

**High Level Stakeholders Consultation Meeting between the
Royal Government of Cambodia and United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA)
“Country Program Action Plan (CPAP) 2016-2018”**

Opening Remarks

**Dr Derveeuw Marc G.L.
Representative, UNFPA
27 October 2015**

Excellency, Chhieng Yanara, Minister Attached to the Prime Minister and Secretary General of CRDB and CDC,

Excellencies, Distinguished representatives of the Royal Government of Cambodia,

Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. First of all, I would like to thank His Excellency Chhieng Yanara and the CRDB for convening and organizing this meeting. As we are wrapping up the current country programme, we greatly appreciate the convening of this meeting at this critical time.
2. Before anything else, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all government colleagues for their cooperation in the last five years and the continued dedication to making it possible for us all to work together effectively which, as a result, allows us to successfully accomplish the implementation of the fourth country programme.
3. I like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for the continued advice and guidance that Your Excellency and colleagues at the CRDB/CDC have been extended to us throughout from the start in supporting the development process of the Country Programme and Country Programme Action Plan.
4. I would also like to thank all the Outcome Groups who have long since embarked on this programme development for their hard work, which has now resulted in this results-focused framework for implementing the fifth country programme for the next three years.
5. As Excellency Chair stated, the purpose of our meeting here today is to validate the planned results, strategies and implementation arrangement of the new Country Programme. This meeting is intended to get feedback from the national partners and validate the proposed programme's focus against the development realities of Cambodia and global trends today.
6. My colleague is going to provide us with a brief overview of the new country programme to be followed by the outcome group presentation. But before that, I think it would be worthwhile going briefly through the key highlights of achievements of implementation of current country programme.
7. I am pleased to report that after about five years since the current programme was approved and implemented, we have accomplished a lot of considerable achievements which have significantly contributed to reduction of poverty in Cambodia.
8. The fourth UNFPA country programme in Cambodia, 2011-2015, contributed to overall reductions in maternal mortality from 206 to 170; increased skilled birth attendance from 71%

to 89% and contraceptive prevalence rate 35% to 39%, and proportion of demand satisfied from 75.6% to 81.9%. UNFPA successfully influenced the health development agenda and leveraged resources for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and maternal health, and family planning (approximately five million USD in addition to the first ever national budget commitment for contraceptive procurement at US\$300,000); increased number of emergency obstetric and newborn care (EmONC) facilities from 49 to 110 Basic EmONC and 31 to 37 Comprehensive EmONC; increased access to reproductive health, family planning and HIV prevention services including for key young populations; enhanced access to SRHR for adolescent and youth through developing curriculum for comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) for adolescents in school and launched multimedia initiatives on SRHR for adolescents and youth both in and out of school; supported the second National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women, and developed the National Guidelines for Managing Violence against Women; and improved government capacity to collect, analyze and utilize population data including one DHS, one Inter Censal Population Survey and the first ever migration survey in Cambodia during the program cycle.

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

9. These are something we should be proud of; and building on these achievements, UNFPA is proud to present a new three year country programme, which is tailored to the needs of people in Cambodia and aligned to Cambodia's national priorities. It is the product over a year of continued hard work of planning on the part of the four Outcome Groups.
10. We are honoured to renew today our partnership with the Government and continue our work to help Cambodia deliver a world every pregnancy is wanted, every delivery is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. UNFPA will continue to support national capacity development to provide reproductive and maternal health services; undertake youth advocacy and promote adolescent health; support institutional capacity development for the prevention and treatment of gender based violence; and develop national capacity for data collection, analysis and use for national policy and subnational development planning.
11. With this note, I would like to invite my colleague Ms Catherine Breen Kamkong to give us the overview of the new country programme.

Thank you.