



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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**Statement**

**by**

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**During the Thematic Debate on Agenda Item 51:**

**“Assistance in Mine Action” of the Fourth  
Committee session of the 70<sup>th</sup> United Nations**

**General Assembly**

New York, October 16, 2015

**Mr. Chairman,**

I wish to express my appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report on “Assistance in Mine Action”, which provides comprehensive assessment on the impact of mine action undertaken by the United Nations, including efforts to promote the universalization and implementation of the international legal instruments on mine action as well as progress in developing the coordination and rapid response mechanisms to address the threats of landmines and explosive remnants of war.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The Lao PDR shares the vision of the United Nations for a world free of threats from the explosive remnants of war. To realize this vision, the international cooperation and assistance is of paramount importance. The Lao PDR, therefore, commends the United Nations system and the international community for their work in the field of mine action, which has, to a great extent, addressed the humanitarian concerns caused by explosive remnants of war, including landmines and cluster munitions in many affected countries around the world.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The Lao PDR is one of the most unexploded ordnance (UXO) affected countries in the world which still becomes obstacles to national development and affects the livelihood of the people, especially in the rural areas. Therefore, a huge amount of resources are required for their clearance.

For our part, the Government and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) established the multilateral UXO Trust Fund to mobilize financial support for the two UXO-specific national institutions; namely, the National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector (NRA) and the Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme (UXO Lao). Since it was established in 2010, development partners such as Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the European Union, Luxemburg and Belgium have contributed more than US\$28 million to the Fund. Recently, the Republic of Korea has also contributed to Fund.