

**Statement by Mr. Worawut Smuthkalin,  
Minister Counsellor, Department of International Organizations  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand**

**On agenda item 8 Review of the operation and status of the  
Convention**

**(e) other matters essential for achieving the aims of the Convention**

**(i) Cooperation and Assistance**

**at the Siem Reap Angkor Summit/ the 5<sup>th</sup> APMBC Review  
Conference**

**29 November 2024**

Mr. President,

International cooperation and assistance are critical to achieving our goal of a Mine - free World.

Thailand congratulates all parties for **demonstrating the spirit of cooperation**, under the guidance and able leadership of Mr. President, **in developing the Conference's outcome documents**.

The new Action Plan reminds us that only by working together can we **continue the significant progress in all pillars of the APMBC**.

Thailand wishes to offer the following thoughts on the implementation of the Siem Reap – Angkor Action Plan on the matter relating to cooperation and assistance:

First, **national ownership must be at the heart of international cooperation and assistance**. It is important that affected States implement their mine action programmes, while following actions in the Action Plan in a way that best suit their national contexts, including sustainable national capacities, integration and mainstreaming of the consideration for gender, age, and disabilities, as well as other vulnerable conditions in the societies.

Second, **strengthened partnership between the Convention and UNMAS, ICRC, ICBL, GICHD, NPA, HALO Trust and other UN agencies and stakeholders could lead to new solutions**, whether in the

Convention's **implementation, universalization**, or other matters, **such as legal, technical and organizational aspects**.

In this regard, Thailand welcomes the meaningful participation of our partners in mine activities, especially for those who have supported the work along Thailand's border areas.

Third, cooperation and assistance must take **local, national, regional and global contexts** into account. While paying particular attention to the most vulnerable States, we should not forget those near mine clearance completion. In this connection, Thailand is committed to exploring opportunities for further cooperation, including at the bilateral and regional levels. We have pledged to provide 10,000 US Dollars **in financial assistance to the ASEAN Mine Action Centre (ARMAC)** since 2019, and will continue to do so. Thailand is also in the process of transforming Thailand Mine Action Center (TMAC) into also Center of Excellence in order to share our best practices and experiences in mine activities to other countries in the region and beyond.

Mr. President,

In closing, we hope that with **greater international cooperation and assistance in implementing the Review Conference's outcome documents**, we could create more powerful synergies among all parties, including between the Cooperation and Assistance Committee and other Committees under the Convention, with a view to further our progress on the implementation of and in full compliance with the obligations of the Convention as a whole.

Thank you.

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