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STATEMENT OF CAMBODIA ON THE UPDATE WORK-PLAN ON ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION

INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING TO THE ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Geneva, Switzerland On 19-21 June 2023

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Cambodia has already submitted its Revised Workplan to the **Committee on Article 5 implementation**. Please allow me to provide summary on the Revised Workplan as follows:

Achievements from 2020 to 2022

- 1. For the first three years of the 2nd extension request from 2020 to 2022, Cambodia had cleared and released **393,281,468 sqm** of AP minefields with the destruction of **27,083** AP mines, **410** AT mines and **35,341** items of ERW including cluster munitions.
- Cumulatively, from the inception of humanitarian mine action in Cambodia from 1992 to 2022, Cambodia had cleared and released 2,579 km2 of landmine and ERW contaminated area with the destruction of 1,155,419 AP mines, 26,135 AT mines and 3,039,219 items of ERW including cluster munitions.

Remaining contamination and plan from 2023 to 2025

- As of 01 January 2023, Cambodia still has 681,284,511 sqm contaminated by AP mines covering 7,392 minefields.
- 4. Of the remaining challenge, Cambodia planned to clear and release **345,284,511** sqm in 2023, **168,000,000** sqm in 2024, and **168,000,000** sqm in 2025 with the total funding requirement of **US\$175** million needed to complete the job.

5. By end of 2023, Cambodia will have **18 provinces** cleared of known AP minefields and the remaining **7 provinces** bordering Thailand to be addressed by 2025, the deadline to which Cambodia was granted to complete Article 5 obligation.

Resource mobilization

- 6. In July 2022, our Prime Minister mobilized over **US\$18 million** from private sector and individuals for mine clearance. In early 2023, the Royal Government of Cambodia established "Foundation for Mine-Free Cambodia 2025" and has allocated **US\$30 million** from the national budget to clear and release **180,000,000 sqm**. The Royal Government of Cambodia has planned similar amount for 2024 and 2025. The Government's commitment to achieve a mine-free Cambodia by 2025 is unshaken.
- 7. Representing the Royal Government of Cambodia, the National Mine Action Authority (CMAA) will continue organizing and leading the meetings of Technical Working Group on Mine Action to ensure continued consultation between the Government and development partners, to discuss policy issues, funding requirements, alignment of efforts with the Government's priorities, inform development of the sector, and to keep the development partners and donors engaged to the fullest extent possible.

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education

8. Explosive Ordnance Risk Education remains an important component of mine action until all known contamination has been cleared. 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. CMAA will also ensure that EORE remains mainstreamed in the school curriculum and update when needed. In addition, community-based risk education will be reinforced, developing EORE messages and monitoring such activities. The sector aims to reach 1.4 million men, women, boys and girls each year from 2023 to 2025 through different means.

Gender mainstreaming

9. Cambodia will continue to implement the Gender Mainstreaming in Mine Action Plan (GMAP 2021-2025). The National Standard on Gender Mainstreaming in Mine Action is in its final stage of development and guidelines on gender mainstreaming have been revised to make them more practical. Strengthening

the capacity of the sector in implementing such guidelines will be a priority. In addition, Cambodia will promote participation of women in mine action processes, services for survivors, EORE activities by updating record and report formats through inclusion of age, sex, and disability data.

Monitoring of Article 5 Implementation

10. Cambodia will monitor the progress on Article 5 implementation and take corrective actions as needed to ensure the plan target is achieved and surpass where it is possible. Progress will be measured and assessed against the targets.

Potential Challenges

- 11. Potential challenges that can affect Cambodia ability to achieve the 2025 target are the funding gap and the access to clearing minefields along the border with Thailand.
- 12. CMAA are working with the Royal Cambodian Army to establish a systematic mechanism to clear minefields along the border areas. CMAA is also supporting the Joint Border Committee to cooperate with Thailand in this regard. We understand that both countries are eager to expedite this process.

Thank you.