Veaeng	505	46,888,051	
Total PUS		722	72,308,226	

KOH KONG (KOG)	Botum Sakor	26	1,475,087	High
	Kaoh Kong	33	1,623,706	
	Kiri Sakor	7	1,536,592	
	Mondol Seima	276	17,621,716	
	Srae Ambel	1	102,048	
	Thma Bang	12	487,436	
Total KOG		355	22,846,585	
PAILIN (PLN)	Pailin	252	12,974,523	High
	Sala Krau	75	4,679,523	
Total PLN		327	17,654,046	
SIEM REAP (SRP)	Angkor Chum	80	3,584,725	Medium
	Angkor Thum	34	2,301,732	
	Banteay srei	21	1,522,239	
	Chi Kraeng	152	14,734,200	
	Kralanh	2	6,470	
	Prasat Bakong	48	3,431,570	
	Puok	26	2,735,117	
	Siem Reap	1	3,197	
	Soutr Nikom	75	9,436,818	
	Srei Snam	18	1,557,948	
	Svay Leu	47	3,370,991	
	Varin	64	5,572,271	
Total SRP		568	48,257,278	
KAMPONG THOM (KPT)	Baray	1	29,656	Medium
	Kampong Svay	79	4,433,845	
	Prasat Ballangk	101	12,242,415	
	Prasat Sambour	3	84,811	
	Sandan	16	1,621,022	
	Santuk	43	3,011,241	
	Stoung	146	14,646,132	
	Taing Kouk	21	1,520,442	
Total KPT		410	37,589,564	
KRATIE (KRA)	Chetr Borei	2	122,836	Medium
	Chhloung	1	23,143	
	Sambour	3	466,971	
	Snuol	97	15,290,444	
Total KRA		103	15,903,394	
MONDUL KIRI (MDK)	Kaev Seima	7	488,138	Medium
	Kaoh Nheak	42	5,851,009	
	Ou Reang	2	98,770	
	Pech Chreada	4	1,625,472	
	Saen Monourom	7	335,860	
Total MDK		62	8,399,249	
RATANAK KIRI (RTK)	Ou Ya Dav	15	2,288,674	Medium
Total RTK		15	2,288,674	