

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



No: 235 /NRA.MRE

Vientiane capital, date:.....13.....SEP.....2017

## Record of MRE TWG Meeting, Quarter 3/2017.

The MRE TWG Meeting for Quarter 3, 2017 was held on 28 August 2017 at 09:00 o'clock in the meeting room of NRA Office, chaired by Mr. Bounpheng Sisawath, Deputy Director General of NRA, who is in charge of the Support Sections of the NRA, attended by partners and officers and technicians from NRA Office, totally 17 people; 4 females.

On the opening remarks of the chairman, he has affirmed on the purpose of this TWG meeting to be discussed and shared the information, the approaches of conducting MRE activities to the people for them to understand and can avoid from UXO accidents.

In the meeting, the MRE Unit of NRA has briefly reviewed the minute of the last TWG Meeting as well as reported the MRE activities for quarter 3/2017 and the estimated plan for quarter 4/2017 in which it will be focused on: organizing MRE Training Course to the Village Volunteers in Xiengkhouan and Louangphrabang Provinces.

- The MRE representative from UXO Lao reported on the number of UXO accidents that occurred, the coordination work in the local level sometimes finds delay on reporting about UXO accident.
- It has been noticed that since early 2017 up to now there have been almost more than half of the UXO accidents occurred compare to last year. The causes of the accidents are mainly from making fire, digging ground, and in current situation, some provinces that never have UXO occurred before but it has this year, such as: Bokeo and Vientiane Provinces. The most heavily affected province is Xienkhouang.
- If possible, VA unit would like to join training activities with MRE unit to share and exchange together the policies of VA unit.
- IM Unit of the NRA reported on the updating of the data base from 1/1/2017 – 15/07/2017 and proposed to each party to pay attention on reporting because reporting information to the national data base is very important for being an evident and certify information for te fund raising.
- Research Unit contributed her comments regarding the MOU consideration which has been found that the problems of the MOU process are; not sufficient documents, unclear activities, budget is not complete, reports not provided on time and incorrect.
- VA Unit requested the Research Unit to clarify what information and documents needed for the MOU and the MOA?, research unit should provide draft information requirement form to others.

1. After that, the representatives from operators and partners took turns to report their achievements on their previous implementation and their quarter 4/2017 work plan, of this, the representative from Department of Physical and Art Education, Ministry of Education and Sports, Lao National Radio Station, Lao Youth Union, SOS Lao, UXO Lao, and Halo Trust reported their achievements of the implementation for quarter 3/2017 plan and aising their quarter 4/2017 work plan. For more details of the activities of each party as well as their work plan, can see them on the Annexes.

**In addition, the meeting attendees also discussed on many interesting topics:**

1. Lao Youth Union proposed to be involved in MRE activities, if this concept is possible Lao Youth Union would like to sign a contract.
2. UXO Lao reported that visiting to the villages during this time, there are not many people can attend the meeting because it is in the season of agriculture production of the villagers.
3. Handicap International (HI) conducted training on the safety to the village heads, playing film and following up the strengthening activities and promote emergency call numbers.
  - Total budget for these activities from May to July can be concluded, but for August, HI not yet concluded.
  - HI has a plan to close the project in November 2017, at the present it is about the time to seek for fund raising from the new sources.
4. Halo trust, problems, especially from April to August is about the time. During this time people have been working in their paddy fields, therefore, many families stayed overnight in their fields, our teams conducted activities with them during only in night time.
  - In this rainy season, some of the target villages can not be accessed because of bad road condition and the water in the rivers increased so much, flooded the roads, the teams have to change the plan and visited to the villages where they are accessible.
5. SOS proposed that next quarter plan, SOS would like NRA to attend the meeting in Xiengkhouang Province. More details on this matter, SOS will send invitation to NRA again.

**By the end of the meeting session, the chairman guided that:**

1. Proposed operators to pay more attention to report matter, focal point and budget.
2. Proposed to the concerned parties, operators for conducting project fund raising, would like it to be coordinated to each other, what activities will you conduct? to help on conducting fund raising and implementing activities for reducing UXO accidents based on the 5 year work plan of the sector.
3. The report on the UXO accidents is late, therefore, should have emergency call numbers, and for the coordination on opening the emergency numbers MRE Unit is assigned to take action, for the persons who receive the emergency calls will be the Admin Unit.
4. The consideration about the MOUs, many organizations have comments on the delays of this process, but any way, we would like everybody understands that NRA follows the procedures, the consideration will be faster if the MOU documents are complete and the English and Lao versions have the same content.

5. To the issue related to the policie of assisting the UXO victims, after it got approved , VA unit should send it to MRE Unit to further send to the operators concerned and if there will be a publishment for MRE purposes it will be good.
6. Visiting villages, it is proposed to pay per diem to the staff to support them for staying overnight and facilitate on organizing activities more properly with the the convenient time of the villagers.

❖ **Remarks:** For the details of the activities and the next action plan, can see ithem n the annexes attached.



Chairman of the meeting

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Mr. Bounpheng SISAIVATH

Recorded by:

Vilayphone