

Transparency measures

In accordance with Article 7, paragraph 1, the Government of the Lao PDR has submitted its first National Report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations before the 180 days deadline after the entry into force of the Convention for us (February 2011). Since Lao PDR did not use, develop, produce, acquire, stockpile, retain or transfer to anyone, directly or indirectly, cluster munitions, did neither assist, encourage or induce anyone to engage in any activity prohibited by the Convention, and is only a victim of the use of Cluster munitions, the report mainly focused on the following points:

- a. The National implementation measures, which will be shared with participants at the next point of the Agenda.
- b. The size and location of all cluster munitions contaminated areas. According to information in our possession, these areas covered about 87,000 square kilometers, or about 37% of the country surface.
- c. The status and progress of programmes for the clearance and destruction of all types and quantities of cluster munitions remnants cleared and destroyed in accordance with Article 4 of the Convention. We have been in a position to provide information on total areas cleared, number of cluster munitions and other UXOs destroyed from January 1996 to December 2010. For instance, from January 1996 to December 2009, about 240 square kilometers have been cleared, including 167 sqkm for agriculture, and 73 sqkm for development; 1,203,084 UXOs have been destroyed, including 536,616 bombs (or cluster munitions), 6,966 Bombs, 6,493 landmines and 653,009 other UXOs.
- d. The measures taken to provide risk reduction education, and an immediate and effective warning to civilians living in cluster munitions contaminated areas. In our first Report, the Lao PDR has been in a position to provide information for the whole UXO Sector from 1996 to 2010.
- e. The status and progress of implementation of obligations on victim assistance according to Article 5 of the Convention. In our first Report, we have provided updated information of the VA Subsector.
- f. The amount of national resources allocated to the implementation of Article 4 and 5. Up to now, most of the resources were in kind contribution, so, it is not easy for us to provide a quantitative value. Nevertheless, we hope that in our next Report, we will be able to do it.
- g. The amounts, types and destination of international cooperation and assistance provided under Article 6 of the Convention. Up to now, international assistance received by the UXO Sector is allocated to Clearance, Mine Risk Education (MRE) and

Vitim Assistance. Below are some figures of Donor contribution to the UXO Sector (excluding the Private Sector):

- 2006: 16,752 Million US Dollars
- 2007: 16,528 “
- 2008: 12,852 “
- 2009: 14,945 “

We hope that we will be able to provide more information from 1996.

As you can see, Donor contribution was decreasing from 2006 to 2008, due perhaps to the international financial crisis. Henceforth, with the recovering of the international economic situation, we hope that Donor contribution to our UXO Sector will increase so that we will be able to fulfill our obligations under the Convention.

Thank you.