

Draft

Pledging Statement

By UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Douglas Gardner

Consultative Group Meeting in Phnom Penh, 2-3 March 2006

Excellency,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honored on behalf of the 16 UN agencies operating in this country, to provide our collective pledge for 2006.

First on behalf of all staff serving in Cambodia, national and international, women and men, we pledge to serve the causes of development, peace and security, and human rights. We are committed to support the nation's Government and people in reaching their highest ambitions as embodied in the Cambodian Constitution, the NSDP, the CMDG's, and the UN conventions and treaties that have been ratified. We hope to build the capacities of the Cambodian institutions and people who will make this happen.

Drawing from the Government's Rectangular Strategy and the NSDP, actions of the UN agencies and funds during the period 2006-2010 will focus on four strategic areas that have been agreed with Government:

1. **Good Governance and the promotion/protection of Human Rights:** as we believe that having institutions that function with integrity, include citizens in decisions that affect their lives and work within the rule of law will be essential to boost prosperity and achieve the Cambodia Millennium Development Goals.
2. **Agriculture and rural poverty:** With the majority of the poor living in rural areas and relying on agriculture for both income and food, invigorating rural agriculture and related activities is at the heart of the well-being of the majority of the population.
3. **Capacity building and human resources development for the social sectors:** as quality health and education systems are fundamental to allow Cambodians to take charge of their own futures.
4. **Support to the implementation and monitoring of the National Strategic Development Plan.** as the single Government strategy to prioritise and monitor development aligned with the Cambodian Millennium Development Goals.

To ensure concrete results and to maximize effectiveness of our activities, we will work under the leadership of our national partners and in close collaboration with other development partners, civil society and the private sector.

In 2006 we are committing 58.1 million US Dollars for UN supported activities in Cambodia. In addition to this pledge of resources from the HQ level, at the country level this could be complemented as and when development partners chose to channel funds through UN programmes in joint activities.

Thank you.