



STATEMENT

“Agenda item 9 (f) National Implementation Measure”

16 September 2026

The 3rd Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions
14-18 September 2026, Vientiane Capital

(Please check against delivery)

**Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,**

At the outset, I would like to express our appreciation to **Panama, the Coordinator on National Implementation Measures**, for its dedication in advancing the implementation of Article 9 of the Convention.

The Lao PDR remains firmly committed to the full and effective implementation of Article 9, including through appropriate legal, administrative and institutional measures. Strong national implementation measures are essential to translating our internal commitments into effective action at the national level and to sustaining progress towards the humanitarian and disarmament objectives.

Excellencies,

The Lao PDR has continued to strengthen its national legal and institutional framework governing the UXO/Mine Action Sector. An important recent development is the adoption of the **Prime Minister's Decree No. 166/GOV on Addressing UXO Issues**, which strengthens the national framework for oversight, coordination and implementation.

Since 2023, the **National Regulatory Authority (NRA)** has operated under the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, and we have strengthened both its role and its coordination with relevant ministries, provincial authorities, operators and development partners. Mechanisms such as the **UXO Sector Working Group (SWG)** and its **Technical Working Groups** support joint planning, prioritization, information-sharing, and accountability, while reinforcing a whole-of-government approach and national ownership in the implementation of the Convention.

In 2026, we have approved the revised **National Mine Action Standards**, aligned with the international mine action standards; introduced a national prioritization matrix; and strengthened information management through the Information Management Action Plan 2026-2030 and implementation of the IMSMA Core.

Together, these measures are intended to improve operational quality, strengthen national capacity and ensure that limited resources are directed towards areas of greatest humanitarian and development priority.

Excellencies,

As we look towards implementation period, the Lao PDR welcomes the emphasis placed in the on national ownership, institutional capacity, coordination, transparency, and measurable implementation.

As President of this Review Conference, the Lao PDR attaches particular importance to Action 40 and 41 of the *draft Vientiane Capital Action Plan 2027-2031*, which calls for comprehensive national legal and administrative frameworks, and for State Parties to report on challenges they face and to seek and provide assistance in meeting them. These actions reflect the emphasis that the draft as a whole place on national ownership, institutional capacity, coordination, transparency, and measurable implementation. The Lao PDR believes that strong national implementation is the foundation on which the effective fulfillment of the Convention rests: clear legal frameworks, capable national institutions, effective coordination and reliable information are essential to turning treaty commitments into tangible results.

Our national implementation will continue to be guided by the Convention and aligned with broader national development priorities, including **Safe Path Forward III, the National Socio-Economic Development Plan**, and **SDG 18: Lives Safe from UXO**.

We therefore encourage all States Parties to continue strengthening their national implementation measures and to share experiences, good practices and, where needed, assistance in implementing Article 9.

Excellencies,

The Lao PDR stands ready to continue working closely with all States Parties and partners towards the full and effective implementation of the Convention.

Thank you.