

**TWG NETWORK RETREAT
22 October 2015**

**H.E. Chhieng Yanara
Minister attached to the Prime Minister
Secretary General, CRDB/CDC**

Closing Remarks

Excellencies, colleagues from the Royal Government
Development partners
Representatives of Civil Society Organizations and NGOs
Ladies and gentlemen

1. We have now concluded our discussions. After two days of reflection, analysis and your very useful inputs, I believe we have produced some impressive results. I thank our final session discussants, who have provided a full picture and a useful summary of what we have achieved. We look forward to moving forward with all of the actions and recommendations that result from our meeting.
2. I believe we have completed our agenda fully and realised our objectives. Specifically, I think we can all agree that we have identified important actions to promote partnership and results. For the SDGs and the IDP in particular – both of which are relatively new initiatives – I believe we have established a useful momentum that will help us to ensure rapid progress.

Our SDG discussion yesterday was an important first step. It is clear that localising all - or most - of the 17 Goals will take time. Raising awareness and ensuring readiness is our starting point. Our meeting served a very useful purpose and I thank Ms Claire and colleagues from the Ministry of Planning in helping us to understand more about

the 2030 Development Agenda. We have also been able to clarify the important next steps we need to take in SDG localisation. The Ministry of Planning has set out its immediate and medium-term intentions that will inform the 3 key stages: localisation; funding and implementation; and monitoring.

Our discussion in the breakout groups I think also highlighted the need to identify champions and establish leadership for each Goal. Ministries themselves must focus their planning resources on accommodating the SDGs and the Industrial Development Policy in their work. In this way we can better understand gaps and opportunities - both within ministries and across the whole of Government - to inform our cooperation with our development partners.

Another important result from our meeting is that we have agreed that we must also ensure that those Ministry staff working on these SDG and IDP issues are present and active in the TWGs. Only then can our partnership and dialogue arrangements ensure that the SDGs and IDP are fully incorporated in the partnership dialogue. Mobilisation, implementation and monitoring will all require that Government's internal planning and coordination is fully mirrored in TWG work.

Our next steps in taking forward CRDB's IDP-related responsibilities were set out yesterday. I think our meeting has established a useful consensus on the role of ODA in supporting the IDP: infrastructure; private sector partnerships; trade facilitation; and in strengthening the enabling and institutional environment. We will now use the data we have in our ODA Database to map current levels of support while working with ministries to understand their needs. This will inform inter-ministerial Government dialogue and will prepare us to work more closely with development partners - bilaterally as well as in the TWGs and other multi-stakeholder forums - in mobilising and aligning external support. To date the Royal Government has been very encouraged by

the enthusiastic and positive response of development partners to the IDP and we look forward to working constructively with you.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen

3. For our TWGs there has been much useful learning and we have identified a number of actions and approaches that must now be applied. The new Guideline, the findings of the Strengthening Exercise and the JMI report I believe have been validated. I thank you for this. Moreover, this analysis has informed a very useful discussion this morning.

As we move forward, the individual roles and contributions of ministries, TWGs and development actors in supporting the SDGs and IDP will become clear. There will of course be differences in approach that are determined by mandate, priorities, capacities and resources. What we must endeavour to achieve in our partnership work, however, is to ensure that our combined impact is consistent with our high-level over-arching objectives. This applies to the Rectangular Strategy and NSDP as well as to sector and cross-cutting work such as the Neary Rattanack 4 that we focused on this morning. This is clearly where the added value of the TWGs is to be found.

I believe that one part of CRDB/CDC's contribution to this effort is the provision of data and evidence on funding and JMI implementation. I was very encouraged to see the application of gender analysis presented by MOWA and I can confirm that CDC will be very happy to continue working with MOWA - and all other ministries and TWGs - on gaining further insight on the complex issue of mobilising and coordinating cross-cutting issues. I therefore appeal to development partners: work with us to ensure that we have full and accurate data on the valuable support that you provide. This is important for the Busan survey but - more critically - it informs our efforts to allocate resources, implement priority programmes and achieve development results.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen

4. I am grateful for your hard work during this meeting and, as we look to the future, for your continued support and partnership. We all understand very well that the next phase of Cambodia's development will be more complex and challenging as we move towards Lower Middle Income Country status, intensified industrialisation, regional integration and many other new opportunities and challenges. The profile of development finance will change and we will need to establish new ways of working with all development actors to be able to make progress in managing the 2030 Development Agenda and our national development priorities.
5. I wish to conclude these short remarks by acknowledging the contributions made by all of you in making our meeting a great success. I am grateful to all session chairs, discussants and presenters. I also highly appreciate the collaboration of the EU and UN as Lead and Alternate DP Facilitators in working with me in preparing for this meeting. Many thanks to Ms Fiona and Ms Claire.
6. I would also like to thank all partners supporting the PfDR project – UNDP, Australia, Sweden and Switzerland - for their continued technical and financial support. I also wish to thank my own staff from CRDB; their facilitation and presentations have helped to inform the plenary and group discussions; and of course, I thank our translator for his excellent service.
7. Thank you to all of you for making this an effective meeting. I trust that the momentum we have created here can be translated into future work. I now wish to invite Ms Fiona to say a few final words on behalf of development partners.

Thank you