



**Joint Annual UNDAF Review Meeting
10 March 2015**

by H.E. Minister Chhieng Yanara
Minister attached to the Prime Minister
Secretary General, CRDB/CDC
Royal Government of Cambodia

Closing Remarks

- Excellencies
- Colleagues from the Government
- Ms. Claire Van der Vaeren and other distinguished representatives of the UN System in Cambodia
- Representatives of development partner agencies
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Claire to be invited to offer concluding remarks prior to the close

- 1- Our meeting has now come to an end. I would like to express my appreciation for the rich and insightful discussion that we have had today, and for the clear comments and recommendations from all the participants. I wish to share just a few short observations with you as we close for the day. The achievements of UNDAF in 2014 - which focuses on supporting the provision of essential social services and strengthening systems of governance - position the UN very well to play an important role in complementing and supporting the efforts of the Royal Government. Moreover, the guidance that emerged from this meeting will lead to concrete actions for implementing the UN programme priorities in 2015. Therefore, I would like to kindly suggest that the UN Resident Coordinator take today's comments into account.
- 2- Many interesting and insightful issues have been highlighted through the presentations and discussions this morning. The need for inclusive and diversified growth is an area on which we have seen satisfying achievements and we are poised for further progress, especially in the agriculture, education, and health. But of course there remains much to be done, including on climate change resilience and gender equality. Support to national capacities and systems is key to ensuring that we can strengthen and sustain the progress to date and we learned from our governance discussion of how UN support is central to our work on promoting improved public service delivery, especially for National and sub-national level, and also to promoting decent standards of work in the private sector.

[Make reference to any other important areas of discussion or agreement from notes taken during the meeting]

Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen

- 3- The Royal Government of Cambodia is prioritizing the advancement of social services and strengthening human resources and is working with our partners from the UN to achieve our common objectives. Cambodia continues its effort in investing in young people's education and employment for economic growth and sustainable development, so that the education sector will be a priority sector. Besides this, the need to improve maternal health is a challenge that requires our vigilance and continued effort. UN system support to strengthening the health workforce in particular to upgrade skills and competency of midwives through in-service training is just one of many areas in which we must continue to focus our efforts. It is also clear that a great deal of effort has been made in order to foster gender mainstreaming across the whole spectrum of Cambodian society. The UN system strongly supports the government's efforts of promoting women and children's rights. Furthermore, as we look forward to the negotiation of the new Sustainable Development Goals by the end of this year, I believe we have a strong process and a robust framework to ensure continued alignment and strong results.

- 4- I therefore wish to place on record the appreciation and strong support of the Royal Government for this United National Development Assistance Framework, as well as for preparing us for 2016-2018. I am reassured that our partnership with the UN at country level is well-placed with the UNDAF to build on the progress we have made together in so many of the CMDG targets. I therefore assure the UN family in Cambodia of our full commitment to our partnership with you and to realizing the results that are in line with our national priorities and policies.

Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen

- 5- In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the participants and presenters for giving their valuable time to participate in this meeting. I thank **H.E. Claire Van der Vaeren**, UN Resident Coordinator, her staff and all UN Agency Heads and staff. In addition, I must congratulate my colleagues from the Royal Government for their sustained commitments and inputs that have guided the UN to ensure that its work is relevant to the needs of Cambodia and is results-based. I wish you good fortune in implementing the 2015 UNDAF work programme and so now please allow me to declare this meeting closed.

Thank you!