PRELIMINARY OBSERVATION

CAMBODIA

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION – VICTIM ASSISTANCE

COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE

(Austria, Burkina Faso (Chair), the Netherlands, and Sri Lanka)
Intersessional Meetings
17-20 June 2025

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

VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACTIONS:

Ensure that a relevant government entity in affected States Parties is assigned as the focal point to coordinate victim assistance and oversee and enhance the integration of victim assistance activities into broader national policies, plans, budgets, and legal frameworks (Actions 30, 1 and 2)

2. Cambodia reported that the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim assistance Authority (CMAA) is the focal point on Victim Assistance, and in accordance with its mandate, CMAA works closely with the Ministry of Social Affair, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MOSVY), and the Disability Action Council (DAC).

Develop a national specific, measurable, realistic, and time-bound disability action plan (Actions 30 and 3)

- 3. Cambodia reported that National Disability Strategy Plan 2024-2028, adopted in 2024, focuses on institutional capacity building, knowledge enhancement, professional skill development, job creation, and the reduction—ultimately leading to the elimination—of discrimination and abuse against persons with disabilities. The plan also defines responsibilities at both national and subnational levels.
- 4. Cambodia reported that the Cambodian Mine Action Standard on Victim Assistance was revised in 2024, to ensure it serves as a roadmap for stakeholders involved in victim assistance efforts. Cambodia also reported that the Pentagonal Strategy-Phase I (2023) provides a roadmap for political commitment and socio-economic development.
- 5. Cambodia reported that the 2009 national Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which is aligned with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities guide the implementation of victim assistance and ensures equal opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Include mine and other explosive ordnance victims or their representative organisations, in victim assistance planning and implementation at the national and local level (Actions 30, 31 and 39)

6. <u>The Committee would welcome information on inclusion of mine and other EO survivors or their representative organisations in victim assistance planning and implementation.</u>

Report on progress and challenges in implementing their national action plans (Action 30)

7. Cambodia reported on achievements of various victim assistance projects and challenges faced, such as access to services.

Carry out inter-ministerial and multi-sectoral efforts to ensure that the needs and rights of mine and other explosive ordnance victims are effectively addressed (Action 31)

8. Cambodia reported that a Technical Working Group comprising CMAA, MoSVY, DAC, Person with Disabilities Foundation (PwD-F), and heads of 11 physical rehabilitation centres, has been in place, and dedicated to the management, monitoring, and evaluation of data related to mine/ERW survivors.

Identify all mine and other explosive ordnance victims and collect accurate and comprehensive information on their needs, challenges and geographic locations in a manner disaggregated by gender, age, disability, and other considerations (Action 32 and also Action 9)

- 9. Cambodia reported 49 casualties in 2024, including 12 killed, 29 injured and 8 lost limbs. Of the total casualties 30 were men, 11 were boys, 3 women and 5 girls.
- 10. Cambodia reported that through the ongoing Quality-of-Life Survey (QLS) in Battambang, Banteay Meanchey and Pailin provinces in 2024, 2,182 persons with disabilities, including 638 women were identified and their living situation was assessed. Cambodia reported that of the total surveyed, 1,181 were mine/ERW survivors (including 126 women) and while most have received services, some of them reported facing challenges in accessing services.
- 11. Cambodia reported that the CMAA organised two training sessions on data collection for 286 chiefs of communes and villages in Veal Veng, Kravanh, and Bakan Districts in Pursat province, to improve accuracy and completeness of data collected at local level.

Integrate the data on mine and other explosive ordnance victims into a national centralised database, such as disability data systems (Actions 32 and 9)

12. The Committee would welcome information on integration of the data on mine/ERW victims into national centralised database(es).

Provide effective and efficient context-specific emergency medical care to new casualties and improve national capacity through training, including on psychosocial first care, specialized training for health professionals and layperson first responder training in affected communities (Action 33)

13. <u>The Committee would welcome an update on availability of first aid to assist new casualties and efforts to improve national capacity in this regard.</u>

Ensure that mine and other explosive ordnance survivors have access to health services including in rural and remote areas (Action 33)

14. Cambodia reported that a total of 27,809 people with disabilities including mine/ERW survivors, have received medical care services, including physiotherapy and surgical interventions.

Ensure that a national/sub-administrative area referral mechanism is in place to facilitate access to services (Action 34)

15. Cambodia reported referrals in relation to socio-economic inclusion of persons with disabilities and mine/ERW survivors.

Create and disseminate a comprehensive directory of services available, accessible, and inclusive for all mine and other explosive ordnance victims (Action 34)

16. The Committee would welcome information on the availability of directory of services, to ensure access to services.

Efforts to increase the availability and accessibility of rehabilitation services (Action 35)

- 17. Cambodia reported that a total of 26,988 persons with disabilities, including 8,860 mine/ERW survivors were provided services by Physical Rehabilitation Centers (PRCs) and these services provided, include provision or repair of various assistive devices such as prosthetics, orthotics, wheelchairs, tricycles, and walking aids, including crutches, canes, and walking frames.
- 18. Cambodia reported that 12,455 individuals underwent physiotherapist assessments, and 98,005 individuals were provided with physiotherapy treatments.
- 19. Cambodia reported that community-based rehabilitation (CBR) services are available in 25 provinces carrying out a range of activities aimed at enhancing the overall well-being and empowerment of individuals with disabilities and in 2024, 26,988 persons with disabilities benefited from the CBR services.

Ensure to provide assistive technology (Action 35)

- 20. Cambodia reported on provision of assistive technology as mentioned under paragraph 16, and Cambodia reported that in 2024, the PRCs produced or repaired a total of 26,280 assistive devices, including:
 - 3,828 prosthetics (3,608 Lower Limbs, 220 Upper Limbs)
 - 2,656 Orthotics (2,559 Lower Limbs, 59 Upper Limbs, and 38 Spinals)
 - 52 Seating Systems
 - 1,088 Wheelchairs (980 for Adults and 108 for Children)
 - 54 Tricycles
 - 891 Non-Orthopaedic Procedures
 - 3,974 Walking Aids
 - 13,305 Repairs

Increase resources and national capacity to make assistive technology affordable and accessible (Action 35)

21. The Committee would welcome information on efforts made to enhance national capacity and resources to make assistive technology more affordable and accessible in Cambodia.

Ensure mine victims have access to psychological and psychosocial support services including to mental health (Action 36)

22. Cambodia reported that 73 individuals completed psychosocial training and gained essential skills to provide psychological support.

23. In 2024, Cambodia reported undertaking a holistic approach to mental health and well-being, both in providing direct support to individuals through counselling and consultations and in building a cadre of trained professionals capable of offering psychological social support to those in need. The combination of direct interventions and training programs contributes to a more comprehensive and sustainable mental health support system.

Efforts to make peer-to-peer support availability including by integrating it into public healthcare and other relevant systems (Action 36)

- 24.Cambodia reported that 1,890 individuals were provided with peer-to-peer counselling and consultations. Cambodia also reported on efforts made by 568 self-help groups.
- 25. <u>The Committee would welcome further information on integration of peer-to-peer support into public healthcare systems.</u>

Meet the social and economic inclusion needs of mine victims (Action 37)

- 26. Cambodia reported on provision of various socio-economic services to persons with disabilities including mine/ERW survivors, including the followings:
 - 468 children with disabilities including 141 mine/ERW survivors were enrolled into primary school;
 - 297 persons with disabilities were admitted to public schools;
 - 156 persons with disabilities including 50 mine/ERW survivors provided with vocational trainings, to improve practical skills, enhancing their prospects for employment and selfsufficiency;
 - 1,058 persons with disabilities including 466 women and 560 mine/ERW survivors were provided with entrepreneurship trainings;
 - 92 persons with disabilities were referred to service providers and NGOs for advanced trainings and 395 persons underwent interviews for potential referrals to other service providers;
 - 548 mine/ERW survivors were provided with interest-free loans;
 - 58 persons with disabilities were provided with business management trainings and an additional 28 small business were supported;
 - 22 individuals found jobs;
 - 65 bicycles were provided to persons with disabilities; and
 - 58 persons with disabilities including 33 girls/women with disabilities participated in sport activities.

Remove barriers to the social and economic inclusion of mine survivors and affected families (Action 37)

27. Cambodia reported various efforts including targeted training to improve personal skills as well as awareness raising activities that benefited 560 persons in Battambang and Banteay Meanchey provinces. Awareness raising activities also provided an opportunity to identify specific needs of mine/ERW survivors.

The number of mine and other explosive ordnance survivors and affected families accessing social and economic services (Action 37)

28. Cambodia reported over 2,800 persons with disabilities including mine/ERW survivors benefiting from various types of socio-economic services in 2024.

Ensure the safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risk (Action 38)

29. <u>The Committee would welcome information on measures put in place to ensure the safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risks and emergencies.</u>

Increase inclusion of and access by mine victims into programmes for humanitarian assistance, risk reduction, and conflict preparedness and protection (Action 38)

30. The Committee would welcome an update in this regard.

Improve accessibility and strive to remove physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal, and communications barriers (Actions 39 and 37)

31. Cambodia reported on conducting awareness to promote greater understanding on mine/ERW survivors rights.

Include survivors and/or their representative organisations in matters that affect them, including in planning and implementation at the national and community levels (Actions 39, 38 and 30)

32. The Committee would welcome information in this regard.

CROSS - CUTTING ACTIONS:

Demonstrate high levels of national ownership, partnership and coordination (Action 1)

33. Cambodia reported measurable progresses in different areas of victim assistance, including on adoption of a new national disability plan. Cambodia reported that the CMAA coordination efforts extend to collaborating with international bodies such as Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), the AP Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). Also, Cambodia reported that the DAC together with the MOSVY have established coordinating bodies and working groups focused on disabilities at sub-national level.

Ensure that gender, age, disability considerations, and the diverse needs and experiences of people in mine-affected communities including mine survivors, are considered (Action 5)

34. Cambodia provided disaggregated information on services provided, indicating gender, disability and in some cases the ages of beneficiaries.

Allocating national financial commitments for victim assistance implementation (Action 40)

35.Cambodia reported that national resources including a budget of \$100,000 is allocated to victim assistance department of the CMAA, complemented by \$130,000 earmarked fund of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Having a resource mobilisation plan (for victim assistance) in place (Action 41)

36. The Committee would welcome an update in this regard.

SRAAP country reporting tracker Victim Assistance Cambodia										
Actions	Indicators	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Additional information or clarification requested by the Committee			
30	% of affected States Parties that report on the relevant government entity assigned as the focal point to oversee and enhance the integration of victim assistance into broader national policies, plans, budgets, and legal frameworks to ensure its sustainability, including following Article 5 completion; % of affected States Parties that report having an inclusive national action plan in place									
	considering mine and other explosive ordnance victims, gender, age, disability, and other considerations and containing specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound objectives;									
	% of affected States Parties that report including mine and other explosive ordnance victims or their representative organisations, in victim assistance planning and implementation at the national and local level;						The Committee would welcome information on inclusion of mine and other EO survivors or their representative organisations in victim assistance planning and implementation.			
	% of affected States Parties that report on progress and challenges in implementing their national action plans.									
31	% of affected States Parties that report having in place an interministerial and multi-sectoral coordination mechanism to ensure that the needs and rights of mine and other explosive ordnance victims are addressed;									
	% of affected States Parties that report including the needs and rights of mine and other explosive ordnance victims in relevant national policies, legal frameworks, and budgets.									
32	% of affected States Parties that report on efforts to identify mine and other explosive ordnance victims and disaggregate victim data by gender, age, disability, and other considerations;									
	% of affected States Parties that report the inclusion of data on mine and other explosive ordnance victims in a national centralised database such as disability data systems and make data available to relevant stakeholders in accordance with data protection regulations/measures.						The Committee would welcome information on integration of the data on mine/ERW victims into national centralised databases(es).			
33	% of affected States Parties that report having a mechanism in place to ensure an efficient and effective emergency response to new casualties; % of affected States Parties that report on availability and accessibility of health services,						The Committee would welcome an update on availability of first aid to assist new casualties and efforts to improve national capacity in this regard.			
	including in rural and remote areas.									
34	% of affected States Parties that report having a national/sub-administrative referral mechanism in place which is available, accessible, and inclusive for all mine victims; % of affected States Parties that report having a comprehensive directory of services available,						The Committee would welcome information on the availability of directory of services, to ensure access to			
	accessible, and inclusive for all mine victims.						services.			
35	% of affected States Parties that report on efforts to increase the availability and accessibility of rehabilitation services;									
	% of affected States Parties that report on the provision of assistive technology;									
	% of States Parties that report on efforts to increase resources and national capacity to make assistive technology affordable and accessible.						The Committee would welcome information on efforts made to enhance national capacity and resources to make assistive technology more affordable and accessible in Cambodia.			

36	% of affected States Parties that report on mine and other explosive ordnance survivors and affected families accessing mental health and psychological support disaggregated by gender, age, disability, and other relevant factors;			
	% of affected States Parties that report on the provision of and integrating peer-to-peer support into public healthcare and other relevant systems.			The Committee would welcome further information on integration of peer-to-peer support into public healthcare systems.
37	% of affected States Parties that report on efforts to remove barriers to the social and economic inclusion of mine survivors and affected families;			
	% of affected States Parties that report on programmes for inclusive employment, livelihoods, and other social protection services;			
	% of affected States Parties that report on the number of mine and other explosive ordnance survivors and affected families accessing social and economic services, disaggregated by gender, age, disability. and other relevant factors.			
38	% of affected States Parties that report integrating the safety and protection of mine survivors in their emergency/humanitarian response and preparedness plans;			The Committee would welcome information on measures put in place to ensure the safety and protection of mine survivors in situations of risks and emergencies.
	% of affected States Parties that report on mine victims' inclusion and accessibility to programmes for humanitarian assistance, risk reduction, and conflict preparedness and protection.			The Committee would welcome an update in this regard.
39	% of affected States Parties that report on progress in removing physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal, and communication barriers;			
	% of affected States Parties that report including survivors and/or their representative organisations in matters that affect them, including in planning and implementation at the national and community levels.			The Committee would welcome information in this regard.
CROSS-CUTT	ING ACTIONS			
1	% 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			
	% 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			
5	% 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 mineaffected communities including mine survivors;			
	% of affected States Parties that report national work plans and strategies developed through inclusive consultation with stakeholders including survivors and representatives of mineaffected communities			
	of mine victims and survivor organisations participating in Convention meetings			The Committee would welcome an update in this regard.
40	% of affected States Parties that report making national financial commitments to their implementation of victim assistance.			
	% of States Parties that report on exploring all sources of funding, including conventional and alternative/innovative			
41	% of affected States Parties that report on progress, challenges in implementation, and requirements for assistance.			
	% of affected States Parties that report having a resource mobilisation plan in place.			The Committee would welcome an update in this regard.
	% of affected States Parties that have taken advantage of the Individualised Approach.			