

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATION

CAMBODIA

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION – VICTIM ASSISTANCE

COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE

(Italy, Slovenia, Uganda (Chair) and Zambia)

Intersessional Meetings

19-21 June 2023

1. The Committee welcomes the submission by Cambodia of updated information on its victim assistance activities.
2. Based on the information provided, the Committee presents the following preliminary observations.

Mine casualties

3. Cambodia reported 41 casualties in 2022, of which 10 persons were killed and 31 persons have survived, showing a slight decrease in comparison to the 44 casualties reported in 2021 and 65 casualties reported in 2020. Cambodia also reported that the 41 casualties included 28 men, 12 boys and 1 woman.
4. The Committee would welcome further information on indirect victims, such as family members affected by mines.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACTIONS:

Strengthen partnerships and integrate victim assistance into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks and designation of a government entity to oversee the integration (Actions #1, #6 and #33)

5. Cambodia reported that the responsibility for the provision of victim assistance is mandated to the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MOSVY), with the Disability Action Council (DAC) Secretariat serving the MOSVY in the area of general disabilities. Cambodia reported that the Department of Victim Assistance of the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA) is working with the MOSVY, People with Disability Foundation and DAC in order to obtain information on services provided to mine victims and to conduct the quality-of-life survey by CMAA volunteer survivor networks across the country.
6. Cambodia reported integrating victim assistance into several national laws, policies and plans, with a focus on embedding the rights and needs of mine survivors into disability related frameworks.

Develop and implement measurable, realistic and time-bound national action plan (Actions #2 and #33)

7. Cambodia reported that victim assistance is included in the national strategies and plans:
 - 2019-2023 National Disability Strategic Plan
 - 2018-2025 National Mine Action Strategy

- 2022-2023 Mine Action Implementation Plan
- 2019-2023 National Strategic Development Plan

Removing barriers including physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers to access such services (Action #33)

8. The Committee noted that Cambodia had not reported on implementation of one aspect of the Action #33 and would welcome information on efforts made to lift physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers to enhance participation and inclusion of mine victims in relevant programmes and policies.

Applying multi-sectoral efforts to ensure that the needs and rights of mine victims are effectively addressed in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Action #34)

9. Cambodia reported on alignment of victim assistance with national frameworks such as the National Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the National Disability 2019-2023, as well as the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Cambodia reported applying a multi-sectoral approach by engaging various ministries and other national stakeholders through a technical working group and annual national dialogues on victim assistance.
10. Cambodia reported that in 2022 the Cambodian Mine Action Standard on Victim Assistance was adopted to create a roadmap to all stakeholders' efforts and assistance to mine victims.

Establish or strengthen of a centralised database / national information management system (Actions #9 and #35)

11. Cambodia reported that it has a data collection system in place with capacity to disaggregate the data by gender, age and types of injuries. Cambodia reported that mine victims' data have been shared with relevant national stakeholders.
12. Cambodia reported providing training to 256 chiefs of communes and villages in Romdul and Chantre districts to engage them in data collection efforts.
13. The Committee encourages Cambodia to integrate casualty data into a centralised database, such as a disability database or national injury surveillance system.

Access to first aid and ongoing emergency medical care (Action #36)

14. Cambodia reported that all 41 new casualties in 2022 were provided with emergency response and emergency kits and budgets.
15. Cambodia reported that 23,367 people with disabilities, including mine survivors received healthcare service, including physiotherapy and surgeries.
16. Cambodia reported that first-aid training provided to over 1,500 people including to organisations of persons with disabilities and community or village leaders and the recipients of the training provided vital first-aid interventions to 1,389 cases out of 2,271 people who engaged in accidents including traffic accidents in local areas.

Developing national referral mechanism (Action #37)

17. Cambodia had reported that mine survivors benefit from referrals to services provided by community-based rehabilitation and 518 self-help groups in 25 provinces,

18. The Committee would welcome information on the existence or progress in developing a directory of services, to ensure access to services.

Access to rehabilitation services including physiotherapy, assistive devices and occupational therapy (Action #38)

19. Cambodia reported that 23,468 persons with disabilities and 8,630 mine/ERW survivors were provided with physical rehabilitation services by the Physical Rehabilitation Centres (PRCs) which included provision of new or repairing of existing prosthetics, orthotics, wheelchairs, tricycles and walking aids including crutches, cans, and walking frames. Cambodia reported that the 5 PRCs produced or repaired the following items in 2022:

- 3,496 prosthetics;
- 2,537 Orthotics;
- 41 Seating Systems;
- 1,033 wheelchairs;
- 41 tricycles;
- 775 non-orthopaedic procedures;
- 3,887 walking aids; and
- 11,969 Repairs.

20. Cambodia reported that 10,136 physiotherapy assessments were conducted, and 60,187 physiotherapy treatments were carried out.

21. 307 amputees including 16 women were provided with “mirror therapy” to treat phantom pains and efforts have been made to follow up on the recipients of the training.

22. Cambodia reported that community-based rehabilitation services are available in 35 provinces, through which 17,805 persons with disabilities were assisted with mobile repair services, referral to services, education, healthcare, rehabilitation including assistive devices and other socio-economic related services.

23. The Committee would welcome information on availability of or plans to make occupational therapy available to mine victims in Cambodia.

Access to psychological and psychosocial services including peer-to-peer support (Action #38)

24. Cambodia reported that 80 medical students provided psychological support training; 80 staff members from the Volunteer Survivor Networks, CMVIS and PRCs provided psychological support training and 1,706 peer to peer consultations were conducted.

Access to social and economic inclusion services, including in rural and remote areas (Action #39)

25. Cambodia reported on the provision of social and economic supports to persons with disabilities including mine survivors in 2022 as follows:

- **Education:** 361 children with disabilities, including mine/ERW survivors were enrolled into primary school. 53 people with disabilities are referred to public schools.

- **Vocational training:** 361 persons with disabilities including 50 mine survivors were provided vocational training; 34 persons with disabilities trained in small business; 44 persons with disabilities were referred to service providers;
- **Social inclusion:** 33 females with disabilities attended in sport events; and
- **Economic inclusion:** 493 persons with disabilities were interviewed for jobs and 23 have found jobs, 15 small businesses were supported and recommended to clients; 23 persons found jobs; 543 mine survivors received loans (with no interest) from the Cambodian Red Cross Society to create their small businesses in Pursat, Oddor Meanchey, and Preah Vihear provinces, and 16 persons with disabilities were provided with bicycles.

Taking measure for safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risks and emergencies (Action #40)

26. The Committee recalls that Cambodia had reported that the 2009 Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the National Disability Strategic Plan 2019-2023 address the needs of persons with disabilities including mine victims.

Strengthening inclusion and participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in all matters that affect them (Actions #4 and #41)

27. The Committee would welcome information on progress made in 2022 to enhance the inclusion and participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in relevant policy development and programmes.

CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS:

Demonstrate high levels of national ownership, including [...] by making financial and other commitments to implementation (Action #1)

28. Cambodia reported allocating 75,000\$ annually to strengthen Victim assistance implementation mechanisms, such as survey, planning, data collection and provision of emergency assistance to new casualties.

Ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men are considered (Action #3)

29. Cambodia reported that gender and diversity have been considered throughout the mine action programmes including in the National Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025 which aims to address the needs of women, girls, boys and men through a range of activities such mine clearance, risk education, survey and victim assistance.

Challenges in implementation of Victim assistance Commitments (Action #8)

30. The Committee recalls that in 2021 Cambodia reported that while progress had been made, Cambodia faced challenges/shortcomings in providing assistance to mine victims.

31. The Committee would welcome information on steps taken by Cambodia to address the challenges reported last year, and information on how the international community including the Committee on Victim Assistance can assist Cambodia to fulfil its victim assistance commitments under the Convention and the OAP.

The Oslo Action Plan country reporting tracker
Victim Assistance
Cambodia

Actions	Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Additional information request by the Committee (deadline 9 August)
#33	# States Parties that have designated a government entity to coordinate victim assistance activities						
	# States Parties that have national action plans in place containing specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound objectives and related indicators						The Committee noted that Cambodia had not reported on implementation of one aspect of the Action #33 and would welcome information on efforts made to lift physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers to enhance participation and inclusion of mine victims in relevant programmes and policies.
#34	# States Parties that report that they include mine victims in relevant national policy and support frameworks						
#35	# States Parties that include victims of anti-personnel mines in disability data systems						The Committee would welcome further information on indirect victims, such as family members affected by mines. The Committee encourages Cambodia to integrate casualty data into a centralised database, such as a disability database or national injury surveillance system.
	# States Parties that disaggregate victim data by gender, age and disability						
#36	# States Parties reporting on efforts to ensure an efficient and effective emergency response to mine accidents						
#37	# States Parties that report having a national referral mechanism						
	# States Parties that report having a directory of services in place						The Committee would welcome information on the existence or progress in developing a directory of services, to ensure access to services.
#38	# States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability and accessibility of comprehensive rehabilitation services						The Committee would welcome information on availability of or plans to make occupational therapy available to mine victims in Cambodia.
	# States Parties reporting on efforts to increase the availability of psychological and psychosocial support services						
	# States Parties that have established peer-to-peer services within their national healthcare system						
#39	# States Parties reporting on efforts to remove barriers to the social and economic inclusion of mine victims						
#40	# States Parties that report integrating protection of mine survivors in their humanitarian response and preparedness plans						
#41	# States Parties that report that they include victim representatives or their organizations in victim assistance planning at the national and local level						The Committee would welcome information on progress made in 2022 to enhance the inclusion and participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in relevant policy development and programmes.

CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS						
#1	# 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					
#3	# mine-affected States Parties that report having evidence-based, costed and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place					
	# women in States Parties' delegations attending Convention meetings					
#8	# 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					The Committee would welcome information on steps taken by Cambodia to address the challenges reported last year, and information on how the international community including the Committee on Victim Assistance can assist Cambodia to fulfil its victim assistance commitments under the Convention and the OAP.