

**Intervention by  
Lieutenant-General Krisda Norapoompipat  
Director-General, Thailand Mine Action Centre  
during the Review of the Operation and Status of  
the Convention: (c) Clearing Mined Areas  
at the Maputo Review Conference on a Mine-Free World  
Tuesday 24 June 2014**

*(Please check against delivery)*

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Mr. President,

- Mine clearance remains an obligation that Thailand takes very seriously and we are committed to doing our best to meet such obligation.
- By the end of 2013, Thailand's total number of contaminated areas or confirmed hazardous areas (CHA) had been reduced to 496.75 square kilometers or 19 percent of the total mine-affected area identified in 2001.
- The total achievement during the calendar year of 2013 alone was 31.91 square kilometers released and cleared. This result adds on to an increasingly positive trend since we first started rolling out the Land Release process. Thailand is encouraged by the progress made in both 2012 and 2013.
- Guided by the Cartagena Action Plan, Thailand's National Mine Action Standard was developed in line with the International Mine Action Standard. The Standard has been subsequently amended to reflect the unique challenges to Thailand's conditions and to incorporate the Land Release method. In the past year, Thailand Mine Action Center (TMAC) has re-evaluated mined areas according to social and economic importance to the local community, which should result in better utilization of available resources.

Mr. President,

- While mine clearance is an ongoing effort, prevention of mine accidents remain vital. In this regard, Thailand continues to attach utmost importance to providing mine risk education. Last year alone, TMAC carried out Mine Risk Education (MRE) activities reaching out over 80,000 persons.
- Continued levels of engagements are maintained at the local level by utilizing local radio stations as a channel to reach the local population and by holding monthly meetings with provincial administrative offices, sub-district leaders and village leaders in affected areas. Special attention has been given to border areas by placing multi-lingual signage to provide warning for local populations.
- TMAC's Coordination and Evaluation division continues to keep an active online presence as well as through traditional media channels to engage the general public as well as at-risk populations.
- From our experience, Thailand fully understands the importance of support and partnership in fulfilling obligations under the Convention. In this connection, I would like to take this opportunity to extend our appreciation to all who have provided support to Thailand's mine clearance efforts.
- I would like to thank the NPA for its contribution to the successful implementation of the Land Release technique. I would like to convey my appreciation for their partnership with TMAC in clearing mined areas in northern Thailand. We would like to recognize the Government of Japan for providing financial support to Thai Civilian Deminer Association to operate in Surin province through Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF).

Thank you, Mr. President.

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