

Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

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Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action
Sector in Lao PDR.

No: 130 /NRA.MRE

Vientiane Capital, date: 02 JUN 2017

**Minute of MRE - TWG Meeting,
Quarter 2, 2017**

The Mine Risk Education Technical Working Group Meeting for Quarter 02, 2017 was held on 12 May 2017, at 09:00 am, in the meeting room of the NRA Office, chaired by Mr. Bounphamith Somvichith, Deputy Director General (Operations) of NRA. There were representatives from operators, partner organizations and including officers and Technicians from NRA Office attended in this meeting totally 19 people; 05 females.

In his opening remarks, the Chairman emphasized on the purpose of this TWG which it was for exchanging, discussing about approaches of how to educate people to understand the danger of UXO and for them to be able to avoid from the UXO accidents.

In the meeting, the MRE Unit of the NRA briefly reviewed the minute of the last TWG meeting and as well as reporting the activities that implemented in quarter 2, 2017, the estimated plan for quarter 3, 2017 which will be focused on: supporting Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism to run the MRE radio programme in 5 provinces of (Khammouan, Salavan, Sekong, Champasack and Vientiane Capital), holding the MRE-TWG meeting, tracking and assessing the audiences of the MRE Radio Programme, publishing UXO Books and conducting emergency MRE activities.

Then, after that, the representatives from the operators and partner organizations took turns to report the achievement of the last implementations and Quarter 3, 2017 activity plan. Of this, the representatives from the Media Department, Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, the Pre-School Education Department, Ministry of Education and Sports, the National Radio Station, Lao Youth Union, SOS Lao, UXO Lao, World Education Lao for its UXO Project, HI, DCA and from Halo Trust individually reported regarding the results of the implementation their quarter 2, 2017 plan and introduced their quarter 3, 2017 work plan. For more details of the reports and work plan from each organization, can see it in the annexes.

- Victim Assistant Unit of NRA also reported about statistic of UXO accidents which he added that the UXO accidents have mainly occurred in the areas where the MRE activities already conducted. The UXO accidents that occurred in 2017 caused from making fire for cooking which since 01 January 2017 up to now (12/05/2017) there have been some UXO accidents, caused 22 people became victims, of these 20 were injured and 2 died (1girl and 1 male adult).

For assisting issue, currently the document regarding the assistance to the victims already approved and would be sent to operators after this meeting.

- The Information Management Unit of NRA reported about the updating of data from 1/1/2017 to 9/5/2017 and proposed to each party to pay more attention to the reports because the data report to the National Data System is very important so as it will be evidence and certify the data availability for all and when conducting fund raising to donors.

The meeting also discussed many interesting topics such as:

1. The representative from Department of Pre-School Education, Ministry of Education and Sports said that they coordinate with district authorities to assist.
2. UXO Lao conducted MRE activities in 9 Provinces for adults and children, visited households, video playing, evaluating.
3. WEL proposed that previously the UXO accident reports have been noticed not so smooth, NRA should reconsider more on the accident report system.
 - In case of taking experts to visit villages which there is no permission letter from Ministry, it was noticed that the local authorities did not give cooperation. This issue was clarified by NRA that the experts who visited the villages it might be during the WRA Essement Team came to visit which there were 2 teams visited, 1 team had coordinated through American Embassy in Laos and then Ministry fo Foreign Affairs and NRA coordinated to the local authorities. It had no problem for this group, but for another group they coordinated through NGO themselves which we didn't know either whether they had problem or not.
4. SOS held Activity Training Course for Female Football Coaches and together with provided people with UXO awareness through football clinic in Xiengkhouang Province during 24-28 April 2017. Organized training courses within and outside the province. Now it is in the period of new MOU proposal.
5. Handicap International (HI): in Sepon, Nong, Phin, and Vilabouly; Handicap provided MRE videos for people, monitored the Training of Trainers Course, provided emergency call numbers and the emery numbers also communicated through the MRE Radio Programme. HI also asked if possible or not to except fees for the spots charge because we are Humanetarian Organization. At the same time HI also proposed NRA to conduct visiting and monitoring activities more often than previous time.
 - To this issue the chairman of the meeting indicated that it will be discussed with concerned parties again.
6. Halo Trust conducted MRE activities in schools, in new villages that have not yet visited before, Recorded of accidents data, conducted MRE essessment. Sepon has 41 new target villages.
 - Coordinated with schools, taking during class hours. The schools children who participated In this activity were from Primary School Year 1 to 5. Also provided them with posters, boys and girls flip charts, questions and answers and giving them some pens or books for prizes.

At the end of the meeting the Chairman directed that:

1. About the assistant to the UXO victims, previously not covered many aspects. Therefore, we have studied more the policies of treatments, victims rehabilitations, improve the carer allowance and policies, deeply attention to how to manage finance reports, proposed the Victim Assistant Unit

- to send all details to MRE Unit for further send to operators.
2. Proposed Halo Trust to provide budget details that used for implementing activities and purchasing equipment which it has been required to come out in the report.
 3. For coordinate point, please coordinate directly to local NRA Offices and also coordinate to provincial labour and social welfare for Savannakhet Province. If you want to quicker the process, please directly send to Mr. Phoukao and cc to MRE Unit in NRA Vientiane Office.
 4. Regarding the system of the UXO Accident Report it was proposed to the concerned units consider or look at it again.
 5. In the report about the activities it should cover budget for the implementation as well and if you can put staff salary in the report will be good.
 6. For the coordination with local authorities it has been required for paying more attention because if we got clear information from the local, then in the central level will not have problem.
 7. For coordinating with NRA Vientiane; operators can coordinate not only during the meeting.

❖ **Remarks:** For further details on the results and the statistic of the implementation of work in quarter 2, 2017 and work plan of quarter 3, 2017 of all operators, please see the enclosed documents.

Chairman of the Meeting



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Mr. Bounphamith SOMVICHITH

Meeting recorded by:

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