PRELIMINARY OBSERVATION

THAILAND

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 Thailand 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. Thailand reported that the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS), is responsible for national policies and assistance programmes related to persons with disabilities, including mine victims, with the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) and the National Institute for Emergency Medicine (NIEM) providing emergency assistance and medical care services. Thailand reported that victim assistance measures have been integrated into its broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks.

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

- 3. The Committee recalls that in 2024 Thailand reported that the 6th national action plan on empowerment of persons with disabilities for the period of 2023-2027 was being drafted and that the plan will provide policy framework for various agencies to address the needs and rights of persons with disabilities including mine victims.
- 4. <u>The Committee would welcome an update on drafting process or adoption of the national action</u> <u>plan.</u>

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)

5. <u>The Committee would welcome information in this regard.</u>

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

6. Thailand reported on progresses made in meeting the needs of mine victims.

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)

- 7. Thailand reported that its victim assistance efforts are carried out in a holistic and multi-sectorial approach, with the necessary policy and legal framework in place in relation to health, education, employment development and poverty, with an emphasis on the rights of persons with disabilities.
- 8. Thailand reported that several national legal and policy frameworks including the 2007 Empowerment Act of Persons with Disabilities, have been enforced to enhance the quality of life of persons.

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. Thailand reported 3 men were injured in 2024 and that in total having identified 667 including 609 male and 58 female. Thailand reported the data is made available to relevant government agencies such as the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Labour.
- 10.Thailand reported that mine survivors are registered with the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEP), under the MSDHS, are entitled to receive services and welfare benefits in accordance with the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Act, B.E. 2550 (2007) and the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Act (No. 2), B.E. 2556 (2013).

11. The Committee would welcome further information on indirect mine victims, such as affected families.

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. Thailand reported on the availability of a national database, managed by the DEP, consolidating information on persons with disabilities including mine survivors and information is disaggregated by gender, age, disability, occupation, income and location of persons with disabilities including those whose impairments have been caused by mines. The database is managed by the DEP and information is made available <u>online</u>.

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. Thailand reported that its Emergency Medical Service (EMS) provides emergency medical care throughout the country, and that in 2024 there were 1,467 EMS agencies with 91,747 EMS personnel operating in 6 mine-contaminated provinces, equipped with aeromedical evacuation and referral system.

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

14. Thailand has adopted the Universal Coverage for Emergency Patients (UCEP) policy in order to ensure that mine victims can receive necessary medical treatment free of charge. Thailand has ensured that mine victims, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups will not be denied of their basic rights, regardless of their gender, age and disability, as well as their socio-economic, cultural or political backgrounds.

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

15. Thailand reported on availability of a referral system at hospitals facilitating patients' access to appropriate treatment, including with the support of the Persons with Disabilities Service Centers present in 77 provinces across the country.

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

16. Thailand reported that information on relevant available services is published online and persons with disabilities including mine victims are provided with personalised guidance and support to access services by Centers for Empowerment and Vocational Development of Persons with Disabilities that operate under the DEP.

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

17. Thailand reported on availability of rehabilitation services in accordance with the Empowerment Act, which ensures the provision of comprehensive rehabilitation services.

Ensure to provide assistive technology (Action 35)

18. Thailand reported that in accordance with the Empowerment Act assistive devices are made available.

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

19. <u>The Committee would welcome an update on progress made to increase resources and national</u> <u>capacity to make assistive technology more affordable and accessible.</u>

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

20. Thailand reported on availability of psychological support through mental health programme.

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

- 21. The Committee recalls that Thailand had reported that peer to peer support is provided to mine victims with the support of the Humanitarian Mine Action Units (HMAU), which provides targeted support to every single mine victim.
- 22. <u>The Committee would welcome further information on availability of peer support, and its</u> <u>integration into healthcare system in Thailand.</u>

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

23. Thailand reported on various initiatives and programmes providing socio-economic services including through 3,819 service centres across the country, enabling persons with disabilities in remote areas to have access to necessary assistance and services in accordance with the Empowerment Act.

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

- 24. Thailand reported that it has put its utmost effort to lift the physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers to access to services for mine victims.
- 25. Thailand reported that in terms of social barriers, mine victims are usually at risk of unequal care/treatment because of their socio-economic status, thus, Thailand has adopted the Universal Coverage for Emergency Patients (UCEP) policy in order to ensure that mine victims can receive necessary medical treatment free of charge.

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

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

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

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

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

28. 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)

29. Thailand reported that it has ensured that mine victims, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups will not be denied of their basic rights, regardless of their gender, age and disability, as well as their socio-economic, cultural or political backgrounds. In 2024, Thailand reported making significant efforts to remove physical, social, cultural, political, attitudinal and communication barriers, to enable mine victims to access services, including by placing emergency teams in affected areas to provide first aid and evacuate new mine casualties and by raising public awareness on the rights of mine victims.

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)

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

CROSS - CUTTING ACTIONS:

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

31. Thailand reported on progresses made in different areas of victim assistance and on several legal and policy frameworks that guarantee or guide efforts to address the needs and protect the rights of mine victims.

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)

32. Thailand reported on applying non-discriminatory approach to ensure mine victims are not denied of their basic services regardless of their gender, age or disability.

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

- 33. Thailand reported on activities of several national ministries, budgeted by the Government, as well as the availability of Fund for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities that provides resources for relevant activities.
- 34. Thailand reported that \$7.5 million is allocated for mine action activities by the Government of Thailand on annual basis.

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

35. The Committee would welcome information in this regard.

	SRAAP country reporting tracker Victim Assistance Thailand									
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;						The Committee would welcome an update on drafting process or adoption of the national action plan.			
	% 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 in this regard.			
	% 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;						The Committee would welcome further information on indirect mine victims, such as affected families.			
	% 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.									
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, 									
	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, 									
	accessible, and inclusive for all mine victims.									
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 an update on progress made to increase resources and national capacity to make assistive technology more affordable and accessible.			

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 availability of peer support, and its integration into healthcare system in Thailand.
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.				The Committee would welcome an update in this regard.
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 an update in this regard.
	% 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 an update in this regard.
CROSS-CUTTI	NG ACTIONS	1	1 1		
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 mine- affected 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 mine- affected 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.				
	% of affected States Parties that have taken advantage of the Individualised Approach.				