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STATEMENT ON CLEARANCE AND DESTRUCTION OF CLUSTER MUNITION REMNANTS
Third Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (3RC-CCM)
Lao National Convention Centre, Vientiane, Lao PDR | 14-18 September 2026

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Mr. President, Distinguished Delegates, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, Cambodia warmly congratulates Lao PDR on its Presidency of the Convention and wishes you every success in guiding this important Review Conference.

Cambodia is pleased to participate in this meeting as an observer and wishes to express its strong support for the humanitarian principle of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Cambodia recognizes the serious and long-lasting humanitarian consequences posed by cluster munition remnants, particularly to civilian populations, livelihoods, and socio-economic development. We therefore attach great importance to effective survey, risk reduction, and clearance efforts in affected areas.

Under the implementation of the National Mine Action Strategy 2018–2025, Cambodia has made significant and commendable progress in addressing this enduring challenge. To date, approximately 538 square kilometer of cluster munition contaminated land have been cleared, while 76,756 cluster munition remnants have been found and safely destroyed.

These achievements would not have been possible without the dedication, courage, and professionalism of our deminers, as well as the steadfast support and generous contributions of our development partners and donors. Cambodia deeply values and appreciates their continued commitment and solidarity in advancing our shared goal of a cluster munition impact-free Cambodia.

Although this achievement has been widely recognized as significant by the Royal Government of Cambodia, development partners, and mine action stakeholders, significant challenges remain. As of June 2025, 644 square kilometers of land contaminated by cluster munitions (CM) remained recorded in the national database.

Furthermore, new cluster munition contamination resulting from the 2025 Cambodia-Thailand border conflicts has added a further dimension to Cambodia's mine action challenges. Based on preliminary survey findings, nearly 3,000 square kilometers of land are estimated to have been impacted by cluster munitions during the conflict. The presence of these cluster munition remnant

poses a serious and continuing risk to civilian populations, particularly in affected communities, and presents significant challenges to humanitarian response, socioeconomic development, and the safe use of affected land.

In addressing these challenges, Cambodia underscores the importance of sustained, coordinated, and needs-based efforts to identify, assess, and progressively clear contaminated areas, with priority given to locations presenting the greatest humanitarian and socio-economic risks.

Cambodia remains committed to supporting international efforts to strengthen the capacity of affected States in survey and clearance and welcomes continued international cooperation and assistance, including technical expertise, capacity-building, resources, and the exchange of best practices, lessons learned, and relevant information on land release and clearance methodologies. Within its national capacities, Cambodia stands ready to contribute constructively to international dialogue and cooperation by sharing its experiences and expertise, with a view to advancing our collective efforts

In conclusion, Cambodia reaffirms its support for humanitarian mine action and for continued international efforts toward a world free from the threat posed by cluster munition remnants.

Thank you.