

## Day 1

### Session 3 - Demining Robot Presentation

- Demining robot can be used to remove mine from the ground in various terrains. This new technology has been developed with a bid to ensure the safety as well as the efficiency in demining operation.
- Financial and technical contribution on further research and development will be welcomed to enable this robot to achieve the objectives of its creation.

### Session 4 - Leaving No One Behind: Mine Action and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Mine action is not just about demining, it is about equality, poverty reduction, human rights and development.
- Apparently, donor governments have produced tremendous results but funding is slowing down. There has been a shift in financing for the mine action sector. The shift means to broaden the aid regime beyond traditional donors and urge emerging economies of ASEAN countries and the private sector to take on more responsibilities.
- The panel called for a need for innovative and new approaches, not just in securing funding but also in strengthening the partnership. Loan from development bank can also be considered as financing alternative. The private sector who has contributed remarkably to mine action through the development of machine/equipment/technology and training in their uses should expand.
- Further to this, strong, responsible and able mine action institutions are required to build the confidence of donors and other partners. For example, the role of CMAA as a national authority has been proven to provide a strong leadership and deliver good results for Cambodian mine action.
- The panel encouraged ARMAC to play a vital role in ensuring ASEAN connections and bringing together ASEAN resources and expertise.

### Session 5 - Lessons Learnt from the Integrated Approach to Victim Assistance

- ASEAN Member States such as Thailand mentioned that victim assistance has been integrated among governmental and non-gov stakeholders. This complementary effort aims to avoid overlapping.
- Lao PDR conducted the Victims Need Assessment and uses the VA tracking form to continue updating the victim data. Lao introduces a UXO hotline and trains VA coordinators to collect and report the incidents and victims. Medical treatment and rehabilitation services are made available for victims. The country provides vocational trainings in animal raising and implements animal projects with the victims.
- Cambodia has made great efforts in victim assistance, including i) conducting impact assessment to collect data of victims and understand their needs, ii) creating the VA working group to include relevant government ministries, operators and other stakeholders, and iii) developing and empowering local survivor networks to build capacity of their members and to assist other victims on need.
- From NGO perspective, ICRC contributes its support to the sector through the physical rehabilitation programme, the social inclusion programme, the sport activity for victim (e.g. women basketball), and creation of some incentives for the victims.
- ARMAC and SingHealth jointly formulates the programme to showcase the best practice of psychosocial support for victims.

- Limited fund and human resource to support VA programme, distance to access the VA services, and lack of coordination on the ground amongst victim assistance stakeholders, as well as information and data sharing are some of the VA challenges raised by the discussion.

### **Session 6 - Best Practices in Mine Risk Education**

- MRE is about making the dangers of mines and ERW known to the public and encouraging mine safe behaviour.
- Some ASEAN countries such as Thailand have embraced new ways of conducting MRE through social media, google alerts and other novel means of communication.
- Vietnam is moving confidently ahead with a strong progress of the MRE activities through coordination between different ministries. They currently use a wide range of different communication channels such as newspaper, television and face to face meetings to conduct MRE.
- Cambodia highlighted that as the country develops economically, the use of tractors and other heavy machines in fields changes to the way people live, will require new methods for MRE.
- MRE is a gateway to building broader trust and stronger relationship in the community. For example, in Myanmar MRE is connected to the overall peace process as it is one of the first activities undertaken in a post conflict situation and allows communities to talk about their difficulties and issues.
- To overcome MRE challenges, the panel made some proposals for the way forward
  - Build a comprehensive strategy on MRE and firm legal framework
  - Increase investment in MRE and the capacity of MRE staff
  - Promote awareness and communication activities at all levels
  - Establish a regional MRE knowledge sharing platform.

## **Day 2**

### **Session 8 - Land Release: Innovative Methodology and Technology**

- The session discussed about methodology and technology used in land release or clearance. While Lao UXO National Programme and NPA specifically explained about cluster munition clearance, CMAC, MAG and Halo Trust highlighted methodology and technology in land release
- In Lao PDR, the clearance process includes technical survey process (i.e. search process, colour coding boxes, and creating confirmed hazardous area -CHA) and clearance.
- NPA highlighted the process of Cluster Munition Remnant Survey (CMRS) combination of non-technical survey and technical survey and clearance with manual and mine detection dogs.
- CMAC and MAG identified the use of non-technical survey, technical survey, and clearance with manual, machine and mine detection dogs. This whole process has given significant result to the land cleared.
- IMAS has developed tools and guidelines related to the land release, quality management and information management which can be adopted by mine action players to ensure the efficiency of the operation. Those tools can be applied in

complement with the new innovative methods and technologies being invented by mine action stakeholders.

- Develop a standard (on land release) for the regional level as complemented to the existing national standards could be an option for future consideration.

### **Session 9 - Gender Mainstreaming in Mine Action**

- Gender mainstreaming has been a part of the mine action field for at least a decade. In particular, GMAP has made a strong continuous effort to integrate gender perspectives into all pillars of mine action. One highlight is that GMAP is developing new gender mine action guidelines which will be ready by early next year and will help to support international frameworks and laws.
- For gender mainstreaming to be a success it must be integrated into all aspects of mine action including during the planning and design stage as this will affect programmes outputs and results.
- In terms of success, gender has been strongly included in the areas of community liaison, mine risk education and victim assistance. Land release however remains a challenge and is not as inclusive in gender as the other areas.
- NPA and Halo Trust have made substantial progress in promoting the inclusion of women, with Halo Trust this year achieve a 50% gender balance in its demining staff. NPA has also made very good progress in achieving gender balance.
- One major challenge facing gender is the promoting of women into senior management and leadership roles. This will require strong investment in staff capacity development and training.
- Another issue is the lack of gender indicators on the national level. Cambodia in its national mine action strategy has a few indicators but this should be developed further and there should be a more comprehensive collection of gender indicators.
- In terms of victim assistance, gender impacts are varied but overall there is a lack of services targeting and catering to the specific needs of women.
- How can we make sure more women are included and that their needs are addressed?
  - Rehabilitation centers and VA in general should adopt a user centered approach, that directly responds to the unique needs of women.
  - Rehab centers should include trained female staff to ensure female victims are comfortable with accessing services.
  - Ensure that VA services go to the victims and not that the victims go to the VA service.

### **Day 3**

#### **Session 10 – Research and Development in Mine Action**

- The panel discussed extensively on one hand, the innovative aspects of engaging technology to strengthen the efficiency of mine action operations; and on another hand the social science aspect of mine action.
- Apopo underscored the importance of using the combination of deminer, machine/equipment and animals to contribute to its operation. Though both animals have their limitation, the use of these animals to detect the mine could not only ease

the survey operation, but also save lives of the deminers. I would like to wish Apopo all the success for its launch of technical survey dog next year.

- Golden West do not conduct mine clearance and focus on the innovative/training/technique that can help demining operators in their operation. The development of explosive harvesting programme and NMD explosive help save cost and improve efficiency. Moreover, the use of Augmented Reality is a remarkable innovation to augment the training.
- NPMEC has underscored the combination of application of international standard and approach and the technology of demining robot and drone in its UN peacekeeping operations. This can also avoid injury of the deminers.
- UBB Faculty indicated that mine action can help people and society to improve livelihood, and build resilience and sustainable development. It promotes peace as well as stability in the region. These indicators should be properly measured and documented. Methods such as meta-analysis, multi-variate analysis and predictive model can be used to analyse and document these contributions and best practices.
- RSiS presented many programmes in ASEAN in relation to conflict, disaster management, peacekeeping and mine action and highlighted how they interact and contribute to the One-ASEAN One Response.
- It has been suggested by the panel that ARMAC can play a key role in arranging for the regional knowledge sharing on the use of technology, documentation of best practices, other innovative research on the impact on mine action on human and linkage of mine action to the disaster management and other related programmes in ASEAN.

### **Session 11 – International Cooperation and Assistance**

- Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Cluster Munitions share similarity in their establishment, structure, obligations (Articles) and mechanisms such as the review conference and the meeting of states parties.
- CCM has a specific article on victim assistance.
- It is uplifting to see the conventions coordinating the work with over 100 states parties, who have only several support staff.
- For their international cooperation and assistance, it is unequivocal from their mandate that each state party has the right to seek and receive assistance and each state party in the position to do so shall provide technical, material and financial assistance to the affected state party.
- The theme “Take ownership” and “Respond constructively to the Requests”.
- The panel indicate the role that ARMAC can play in promoting bilateral, regional and international cooperation including south-south cooperation. (Article 23, APMBC)

### **Session 12 – Group Discussion**

- Appreciation to the participants for their contribution to the group discussion.
- ARMAC will consolidate and analysis these inputs.

### **Session 13 – Cambodia and ARMAC: Toward effective operationalisation**

- The panel discussed the support from the host country represented by MFAIC to ensure the effective operationalisation of ARMAC.

- Regional seminar on full and effective operationalization of ARMAC to be organised by MFAIC in early 2019. And to express belief that the upcoming seminar and this regional workshop will complement each other. Please kindly support this seminar for those who will be invited.
- MoU between CMAA and ARMAC will be signed next week to strengthen our cooperation.
- ARMAC also looks to do the same with other Cambodian centers.
- Cambodia and ARMAC are ready to collaborate on the MRE project and VA project which will be launched next year.
- It's also suggested by Cambodia that ARMAC can work with CMAA on capacity building of one another and the resource mobilisation.