



PRESENTATION BY
CAMBODIAN DELEGATION ON MINE CLEARANCE
THE 9TH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO MINE BAN CONVENTION

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA 27, 2008

Mr. President;
Distinguished Delegates;

During the past year, Cambodia has made tremendous progress on mine clearance, mine risk education and mine action new technologies. These achievements will be presented by my colleague, one of the members of my delegation, who is deputy director general of Cambodian Mine Action Center.

Mr. President, Cambodia remains one the countries most affected by landmines. Despite the unwavering effort of the Cambodian government and its long term partners, mines continue to kill and injure civilians and deny access to productive land.

Furthermore, allow me to re-iterate to this meeting it is widely known that Cambodia is a very active and dedicated supporter and implementer of the Ottawa Convention, as well as one of the most active countries to conduct mine clearance. As one of the pioneers of the movement to ban landmines, Cambodia remains fully committed to the humanitarian and legal principles of the Convention. Cambodia has its own national laws to enforce all aspects covered under the Convention, which requires stiff punishments for any violation.

We are currently very busy working on our Extension Request, as part of our new National Strategy for Mine Action, which will be submitted on time before the end of March 31, 2009. I will handover the floor to HE Heng Ratana from the Cambodian Mine Action Centre to present on progress this year,

Let me pass on to my colleague, H.E. Heng Ratana.