

## **PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS**

### **COMMITTEE ON ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION (Colombia, France (Chair), Iraq, and Sweden )**

#### **Intersessional Meetings 19 – 21 June 2023**

#### **PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 5 BY CAMBODIA**

##### **I. Progress in implementation (OAP Action #8, #22)**

1. Cambodia reported for the period 1 January 2022 to March 2023. Cambodia reported releasing 2,200 mined areas measuring 191,541,632 square metres, including 32,276,782 square metres cancelled, 70,789,659 square metres reduced and 88,475,191 square metres cleared, destroying in the process 13,048 anti-personnel mines and 15,770 items of explosive ordnance.
2. Cambodia also reported that it identified 909 mined areas measuring 137,940,613 square metres through reports submitted by operators and subject to verification by the CMAA.
3. The Committee observed that the information provided by Cambodia on progress in implementation allowed for comparability with that provided in its 2019 extension request. The Committee observed that progress in implementation was less than that projected in Cambodia's 2019 extension request. The Committee welcomed Cambodia providing information on progress in accordance with land release methodology employed, using the Guide to Reporting and in accordance with International Mine Action Standards (IMAS), and disaggregated by type of contamination (Action #8, Action #22).

##### **II. Clarity regarding remaining challenge (OAP Action #18, #22)**

4. The Committee observed that Cambodia reported some clarity<sup>1</sup> concerning its remaining challenge (Action #18). Cambodia reported a remaining challenge of 7,392 suspected hazardous areas (SHA) measuring 681,284,511 square metres located in 12 Provinces (Action #22).
5. Action #22 of the Oslo Action Plan (OAP) requests States to report in a manner consistent with IMAS by providing information on the remaining challenges, disaggregating by SHAs and 'confirmed hazardous areas' (CHA) and their relative size, as well as by type of contamination. The Committee recalled that while Cambodia had indicated in 2020 that, "Confirmed hazardous areas (CHA) are not stored in the national database but in the database of its implementing partners". The Committee noted that Cambodia had not provided updated information in its Article 7 Report on its efforts in implementation of Action #22 and would welcome further information in this regard.
6. Action #18 of the OAP requests States that have not yet done so to identify the precise perimeter of mined areas, to the extent possible, and establish evidence based, accurate baselines of contamination based on information collected from all relevant sources. The Committee recalled

---

<sup>1</sup> "Some clarity" has been used when a State Party has provided a summary table listing some information related to the number of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in each region / province / district within the State.

that Cambodia had reported completion of its baseline survey in December 2020 that resulted in the identification of 8,923 areas affected by anti-personnel mines measuring 801 square kilometres and that this data is stored in an IMSMA database and updated to support prioritisation and effective clearance. The Committee observed that while the baseline survey forms part of Cambodia's efforts to establish an evidence-based, accurate baseline of contamination, Cambodia was still in the process of identifying the precise perimeter of mined areas and would welcome updated information from Cambodia on these efforts.

7. Cambodia reported on its efforts to establish its baseline through inclusive consultations and that it will promote the participation of women in mine action processes, services for survivors, risk education and advocacy activities by updating records and reporting formats through inclusion of age, sex, and disability data (Action #18).

### **III. National plans for clearance and survey (OAP Actions #1, #2, #3, #19, #20, #26)**

8. Cambodia reported having a National Mine Action Strategy in place for the period of 2018-2025 (Action #2), and a 3-year implementation plan for the period of 2021-2023 (Action #20).

9. The Committee observed that Cambodia in its updated work plan submitted in 2023 indicated adjusted milestones based on new evidence, including information on the number of areas and the amount of area to be addressed annually and on how priorities have been established (Action #20). In this regard, Cambodia projects to 1,158 mined areas in 5 Provinces measuring 112,438,159 square metres in 2023, including;

- 568 mined areas in Siem Reap measuring 48,257,278 square metres.
- 410 mined areas in Kampong Thom measuring 37,589,564 square metres.
- 62 mined areas in Mondul Kiri measuring 8,399,249 square metres.
- 103 mined areas in Kratie including 90 mined areas measuring 14,986,169 square metres, and 13 mined areas measuring 917,225 square metres located less than 7 kilometres from the border.
- 15 mined areas in Ratanak Kiri, including 5 mined areas measuring 492,096 square metres, and 10 mined areas measuring 1,796,578 square metres located less than 7 kilometres from the border.

10. Cambodia, in its updated workplan submitted in 2023 reported an annual national financial contribution towards implementation of US \$30 million for the period 2023-2025. Cambodia also reported on relevant Government plans, policies and legal frameworks for mine action activities (Action #1).

11. Cambodia, in its updated workplan submitted in 2023 reported on its efforts to strengthen partnerships and integrate responses between mine action related activities and humanitarian response plans, peacebuilding, development or human rights plans, where relevant (Action #6).

12. Cambodia, in its updated workplan submitted in 2023, reported on its efforts to ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered, including continued implementation of activities under the Gender Mainstreaming in Mine Action Plan, (2021-2025), that is aligned to Cambodia's national mine action strategy (Action #3).

13. Cambodia reported on its current national capacity to address mined areas, including personnel of the Cambodian Mine Action Centre, the Royal Cambodian Army (RCA), the National Centre for Peacekeeping Forces (NPMEC) and Cambodian Self-Help Demining (CSHD) (Action #26).

#### **IV. Efficient and expedient implementation (OAP Actions #5, #9, #27)**

14. The Committee observed that Cambodia in its updated work plan submitted in 2023 reported on its efforts to capture potential lessons learned from the field, and that 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. The Committee welcomed the update from Cambodia and would welcome further information on the proposed timeline and process of approval of the NMAS (Action #5).
15. Cambodia reported on its efforts to establish and maintain a national information management system, including on-going training for its information management unit and technical support from international partners (Action #9).
16. Cambodia reported on its efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of survey and clearance, including knowledge sharing on mine action program in Cambodia to the countries, programs, partners and relevant stakeholders (Action #27).

#### **V. Actions in accordance with plans in extension requests and decisions on them**

17. In considering Cambodia's 2019 extension request, the Fourth Review Conference requested Cambodia to submit updated information on several matters. The Committee welcomes the information provided by Cambodia on:
  - Annual progress and results of baseline survey activities, progress on implementation in a manner consistent with IMAS, efforts to mitigate the impact of anti-personnel mines through mine risk education and reduction efforts as well as on resources made available to support implementation efforts, and updates regarding the structure of Cambodia's mine action program, including existing and new organisational and institutional capacities to respond to residual contamination following completion, and;
  - The progress and results of baseline survey in the remaining 73 districts, disaggregated in a manner consistent with the IMAS and their impact on annual targets as given in Cambodia's work plan.
18. The Committee would welcome updated information from Cambodia on the following decisions of the Fourth Review Conference:
  - Progress made in implementation of the planned agreement between the Cambodia and Thailand General Border Committee regarding plans to address anti-personnel contamination in border areas, and;
  - Updates regarding the deployment of 2,000 deminers by the Cambodian Armed Forces, with respect to gender balance in survey and clearance teams, timeline for recruitment, training and deployment.
18. The Committee recalled that in considering Cambodia's 2019 extension request, the Fourth Review Conference requested Cambodia to submit to the States Parties, by 15 August 2022 and 30 April 2024, 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. The Committee observed that Cambodia had acted on the decisions of the 4RC by submitting an updated workplan in April 2023.

#### **VI. Mine risk education and reduction (OAP Actions #28-32)**

20. Cambodia reported on its efforts to effectively exclude the population from mined areas, including mine risk education and reduction programmes (MRE/R), the methodologies used, challenges faced and results achieved disaggregated by gender and age. Cambodia reported its aim to provide MRE/R to 1.4 million men, women, boys and girls each year from 2023 to 2025 (Action #32).
21. Cambodia reported on its efforts to integrate MRE/E into wider efforts including into ongoing survey, clearance and victim assistance activities and the school curriculum (Action #28).
22. Cambodia reported on its efforts to develop MRE/R programmes on the basis of a needs assessment, and that they are sensitive to gender, age, disability and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account, including the use of Cambodian Mine Victim Information System (CMVIS), established in 1994 to support the systematic collection, analysis, interpretation and dissemination of information about casualties of landmines (Action #29).
23. Cambodia in its updated workplan submitted in 2023 reported on its efforts to prioritise people most at risk and that its MRE/R programmes will continue to target high-risk groups and high-risk areas, including mobile population groups. (Action #30).
24. Cambodia reported on its efforts to build sustainable national capacities and highlighted the national capacities in place to deliver MRE/R programmes with the ability to adapt to changing needs and contexts (Action #31).

#### **VII. Challenges in implementation (OAP Action #8)**

25. The Committee observed that Cambodia provided quality information on challenges in implementation, including risks of a lack of financial resources and un-demarcated borders areas preventing clearance of minefields along the border.

**The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker**  
**Article 5 Implementation**  
**Cambodia**  
**CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS**

Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 28 July)
<b>#1</b>	# States Parties that report, having included Convention implementation activities in national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, humanitarian response plans and national strategies for the inclusion of persons with disabilities, where appropriate						
	% mine-affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention						
<b>#2</b>	% mine-affected States Parties that report having evidence-based, costed and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place						
<b>#3</b>	% affected States Parties whose national work plans and strategies integrate gender and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account						
	# women in States Parties' delegations attending Convention meetings						
<b>#5</b>	% States Parties that have updated their national standards to address new challenges and ensure the employment of best practices, taking into consideration the latest IMAS						The Committee welcomed the update from Cambodia and would welcome further information on the proposed timeline and process of approval of the NMAS
<b>#6</b>	# States Parties that report having included mine action related activities within their humanitarian response plans, peacebuilding, development or human rights plans, where relevant						
<b>#8</b>	# States Parties that prepare their Article 7 reports using the Guide to Reporting						
	# States Parties that report on progress and challenges during formal and informal meetings						
<b>#9</b>	% States Parties that report having a sustainable national information management system in place						

SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OF MINED AREAS							
Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 28 July)
#18	% affected States Parties that have established an accurate and evidence-based contamination baseline no later than the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties in 2021 (and by each year thereafter if not all affected States Parties have done so by 19MSP)						The Committee observed that while the baseline survey forms part of Cambodia's efforts to establish an evidence-based, accurate baseline of contamination, Cambodia was still in the process of identifying the precise perimeter of mined areas and would welcome updated information from Cambodia on these efforts.
	% affected States Parties who report having established their baseline through inclusive consultations with women, girls, boys and men						
#19	% affected States Parties presenting work plans for the implementation of Article 5 by the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties (and MSPs thereafter and by each year thereafter if not all affected States Parties have done so by 18MSP)						
#20	# affected States Parties that have reported annual updates and adjusted milestones to their national work plans in their 30 April transparency reports						
	# States Parties that have fulfilled their obligations under Article 5						
#21	# States Parties that apply the provisions of the Convention to anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature (for the purpose of this indicator: survey, clear and report)						
#22	% of affected States Parties reporting on the remaining challenge and progress made in accordance with IMAS						The Committee would welcome information on Cambodia's efforts to report in a manner consistent with IMAS by providing information on the remaining challenges, disaggregating by 'suspected hazardous areas' and 'confirmed hazardous areas' and their relative size, as well as by type of contamination.
	% of affected States Parties providing survey and clearance data in Article 5 extension requests and Article 7 reports that disaggregates by type of contamination						
#23	% extension requests that include detailed, costed and multi-year work plans for the extension period						
	% extension requests that are submitted in accordance with the process established by the States Parties						

#24	% extension requests that include appropriate plans for risk education and reduction activities						
#25	% States Parties that have completed their Article 5 obligations and that submit voluntary declarations of completion						
#26	% affected States Parties that include provisions for addressing previously unknown mined areas in their national strategies and/or completion plans						
	% affected States Parties that report having put in place sustainable national capacities to address the discovery of previously unknown mined areas						
	% States Parties that discover previously unknown mined areas, including newly mined areas, that apply the decision of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties						
#27	# States Parties that report promoting research, application and sharing of innovative technological means						
<b>MINE RISK EDUCATION AND REDUCTION</b>							
Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information requested from the Committee (deadline 28 July)
#28	% affected States Parties that report having included mine risk education and reduction programmes in their humanitarian response and protection plans and/or development plans, as well as in their mine action plans, where relevant						
#29	% affected States Parties that report having mine risk education and reduction programmes for all affected populations in place						
	% States Parties that report carrying out mine risk education and reduction activities that collect, analyse and report data disaggregated by gender, age, disability and other diverse needs						
#30	# States Parties that report having established an evidence-based priority-setting mechanism for mine risk education and reduction programmes						
#31	# States Parties that provide risk education and reduction programmes to affected communities in the case that previously unknown mined areas are discovered						

#32	# States Parties reporting on their mine risk education and other risk reduction programmes and results		
-----	---	---	--