

# Lao People's Democratic Republic

Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity



Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare

NRA Office National Regulatory Authority for

No \_\_\_\_\_ /NRA.O. QM

UXO/Mine Action Sector in Lao PDR

Vientiane Capital, Date : \_\_\_\_\_

## QM Unit's Mission Report on Quality Assurance and Quality Control

**To:** Director General of NRA

**Subject:** The Results of Monitoring on Quality Control to NPA Operations in Champasack Province, during, 11<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

### I. Introduction

In reference to the Agreement of the Director General of NRA No 626/NRA.O.A, dated 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020. The Quality Management Team of NRA, in conjunction with PRA Champasack and NPA Champasack Province, has conducted monitoring to the NPA implementation of MoU and Standard Operating Procedure in Paksong district on 11<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Team members are listed below:

1. Mr. Bounthavy Keovilay, Technician, NRA
2. Mr. Bounhieng Soukchanthalavong, Technician, NRA
3. Mr. Bounpone Thammavongsa, Medic, NRA
4. Mr. Vongseng Sisoulith, Technician, NRA
5. Mr. Noupit Xaysana, Technician/Driver, NRA
6. Mr. Khamphery Vibounlerm, PRA Champasack

#### NPA Southern representatives:

1. Mr. Koh Duanpaserth, SEOD4, NPA
2. Ms. Saytar Keounlar, Chief of Medic, NPA

### 1. Purpose of Monitoring

To follow up and monitor the operations, which highlighted to monitor the techniques of UXO clearance, the administration, techniques of UXO Disposal to ensure high efficiency, being safer and improving the operations as well as to tracking on the progress of work plan implementation and for controlling as a uniform system in the same standard.

The QM team from NRA has coordinated with the NPA and SEOD4 who responsible for the NPA operations in the site, to visit and conduct the monitoring to the implementation of its Annual Plan regarding the UXO survey, clearance and disposal operations

### 2. Number of staffs

Total number of staff in NPA Champasack Province is 159 people which comprise of 35 administrative staffs, 15 females and 105 site operation staffs, 24 females and 04 foreign experts ( 01 person based in NPA in Vientiane, 03 persons based in the sites). The NPA has operated its UXO Survey, clearance and disposal in 7 districts including Paksong, Pathoumphone, Phonethong, Champasack, Sukhuma, Mounlapamok and Khong. According to the MOU from 2019-2020, NPA expected to implement its project's goals in 4 provinces in the south of Laos, which is to complete the NTS in 401 villages, the TS in total area of 161,280,000 m<sup>2</sup> in the 1,325 site areas, including the CHA of 5,600,000 m<sup>2</sup> and to complete the Clearance and Disposal the Clusters and other type of UXOs ( Goal 1: to dispose and destroy 8,958 UXOs, and Goal 2: to dispose and destroy 6,221 UXOs).

**NPA Champasack has successfully implemented its operations during 9 months, appeared in the following details:**

- A. Non-Technical Survey (NTS): NPA has conducted several meetings with villagers to collect UXO information in 39 villages as the reference for the Technical Survey teams. As the result, the villagers have provided the information and report of found 67 UXOs including 16 BLUs, 02 Bomb and 49 explosive ordnances.
- B. Technical Survey (TS): NPA conducted the TS in 39 villages and identified as the 29 CHA with the total area of 4,705,000 m<sup>2</sup>, and found 225 UXOs including 216 BLUs and 09 explosive ordnances.
- C. Area Clearance (AC): conducted the AC operation based on the CHA information in 13 villages and completed 816,546 m<sup>2</sup>, found and disposal 1,564 UXOs including 1,450 BLUs, 1 Bomb and 113 explosive ordnances.
- D. Roving Task (RV): The Roving Task Operation is not indicated in NPA's Annual Plan. However, upon the report of villagers, the NPA conducted RV and completed the disposal and destruction of 2,030 UXOs in total, including 1,773 BLUs, 4 Bombs and 253 explosive ordnances.

**(Remark:** NPA have suspended the implementation of project in April due to the spread of COVID-19).

**3. Results of the Monitoring**

- A. The QM team from NRA visited the clearance site in Thongkataiy village, Pakson district, it is noticed that the 04 AC Team of the site has 22 members, comprise of 01 team leader, 02 second team leader, 10 clearance staffs, 02 medics, 02 drivers, 06 staffs for cutting/clearing forest and 01 staff responsible for camp setup. With the total area of 22,129 m<sup>2</sup>, the AC team completed its operation for 3,430 m<sup>2</sup>. Further the remaining area, the AC team will keep conducting until they complete. According to the Annual Plan, AC team has started working on 10 October 2020 and expect to complete on 18 October 2020. By using Vallon VMX-10 detectors, the AC team have yet found any UXOs. It is confirmed that 6 families, 26 people, 14 females are the beneficiaries. The QM team from NRA has also conducted the monitoring to the Plan for Accident Response in the site especially the simulate on how to provide first Aid treatment to the patients who lost right hand. It is found that the medics and the assistants have strictly followed the lesson and techniques during their training.

B. Visited and conducted the QC in 4 site areas of the villages (03 sites in Nonchan village and 1 site in Sepien village), the results are appeared below:

- Task ID: UXO Lao-CHA-2016-1604069, Task ID : NPA-AC-2020-1604069-002, the total area clearance was 45,830 m<sup>2</sup> that conducted QC was 2% or 1 box (20x50=1,000m<sup>2</sup>).
- Task ID : UXO Lao-CHA-2017-1604069, Task ID : NPA-AC-2020-1604069-005, the total area clearance was 146,062 m<sup>2</sup> that conducted QC was 2% or 1 box (20x50) x 1box (30x40) = 2,200 m<sup>2</sup>
- Task ID : NPA-CHA-2019-1604069-002, Task ID : NPA-AC-2020-1604069-007, the total area clearance was 71,655 m<sup>2</sup> that conducted QC was 2% or 1 box (20x50) x 1 box (20x30)= 1,600 m<sup>2</sup>
- Task ID : NPA-CHA-2020-1604065-003, Task ID : NPA-AC-2020-1604069-004, the total area clearance was 18,417 that conducted QC was 2% or 20x20x1box=400m<sup>2</sup>

Through the conduct of QC in 4 sites, it is considered that the area is safe and it is not found any piece of UXO fragment that bigger than a half (1/2) of BLU26 as indicated in the national standards.

#### **4. Good Points/Achievements**

Throughout the visit of QM Team from NRA to observe the implementation of NPA's project as well as the task in administration office and the site operation, it can be concluded as the follows:

- NPA has a document system and managed the information systematically such as: the NTS reports, TS reports, the completion report level 3, internal quality control form, diary, Unidentified UXO report form, Accident Evacuation plan, Staff Blood Group and other documents which were considered as completed as per formulated in its Standard of Operating Procedures and the national standards;
- Team leader and assistants as well as all SEOD1,2,3 have passed the NPA training courses;
- Most of site medics have regular training provided by NPA;
- If any UXO was found unremovable UXOs, the site team will destroy it within a day by the end of working hours of each day.
- After completing the clearance in any box, it is found that the heads of units conducted QC 90% in each box. Subsequently, the SEOD4 will recheck QC 2% again before issuing the handover letters to the owners of the land.

#### **5. Remaining Issues**

Throughout the monitoring to the external quality control, it can be concluded as the follows:

- It is suggested that drivers should have one hour to have a rest after lunch and another one hour before leaving the site in the evening, in pursuant to the national standards Chapter 16, No. 6.3. D (2) related to 6.1;

- It is suggested that NPA should provide more training for site medics on how to use Blood Pressure Measurement tool as well as to provide medical equipment/tools in accordance with national standards, Chapter 16 Medical Support, Appendix A.

To sum up, NPA has effectively implemented its operation in the site and met the quality and safety requirements as well as its SOPs and national standards.

Therefore, we have reported to you for your information.

**Director General NRA**

**Standard and Quality Assurance Unit**

Delivered Location:

- NPA Champasack Province ‘for implementation’
- PR Champasack ‘for report’
- NRA Office for filing