



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
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STATEMENT ON RISK EDUCATION

Third Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (3RC-CCM)
Lao National Conference Centre, Vientiane, Lao PDR | 14-18 September 2026

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Mr. President, 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.

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, I am honored to present Cambodia's continuing efforts in Explosive Ordnance Risk Education.

For Cambodia, risk education is not simply about providing information—it is a life-saving intervention. Whether the threat comes from landmines, cluster munitions or other explosive remnants of war, our objective is the same: to protect people, prevent casualties and enable communities to live and move safely.

Cambodia has spent decades addressing contamination inherited from past conflicts. Yet the recent Cambodia–Thailand border conflicts have created a new humanitarian challenge. Surveys across seven affected provinces have identified thousands of contaminated locations covering nearly 4,000 square kilometres, of which almost 3,000 square kilometres are affected by cluster munitions. The conflicts affected 349 villages, creating urgent new requirements for risk education, survey and clearance.

Mr. President,

Cambodia responded rapidly. At the peak of displacement, more than 640,000 people had been forced from their homes. Explosive Ordnance Risk Education was deployed to displacement centres to reach displaced populations, particularly before their return to affected communities, providing families with practical information on recognizing explosive hazards, avoiding dangerous areas and reporting suspicious items.

Risk education also continues in affected communities, with particular attention to populations facing greater exposure to explosive hazards. Cambodia works through national and local authorities, mine action operators and community networks to deliver messages that are accessible, relevant and responsive to changing risks on the ground.

Our experience has taught us that risk education cannot stand alone. It must be closely integrated with survey, marking, clearance and victim assistance. Information from affected communities helps identify hazards and prioritize operations, while timely risk education helps protect people until contaminated land can be made safe.

The humanitarian consequences of cluster munitions and other explosive ordnances do not end when fighting ends. Preventing further casualties requires sustained engagement with affected communities and the capacity to respond rapidly when new threats emerge.

Cambodia remains committed to protecting affected communities and ensuring that future generations do not inherit the deadly consequences of cluster munitions and other explosive ordnances.

Thank you.