



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
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STATEMENT OF CAMBODIA ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE
FIFTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION
SIEM REAP, 25-29 NOVEMBER 2024

H.E. Chair, Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to share the progress Cambodia has made in fulfilling its commitments to assist mine and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) victims as outlined in the Oslo Action Plan. I would also like to extend my congratulations to Slovenia and Zambia for their roles as chairs, and to Burkina Faso and Netherlands for their achievements as the Committee on Victim Assistance.

The Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA) plays a vital role in coordinating efforts to support mine/ERW survivors. It has fostered partnership with government ministries, local authorities, NGOs, and the private sector to provide victim assistance. These include emergency medical care, rehabilitation, psychological and socio-economic support, vocational training, job placement, and addressing the rights and needs of Mine/ERW survivors and persons with disabilities.

Cambodia has strengthened its support for mine survivors with new legal frameworks, including the 2024 Cambodian Mine Action Standard on Victim Assistance. Additionally, a comprehensive Victim Assistance Practice Guideline is being developed to assist both direct and indirect victims of mine/ERW.

In 2023, the CMAA recorded 32 mine/ERW casualties, resulting in 56% injuries and 30% amputations. Additionally, the Quality of Life Survey (QLS) was conducted by 25 volunteer survivor networks across 3 mine-affected provinces.

More than 27,000 people with disabilities, including mine/ERW survivors, received medical care, including physiotherapy and surgical interventions. Among them underwent physiotherapist assessments and received physiotherapy treatments.

H.E. Chair, Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

The CMAA is currently developing a Referral Mechanism and service directories. In June 2024, the CMAA organized the National Workshop to discuss these documents with stakeholders. Both are expected to be completed by the end of the year.

In Cambodia, over 8,000 landmine survivors have benefited from services by Physical Rehabilitation Centers (PRCs), which provide and repair assistive devices. Additionally, the CMAA and ARMAC conducted Psychological Social Support Training for 100 trainees to aid landmine survivors.

Cambodia has supported landmine survivors through various initiatives including vocational training skills, small business management, and referring to NGOs for further support. Job placement and sports are highlighted.

H.E. Chair, Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

Despite notable progress, Cambodia faces critical challenges in providing sufficient resources for emergency support, medical care, rehabilitation, and vocational training for landmine survivors and persons with disabilities. There is also a need to improve data reporting and collaboration among stakeholders. To overcome these challenges, Cambodia is appealing for technical and financial assistance from development partners to ensure that all individuals, particularly the most vulnerable, can live with dignity and equality.

Cambodia's steadfast dedication to improving the quality of life for landmine survivors and persons with disabilities is reflected in its ongoing efforts. These commitments are reaffirmed each year, underscoring the country's continued focus on supporting and empowering those affected by landmines/ERW.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all our development partners, especially the Implementation Support Unit of this convention, Australia, Canada, Exceed Worldwide, Humanity & Inclusion, ICRC, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, UNDP, UNICEF, WHO, and others not specifically mentioned, for their invaluable collaboration and contributions. Your support has been crucial in helping Cambodia fulfill its commitments to mine/ERW survivors and persons with disabilities. We deeply appreciate your continued partnership and dedication to this important cause.

Thank you.