

Thailand's Statement
Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Intersessional meeting
“2. Matters related to the mandate of the Committee on Victim Assistance”
18 – 20 June 2024, World Meteorological Organization, Switzerland

Chair,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

For more than twenty (20) years, Thailand has put utmost efforts to fulfill the obligations under the Mine Ban Convention, including victim assistance.

In Thailand, seven hundred and twenty (720) mine victims are with ID card for person with disabilities. More than ninety percent (90%) of them suffer from mobility disabilities, followed by visual, hearing and communication impairments respectively.

Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities under Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, together with Thailand Mine Action Center, National Institution for Emergency Medicine and other agencies concerned, have played a crucial role in promoting victim assistance. By putting mine victims under a unified service system with persons with disabilities, Thailand empowers these people through three following methods:

1) **Promoting role models of persons with disabilities.** Thailand encourages the persons with disabilities to be role models or leaders of their community. Being part of the government's network, they can participate in our decision-making process, making suggestions to the development of policies, strategies and measures that determine their rights in accordance with the laws.

2) **Capacity building for persons with disabilities with potentials.** Thailand supports vocational training and reskilling/ upskilling development to enhance the employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities also helps them to start and advance their career through the loaning support from the Fund for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. In addition, they are provided with financial assistance as well as necessary rehabilitation services.

3) **Subsidies and all - aspect protection for persons with disabilities** who cannot depend on themselves. Thailand has provided those, such as bedridden persons with multiple impairments, with assistance and services, including foster family, necessary medical and mental care as well as personal aid and equipment support.

In conclusion, Thailand wishes to reiterate its commitment towards the victim assistance obligations under the Convention as well as the Oslo Action Plan. We also stand ready to continue supporting the Committee on Victim Assistance and share experiences and best practices in protecting the rights of mine victims.

Thank you.

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