

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 5 BY CAMBODIA

COMMITTEE ON ARTICLE 5 IMPLEMENTATION (Thailand (Chair), United Kingdom, Algeria, Norway)

Intersessional Meetings 17 – 20 June 2025

I. Progress in implementation Action 8, 20, 22)

1. Cambodia reported that in 2024 it released 859 mined areas measuring 100,077,493 square metres, including 6,902,110 square metres cancelled, 32,011,534 square metres reduced and 61,163,849 square metres cleared, destroying 4,849 anti-personnel mines and 6,094 items of explosive ordnance.
2. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 extension request submitted to the Twenty Second Meeting of the States Parties contained information on Cambodia's tasking of the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC) in collaboration with the Royal Cambodian Army (RCA) to begin a comprehensive survey (CS) in the provinces bordering Thailand. Cambodia's extension request indicated that CMAC planned to survey the provinces in the following order: Banteay Meanchey, Oddar Meanchey, Preah Vihear, Pailin, Battambang, Pursat and Koh Kong, with survey in Banteay Meanchey commencing November 2024 and completed December 2024. Cambodia's extension request also indicated that CS was underway in Oddar Meanchey Province. The Committee would welcome updated information from Cambodia on the results of survey and the projected impact on Cambodia's Article 5 deadline.
3. The Committee observed that the information provided by Cambodia on progress in implementation allowed for comparability with its 2023 updated work plan. The Committee observed that progress in implementation was less than that projected for 2024. The Committee welcomed Cambodia providing information on progress in accordance with land release methodology employed in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and disaggregated by type of contamination. The Committee further welcomes Cambodia employing the Guide to Reporting in the drafting of its annual Article 7 report.

II. Remaining challenge (Action 17, 20, 22)

4. The Committee observed that Cambodia provided some clarity¹ concerning its remaining challenge. Cambodia reported a remaining challenge of 3,917 suspected hazardous areas (SHA) measuring 424,238,236 square metres located in 10 Provinces.
5. The Committee welcomed the information provided by Cambodia and encourages Cambodia to provide updated information and clarity concerning the remaining challenges in a manner consistent with IMAS.
6. Action 17 of the Siem Reap Angkor Action Plan (SRAAP) requests States Parties that have not yet done so to identify the precise perimeter of mined areas, to the extent possible, and establish

¹ "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.

evidence based, accurate baselines of contamination based on information collected from all relevant sources. The Committee observed that 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. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contained information on Cambodia's efforts to identify mined areas to the extent possible in an inclusive manner, including collaboration in conducting survey with the Royal Cambodian Army, local authorities, and affected communities to ensure the survey is thorough, effective, and efficient, and its outcomes are expected to enhance the safety, security, and livelihoods of communities. The request also contained information on Cambodia's planning and prioritisation process that employs a top- down, bottom-up approach to ensure that clearance addresses the needs of affected villages, through a transparent, participatory, and decentralized manner.

III. National plans for clearance and survey (Action 1-3, 18-21)

8. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's request to extend its 31 December 2025 Article 5 mine clearance deadline contains information on its National Mine Action Strategy (2018-2025), and Cambodia's efforts to draft a National Mine Action Policy (2026-2035). The Committee would welcome updated information on the process and timeline for approving the new strategy.
9. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's request contains an evidence based and costed work plan for clearance and survey for the period 2025-2030. Cambodia reported 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. Cambodia projected to address 130,345,769 square metres in 2025, 126,400,000 square metres in 2026, and 41,873,117 square metres for the period 2027-2030. The request also contained information on Cambodia's work plan for survey milestones in 2025.
10. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on Cambodia's efforts to ensure that survey and clearance are prioritised based on clear nationally-driven humanitarian and sustainable development criteria, including "Village meeting to prioritize minefields for clearance" (October 2022) guideline which aims to ensure that men, women, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable village members have an opportunity to contribute to prioritization.
11. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on efforts to integrate Convention implementation activities into national development plans and budgets, strategies and budgets, including the integration of mine action in Cambodia's National Strategic Development Plan (2024-2028), and the Pentagonal Strategy-Phase 1. The request also contains information on Cambodia's efforts to establish Mine Action as Cambodia's Sustainable Development Goal (CSDG 18): "End the negative impact of Landmines/ERW and promote victim assistance."
12. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on efforts to establish a sustainable national capacity as a key component of the new National Mine Action Policy (2026-2035), currently in final stage of development, that will outline Cambodia's vision for transitioning from large-scale clearance to a sustainable residual contamination management framework. The Committee welcomes the information contained in its request and would welcome further information on the timeline and process for the transition.

IV. Efficient implementation, innovative approaches, methods, and technological means (Action 4, 9, 25)

13. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on Cambodia's efforts to keep national standards up to date, including the role of the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA) to lead the development and revision of the Cambodian Mine Action Standards, and that during 2024, Cambodia updated the following national Standards, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming in Mine Action, (September 2024), Baseline Survey - Cluster Munitions (December 2024), and Victim Assistance (December 2024).
14. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on Cambodia's efforts to establish and maintain a national information management system containing accurate and up-to-date data at the national level on the status of implementation, including a dedicated National Standard on Information Management, and a technical reference group to discuss technical issues and seek solutions for the mine action sector.
15. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on Cambodia's efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of survey and clearance, including, participation in Innovation Sessions with GICHD, hosting discussions on an Artificial Intelligence Development Project. The request also contained information on Cambodia's efforts to apply quality management, and performance monitoring system to monitor and promote operational quality.

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

16. In considering Cambodia's 2019 extension request, the Fourth Review Conference requested Cambodia to submit updated information on an annual basis on several matters. The Committee welcomed the information provided in follow-up to the decision of the Fourth Review Conference.
17. The Committee would welcome updated information from Cambodia on the following decision of the Fourth Review Conference:
 - 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. In this regard, the Committee observed that Cambodia had acted on the decisions of the Fourth Review Conference by submitting an updated work plan on 1 May 2023 and 30 April 2024.

VI. Mine risk education and reduction (Action 18, 23, 26-29)

19. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains an evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national work plan for mine risk education for the period January 2025 – December 2030, supported Cambodian Mine Action Standard 21 on Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE), and a two-year action plan (2024-2025) outlining the EORE roadmap for operators. The workplan projects to carry out 236,233 EORE sessions across 10 provinces with total number of 6,928,829 beneficiaries.
20. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on Cambodia's efforts to prioritise mine risk education programmes, including the role of the Technical Reference Group

on risk education who met twice in 2024 to discuss EORE materials, National Mine Awareness Day organization, and technical matters among operators. The request also contained information on the role of the CMAA to develop a list of prioritized villages for annual EORE operations in consultation with operators and based on mine/ERW casualty data (CMVIS), and that CMAA will regularly monitor EORE operations and provide recommendations for improvement.

21. Cambodia reported on carrying out mine risk education and reduction programmes including, methodologies used, including, mass campaigns, billboards, leaflets, posters, textbooks, T-shirts, and public service announcements. Cambodia reported on challenges faced, including 49% of mine accidents over the past decade (2015-2024) occurring outside of minefields recorded in the national database.
22. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on efforts to report on results achieved, including information disaggregated by gender, age, disability, and other diverse needs and experiences of affected communities. The request further contains information on efforts to target high-risk areas and vulnerable populations, including mobile adult workers and children, and plans to review and develop risk education messages and materials and ensuring consideration for gender and diversity.
23. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on Cambodia's efforts to integrate mine risk education and risk reduction programmes within wider plans for humanitarian response and protection as within survey, clearance activities, including risk education as a foundational element of Cambodia's national strategic development plan and sustainable development goal, as well as integration into school curricula, disaster risk reduction, and protection.
24. Cambodia reported on its efforts to provide context-specific mine risk education and reduction programmes that are tailored to the threat encountered by the population and prioritise people most at risk by ensuring that these programmes are developed on an analysis of available casualty and contamination data, including people living or working in areas identified as high-risk due to the presence of mine contamination, for example; areas identified through accident reports, areas of highest contamination, newly discovered minefields, and specifically provinces along the Cambodia-Thailand border where contamination is dense and many accidents occur outside known minefields. Cambodia's 2025 extension request also contains information on prioritising target groups such as out of school children, and adult males, particularly those working in forests and fields.
25. Cambodia reported on its efforts to establish a sustainable national capacity to deliver mine risk education and reduction programmes, including the role of key national implementing partners; Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC), National Police, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS), Cambodian Red Cross (CRC), National Centre for Peacekeeping Force, Mine and ERW Clearance (NPMEC), and Cambodia Self Help Demining (CSHD). The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on the integration of risk education into school curricula and the training of over 10,000 community-based volunteers, as well as a plan to transfer risk education skills to local communities, teachers and police officers in most contaminated provinces.

VI. Best Practices in implementation (Action 5, 6, 18)

25. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on Cambodia's efforts to ensure that gender, age, disability considerations, and the diverse needs and experiences of women, girls, boys and men in mine-affected communities including mine survivors, are considered

and inform all areas of Convention implementation. These efforts include, amongst other, prioritisation criteria for villages based on factors such as casualties, disaggregated by age and gender, poverty, contamination, development requirements, and population.

26. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on Cambodia's efforts to ensure that climate and environmental considerations inform all relevant areas of Convention implementation to appropriately address climate and environmental risks, including the development of a national standard on Environmental Management in Mine Action (2022), the inclusion of environmental management as a topic for technical reference group meetings, and plans to incorporate risk education into environmental conservation initiatives.

VIII. International Cooperation and Assistance (Action 40-42, 45)

27. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on Cambodia's annual national financial contribution towards implementation, including an allocation of US \$30 million from the Royal Government of Cambodia in 2023.
28. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on Cambodia's resource mobilisation plans and the use of all mechanisms to disseminate information on challenges and requirements for assistance, including engagement with traditional and new donors, as well as the private sector.
29. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on Cambodia's efforts to explore opportunities for international, regional, and bilateral cooperation, including active participation in international forums related to mine action, Cambodia being elected President and Host of the Fifth Review Conference, held in November 2024, providing presentations and briefings on Cambodia's mine action program, including sharing lessons learned in information management, planning, and prioritization, to various countries and entities, such as Ukraine, Mine Action Review, NEC Laboratories Europe (Germany), NRA Lao PDR, UNMAS, a Japanese delegation, a Ghanaian delegation, Azerbaijan, India, Australia, the U.S., China, and Korea. The request also contained information on the specific nature of bilateral cooperation between Cambodia and Thailand, guided by the Cambodia-Thailand General Border Committee (GBC) and the Joint Boundary Commission (JBC).

IX. Challenges in implementation (Action 29, 41)

30. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on challenges in implementation of risk education activities, including unknown contamination and accidents outside recorded minefields, particularly in rural areas, mountainous terrain and dense forests, continued risk taking by the affected communities despite risk education as well as incomplete demarcation along the border with Thailand which makes access extremely difficult for risk education teams to reach all communities.
31. The Committee recalled that Cambodia's 2025 request contains information on challenges to survey and clearance activities, including the magnitude and nature of remaining contamination, the discovery of new minefields, geographical challenges, and challenges along the border between Cambodia and Thailand, where incomplete demarcation hinders clearance of minefields, the need to address multiple types of explosive ordnance, and the need to balance mine action with development, with farmers taking risks to access land before clearance due to the need for agricultural production, indicating a challenge in meeting immediate community needs.

The Siem Reap Angkor Action Plan country reporting tracker							
Article 5 Implementation							
Cambodia							
CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS							
Actions	Indicators	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Additional information requested from the Committee
#1	Percentage of affected States Parties that report integrating Convention implementation activities into: national development plans and budgets, strategies and budgets including on poverty reduction, humanitarian response, on health and mental health, gender equality inclusion of persons with disabilities, peacebuilding, Human Rights, climate change adaptation plans, environmental protection and improvement, and/or disaster risk reduction.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having strengthened partnerships and coordinated Convention implementation activities with relevant humanitarian, peacebuilding, climate, environmental, development, health, disability, and human rights sectors.						
#2	Percentage of affected States Parties reporting having sustainable national capacities in place able to coordinate, regulate, and manage the national mine action programme including survey, clearance, mine risk education, and victim assistance and undertake post completion activities, including management of residual risk.						The Committee would welcome further information from Cambodia on its efforts to reporting having sustainable national capacities in place able to coordinate, regulate, and manage the national mine action programme.
#3	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place.						The Committee would welcome further information from Cambodia on its efforts to report having evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national strategies and work plans in place.
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having reviewed and further their national strategies and work plan based on new evidence.						
#4	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having up-to-date National Mine Action Standards in place in accordance with International Mine Action Standards.						
#5	Percentage of affected States Parties that report national work plans and strategies integrating gender, age, disability considerations, and the diverse needs and experiences of people in mine-affected communities including mine survivors.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report national work plans and strategies developed through inclusive consultation with stakeholders including survivors and representatives of mine-affected communities,						
#6	Percentage of affected States Parties that report integrating climate and environmental considerations into Convention implementation activities, including in their national strategies and work plans.						
#8	Percentage of States Parties that submit Article 7 reports by 30 April of each year.						
	Percentage of States Parties that prepare their Article 7 reports using the Guide to Reporting.						

#9	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having a national, centrally-managed information management system in place containing up-to-date information on implementation at the national level.					
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SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OF MINED AREAS							
Actions	Indicators	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Additional information requested from the Committee
#17	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having established an accurate and evidence-based contamination baseline, including in areas affected by improvised anti-personnel mines in line with IMAS.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having established a baseline through inclusive consultations.						
#18	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having in place evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national work plans for survey and clearance.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report in their Article 7 reports updates to their national work plans, including adjusted milestones based on new evidence, including budgets for implementation, and requirements for assistance						
#19	Number of affected States Parties that report on the inclusion of humanitarian and sustainable development criteria in survey, clearance, planning, and prioritisation.						
	Number of affected States Parties that report on the consideration of inclusion of gender, age, disability, the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities including mine survivors, climate, and environment in survey and clearance planning and prioritisation.						
#20	Number of affected States Parties that apply the provisions of the Convention to anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature including in survey and clearance operations under Article 5.						
	Number of affected States Parties that apply the provisions of the Convention to anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature to reporting obligations under Article 7.						
#21	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having a national capacity in place to implement the Convention and address any previously unknown mined areas or newly mined areas discovered following completion.						The Committee would welcome further information on Cambodia's efforts to report having a national capacity in place to implement the Convention and address any previously unknown mined areas or newly mined areas discovered following completion.
	Number of States Parties that following completion, report the discovery of previously unknown mined areas or newly mined areas.						
#22	Percentage of affected States Parties that report on their remaining challenge in a manner disaggregated by 'suspected hazardous areas' and 'confirmed hazardous areas' and their relative size.						The Committee would welcome further information on Cambodia's efforts to report on their remaining challenge in a manner disaggregated by 'suspected hazardous areas' and 'confirmed hazardous areas' and their relative size
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report on progress made to address mined areas in accordance with the land release methodology employed (i.e. cancelled through non-technical survey, reduced through technical survey, or cleared through clearance).						The Committee would welcome further information on Cambodia's efforts to report on their remaining challenge in a manner disaggregated by 'suspected hazardous areas' and 'confirmed hazardous areas' and their relative size.

	Percentage of affected States Parties that report in a disaggregated manner by type of contamination.						
#23	Percentage of extension requests submitted that include detailed, evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and multi-year plans for survey and clearance.						
	Percentage of extension requests submitted that ensure consideration for gender, age, disability, the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities including mine survivors, as well as climate, and the environment.						
#24	Number of affected States Parties that declare completion of their Article 5 obligations.						
	Percentage of these States Parties that submit voluntary Declarations of Completion.						
#25	Percentage of affected States Parties that report on efforts to improve effectiveness and efficiency of survey and clearance.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report on research, analysis, and the adoption of innovative approaches, methods, and technological means to improve effectiveness and efficiency of survey and clearance.						

MINE RISK EDUCATION AND REDUCTION							
Actions	Indicators	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Additional information requested from the Committee
#18	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having in place evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and time-bound national work plans for mine risk education;						
#23	Percentage of extension requests submitted that include detailed, evidence-based, costed, context-specific, and multi-year plans for risk education activities.						
#26	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having integrated mine risk education and reduction programmes within wider plans for humanitarian response and protection, development, health, mental health, climate, the environment, education, and/or disaster risk reduction or other relevant plans; as well as within survey, clearance and victim assistance activities.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report on efforts to reduce the affected population's risk-taking behaviour and to increase knowledge and awareness.						
#27	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having established an evidence-based priority-setting mechanism for mine risk education and reduction programmes tailored to the threat encountered by the population and which prioritises people most at risk.						
#28	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having sustainable national capacities in place to deliver mine risk education and reduction programmes in case previously unknown mined areas or newly mined areas are discovered and/or in emergency settings.						
#29	Percentage of affected States Parties that report carrying out mine risk education and reduction programmes including information on how priorities are established, methodologies used (e.g. interpersonal, mass, or digital media), challenges faced, and results achieved and included information disaggregated by gender, age, disability, and other relevant factors.						

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE							
Actions	Indicators	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Additional information requested from the Committee
40	Percentage of affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to the implementation of survey and clearance;						
	Percentage of States Parties that report on exploring all possible sources of funding, including conventional and alternative/innovative sources and mechanisms of funding or that report having innovative financial projects in place.						
41	Percentage of affected States Parties that report on progress, challenges in implementation, and requirements for assistance.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having a resource mobilisation plan in place.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that have taken advantage of the Individualised Approach.						
42	Percentage of affected States Parties that report efforts to strengthen national coordination with national and international stakeholders and States Parties in a position to provide assistance.						
	Percentage of affected States Parties that report having established a National Mine Action Platform.						
45	Number of States Parties that report sharing national experiences, best practices, and lessons learnt through international, regional, and bilateral cooperation.						
	Number of States Parties that report sharing scientific, methodological, and technological expertise to strengthen the Convention's implementation.						