



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA  
NATION RELIGION KING**

**FOURTEEN MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO AP MINE BAN CONVENTION**

**GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 30 NOV – 4 DEC, 2015**

**ENHANCEMENT OF COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE**

**STATEMENT BY CAMBODIA**

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen;

Distinguished Delegates;

Let me first thank and congratulate to Colombia, Indonesia, Mexico and Switzerland for the leadership you have given for the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance of the APM Ban Convention. And I thank for the invitation and the opportunity to speak in this important session.

Since inception of its mine/ERW program, Cambodia has been grateful of the opportunity to engage in international cooperation within its own border and beyond. Operators, both national and international have collaborated and shared experiences and expertise under the coordination of the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (called in brief as CMAA). A few examples of this type of cooperation can be seen when Cambodia developed its request for APM Ban Convention Article 5 Extension Request. During this process national and international operators had convened together to contribute their expert knowledge to ascertain the remaining contamination problems in the Country. Later, their joint contribution has led to the development of a National Standardize Baseline Survey protocol and the 2010-2019 National Mine Action Strategy. Cooperation with the GICHD and NPA has led to the development of a national land release standard, as currently being effectively implemented by operators. These are just a handful example of cooperation.

Beyond its border, Cambodia has actively engaged in international meetings and forums making efforts to meet its AP Mine Ban Convention's obligations. Cambodia has also extended its expert knowledge to assist other affected states in their efforts to enhance their own program through exchange visits and third country training and knowledge sharing programs fulfilling its obligation under the convention. With our colleagues, from other ASEAN member countries Cambodia has very much been helping to lead the establishment of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC), which is to be based in Phnom Penh. In support of global UN peacekeeping operations, Cambodia remains committed to accepting the challenge of supporting these vital missions with the current deployment of demining personnel in several countries. Moreover, in its efforts to address the Maputo Action Plan, particularly, action #19 through action #24, Cambodia has been fulfilling significant steps.

International valued financial and in kind assistance in the form of human capital, equipment, research and development provided by the international community have enable Cambodia to address its landmine/ERW problem from emergency to development phase with reasonable success. They also helped building a human capacity and operating platform that enable Cambodia Mine/ERW program to meet the future challenges.

Funding remains the core problems for sustaining mine/ERW operations to meet the remaining problems especially when most of funding came from international donors and development partners. Actions would be needed to be able to help the National Authority and operators to mobilize resources and sustain capable human capacity. Let me conclude by thanking to all donors who have been provided supports and continue to help Cambodia to address this inhumane weapons especially for the implementation of Cambodian Mine Action Strategy.

I thank you,