

Thailand's Intervention
Agenda item 7: Review of the operation and status of the Convention
Assisting the victims
27 November 2019

Mr. President,

[The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention was the first convention that obliges States to provide assistance to victims as a result of the use of specific weapons. Its main objective is not only to protect mine victims, but also to reduce and prevent people from the risk of landmines and to ensure that their livelihood will be improved and that they can live safely in their communities.]

Thailand attaches great importance to the **humanitarian consequences of landmines** and has been working continuously to address this issue in a comprehensive manner. The conduct of our **victim assistance program** is integrated into the national policy framework, that is based on the objectives of the Convention, which are to prevent mine-related injury and casualty, as well as to protect mine victims.

To **prevent injury and casualty from mine accident**, Thailand constantly conducts **Mine Risk Education (MRE)** program, which is among our top priorities in mine-related tasks. Our MRE aims at preventing new victim and ensuring that people in the mine-contaminated areas understand the danger of landmines and refrain from taking risky behavior. The programme also focuses on information and experience sharing among affected communities.

To **protect mine victims**, Thailand has been implementing the **immediate response plan** and long-term assistance policy. We are working to ensure that mine victims receive prompt medical attention through dedicated communication channel provided by the National Institute for Emergency Medicine (NIEM). At the same time, **long-term assistance measures**, which closely correspond with our commitment under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), have also been put in place. This is to ensure that all persons with disabilities in Thailand are entitled to the rights specified in the Empowerment of Persons with Disability Act.

In addition, Thailand believes that full participation of mine victims in policy making process contributes to the effective formulation of victim-related program and measures. This is to ensure that such policies and

measures truly cater to the needs and provide the suitable solutions to mine victims.

Mr. President,

Thailand wishes to commend the European Union and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for organizing the Global Conference on Assistance to Victims of Anti-Personnel Mines and Other Explosive Remnants of War, and Disability Rights in Amman during 10-12 September 2019. The Conference allowed mine survivors to share their experiences, thoughts and ideas, which provide valuable guidance for Thailand to develop our policies and strategies accordingly.

To conclude, Thailand reaffirms our commitment to work with international community to advance victim assistance works as well as in all other aspects of the Convention.

Thank you.