

**Minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting**  
**Technical Working Group on Forestry & Environment (TWG-F&E)**  
**At the Forestry Administration's Meeting Room**  
**15<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

**1. Welcome by Chairman**

The meeting began with a warm welcome from the Chairman, H.E. Ty Sokhun, and a briefing of the agenda. H.E notices that and appreciates the members are actively participating and contributing in the meeting and performing better and better. He also emphasized that this is the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the TWG-F&E and held in the beginning of 2008 for discussing and approving the draft work plan for 2008.

**2. Discussion on a draft progress report to 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of GDCC**

Mr. Lay Khim from UNDP would like to add in the report the achievements of the supported projects in contributing to the action plan of forestry sector.

The draft progress report was discussed and shared information among members and will be approved after minor revision and addition of input from relevant members and will be sent to the GDCC as soon as possible.

**3. Discussion on a draft TWG-F&E Action Plan and Budget 2008**

Mr. Sok Srun, Coordinator of TWG-F&E Secretariat presented the draft work plan 2008 for TWG-F&E; there are 42 main activities/projects. He emphasized that it is developed referring to information collected from the stakeholders. The 2008 Annual Work Plan and Budget is reliable and achievable because most activities have secured funding.

Dr. Andrew suggested clustering the activities into groups based on the six sub-programmes of the National Forest Programme.

Mr. Seng Bunra would like to add some more activities in the Central Cardamom Protected Forest Conservation Programme, such as law enforcement, community engagement, ecotourism, research, Cardamom management plan, Cardamom landscape vision.

Mr. Tommi, FAO said that based on the experience of community forestry development in North-Western Cambodia, FAO has developed four new community forestry proposals. None of these has secured funding. He sought clarification on the most appropriate forum for project ideas and unfunded proposals.

Dr. Andrew: You can see from some existing proposals e.g. the Forest Law Enforcement and Governance proposal developed and submitted to ITTO. Pending a decision by the ITTO Council this proposal cannot be included as part of the AWPB-2008. Development partners are to be encouraged in taking initiatives and involving other partners of government and development partners in the process of defining new proposals.

Mr. Lay Khim saw some activities supported by Danida-Dfid-NZ Aid, implemented by WCS and UNDP also supports WCS to undertake similar activities. He would like to suggest a meeting with Danida, WCS, FA and MoE to review the joint support to e.g. forest demarcation.

Regarding to sharing information and proposed activities for action here, H.E Ty Sokhun said that the TWG-F&E had sent a letter to all members of TWG-F&E and stakeholders calling for proposals and activities for the 2008 AWPB since early November 2007. He very much appreciated the information shared by Khim and encouraged all members and

stakeholders to share information with the TWG F & E in order to increase efficiency and avoid duplication of activities/projects. TWG-F&E is looking forward to receiving more information from its members.

Dr. Tom Evans, WCS will add activities which have been supported by UNDP and others in the work plan list.

Mr. Peter Jipp: WB has supported many projects like as conservation biodiversity project, environmental impact... within the MoE and they are not reflected here, if they are needed to include in the work plan as providing to MoE too.

H.E Ty Sokhun said that the TWG-F&E would welcome receiving information regarding projects supported by WB, UNDP etc.

Mr. Lay Khim asked for clarification to what extent this work plan to capture as the TWG-F&E include name of environment, and it is broad work, we can talk about green, yellow, grey, climate change...

H.E Ty Sokhun: Of course, the environment is too broad, but we try to focus on issues that are relevant to natural resource management and climate change. The forestry sector is increasingly playing an important role in climate change mitigation, and climate adaptation activities.

Dr. Andrew: For the purposes of the TWG-F&E we should focus on the institutional mandates regarding the use, management and protection of Cambodia's forest resources i.e FA, DNCP and climate change office in the MoE. This does not, of course, exclude other relevant RGC institutions such as MEF, MOI, MIME etc

The draft work plan will be approved after revision of additional information from relevant members. Again we encourage the distinguish members to send the information to the TWG-F&E Secretariat.

#### **4. Presentation on Progress of the study on Development of baseline information on domestic and export demand for rubber wood, rice husk and wood chips.**

Arnaud Guidal presented preliminary results of the Baseline Information Development.

Rubber wood resource expected to be depleted within 1 year (4,000 ha remaining):

44 brick factories along NH6 consuming 150,000 m<sup>3</sup>/year,

69 garment factories consuming 65,000 m<sup>3</sup>/month,

No data available yet on sawmills' consumption.

700 rice mills in Battambang and Banteay Meanchey producing 250,000-350,000 tons of husk/year. Brick factories represent 80% of the national demand for rice husk. Their total consumption is around 13,000 tons/year. Other users are noodle, alcohol, stoves producers etc. Survey to be conducted in March. Export of husk and paddy are unknown at this stage. Check points to be conducted in March.

19 Economic Land Concessions are identified as being involved in pulpwood plantations.

Arnaud Guidal raised concern about (i) the profitability and (ii) the competitiveness of some projects based on transport cost models and global market price.

National demand is null,

Export demand is around 10,000 tons/month (Hilco co. ltd.)

Conclusions:

The need of planning in biomass resource production

The potential impact on poverty alleviation developing (rural) energy services using renewable fuels (rice husk). Plus the advantage of carbon credits.

H.E. Ty Sokhun commented that wood energy has indeed an important role to play in poverty alleviation. He mentioned Marubeni and Oji paper companies as importing wood chips from Cambodia. H.E. Ty Sokhun asked for clarifications on CDM potentials. One approved methodology to claim carbon emissions reductions is “substitution to fossil fuels” i.e. when rubber wood will not be available anymore garment factories may use coal imported from China. Another methodology can be “energy efficiency” of boilers of garment factories and kilns for brick factories. Other methodologies can be looked at such as Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation.

Dr. Andrew raised concern about the future pressure on natural forest as a source of energy for rural enterprises. He suggested exploring the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Framework with regard to the garment industry in Cambodia

Given the large wood fuel footprint of the garment industry. Some investors have already shown a willingness to replant the trees but the sector as a whole has done little to address this issue. I will contact an ILO advisor working in the sector, and take the issue up with H.E. Ty Sokhun.

H.E. Ty Sokhun has agreed to focus the support to FLEG during 2008 (pending an ITTO Council decision on a FLEG proposal from FA) on strengthening monitoring of the timber trade between Cambodia and Vietnam. This builds on existing bilateral agreements, and the need to strengthen surveillance capacities esp. in Kratie and Kampong Cham provinces.

#### **5. Presentation on Progress of Development of Commercial Community Forestry (CCF) in Mondulhiri and Kratie Provinces, Cambodia.**

Mr. Edward Pollard, Technical Advisor, WCS presented the progress of the CCF project since activities started in November 2007. The goal of the project is *To establish a community-based enterprise to carry out sustainable forest management in the buffer area of the Seima Biodiversity Conservation Area (SBCA)*. The target site is in Mondulhiri and Kratie Provinces and covers approximately 42,000ha of the Buffer Area of the SBCA. Current activities are in 3 components. Community development work has to date involved having the project included Commune Development Plans in Khseum, Sre Chhuk and Sre Preah communes, and baseline survey of target villages in Khseum and Sre Preah. One interesting result of this has reveal a difference in official commune boundaries and those understood by villagers. Other results show that resource use in the site is complicated. The villagers often travel from one commune to another to collect resin, or other Non Timber Forest Products. This complex system needs to be recognised in the development of the project, implementation cannot happen in one commune with no consultation with neighbouring ones. Other significant achievements to date include approval from MAFF, staffing the project, production of the Tropical Forest Trust report, and meeting with partner organisations. Finally patrolling has started in Mondulhiri and discussions begun with Khseum Triage. During the next 3 months the baseline social survey, more detailed work in Sre Preah commune, continued law enforcement, and some participatory mapping will be completed.

#### **6. Close of the Meeting**

H.E. Ty Sokhun expressed his sincere appreciation to all members of TWG-F&E for their active participation and contributions in the successful meeting, and wished them all the best and looks forward to continued contributions and participation in the next forum.

## Participants

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|---------------------------|---|
| 1. H.E. Ty Sokhun         | TWG-F&E Chairman  |
| 2. Dr. Andrew Wardell     | Counsellor-Development, Danida                                      |
| 3. Mr. Hem Vanyuth        | Deputy Director, Europe and EU Bilateral Aid Coordination, CDC/CRDB |
| 4. Mr. Hori Masahiko      | Chief Advisor, CBFS-II/JICA   |
| 5. Ms. Suon Pankanika     | Deputy Office, MEF  |
| 6. Mr. Sin Sokhon         | Deputy Director of Department, MLMUPC                               |
| 7. Mr. Sy Ramony          | Chief Office of DNCP/MoE  |
| 8. Mr. Mak Sopheaktra     | Deputy Director, MIME   |
| 9. Mr. Lay Khim           | Team Leader, UNDP   |
| 10. Mr. Tommi Tenno       | NRM Officer, FAO  |
| 11. Mr. Jean Marc Bouvard | Advisor to MAFF   |
| 12. Mr. Peter Jipp        | Natural Resource Management Specialist, WB                          |
| 13. Mr. Lu Chu Chang      | Chairman of CTIA  |
| 14. Dr. Tom Evans         | Technical Adviser NRM, WCS  |
| 15. Mr. Edward Pollard    | TA, WCS   |
| 16. Mr. James Bampton     | CTA, RECOFTC  |
| 17. Mr. Arnuaud Guidal    | Forester, GERES   |
| 18. Mr. Lerax Antoine     | Researcher, GERES   |
| 19. Mr. Seng Bunra        | Country Director, CI  |
| 20. Mr. Ouk Kimsan        | CCPF Program Manager, CI  |

## TWG-F&E Secretariat

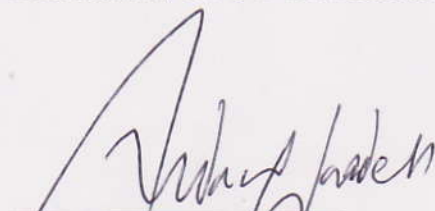
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| 22. Mr. Sok Srun   | Secretary of TWG-F&E | Tel: 012 940 936 | E-mail: <a href="mailto:twg.fe@citylink.com.kh">twg.fe@citylink.com.kh</a> |

Recorded by



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H.E Ty Sokhun  
*TWG-F&E Chairman*