

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

Opening Remarks

H.E Chhieng Yanara,

Minister attached to the Prime Minister, Secretary General, CRDB/CDC Royal Government of Cambodia 27 October 2015

- Excellencies
- Colleagues from the Royal Government
- Dr. Marc Derveeuw, UNFPA Representative and other distinguished representatives of UNFPA
- Ladies and Gentlemen
- 1. It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to our stakeholders consultation on UNFPA's County Program Action Plan 2016-2018. I wish to acknowledge the presence of senior officials from the Royal Government and our partners from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Cambodia.
- 2. The purpose of our meeting today is to validate and endorse the planned strategies towards achieving defined results. These strategies include the main interventions and the monitoring framework to support implementation of the priorities identified in the Country Programme Document.
- 3. The Royal Government of Cambodia and UNFPA have prepared the UNFPA Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) for 2016-2018 on the basis of long standing cooperation and partnership. The CPAP is derived directly from the NSDP, the UNDAF and the UNFPA Executive Board-approved Country Programme Document (CPD). The UNDAF, CPD and CPAP have all been developed in a participatory manner and are based on analysis and evaluations of the development situation as well as the experience acquired in our previous work.
- 4. As you can see in the final draft, the UNFPA Country Programme Action Plan, to be shortly approved by UNFPA and the Royal Government, defines eight outputs to be achieved by the end of 2018 under four thematic areas: i) Sexual reproductive health and rights, ii) Adolescents and youth, iii) Gender equality and women's empowerment; and iv) Population Dynamics.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen

- 5. I would like to start with my heartfelt congratulation to all the Outcome Groups that have worked to prepare the CPAP content. This includes the representative of UNFPA, Dr Marc Derveeuw and his staff, key Government counterparts, including the, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Planning, and Ministry of Women's Affairs
- 6. Today's meeting marks an important step in a series of consultative planning process which began late last year. I take note, with sincere appreciation, the active participation of all key line ministries and departments who are the UNFPA's critical partners in the planning for the new UNFPA programme of assistance to the Royal Government of Cambodia.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen

- 7. Based on the draft, I commend the Outcome Groups for their continued efforts and contribution to the planning which you will see momentarily through the presentations of the Group. I especially appreciate the fact that the draft CPAP builds on the achievements and lessons learned from the implementation of the current country programme and takes into consideration the national priorities, in the context of the National Strategic Development Plan and UNDAF. The CPAP also serves to implement the Framework of Actions for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development Beyond 2014, which I understand that my colleague HE Mr Tuon Thavrak actively participated in the 47th Session of the Commission on Population and Development in New York last year. Our work to date shows a high degree of alignment and prioritization in line with global commitments and national objectives.
- 8. I thank you for your kind attention and I wish us well in our discussion. I now invite Dr. **Marc Derveeuw**, UNFPA representative in Cambodia, to provide an introduction on behalf of the UNFPA Cambodia and to elaborate further on the objectives of today's meeting and reflect on the key achievements as a result of implementation of the current CPAP.

Marc, the floor is yours.