



Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Forestry Administration
No. 2191 របៀប: ក្រប: តប

Phnom Penh, 16 September 2005

**Director of Forestry Administration
Presents to**

His Excellency Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Subject: Report on the 4th GDCC meeting between RGC and development partners

Reference: MAFF Note # 4554 ក្រសួងក្រប របៀប: ក្រប: តប dated 05 September 2005

As the afore-mentioned subject and reference, I would like to inform you that on 15 September 2005, 09:00 am, I and two of my colleagues have attended the 4th GDCC meeting held between RGC and the development partners at the Government Palace (CDC cabinet). The meeting was processed under the presidency of H.E. Keat Chhon, Senior Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance with the participation from Excellencies, Lok Chumteav, Ambassadors, International Organizations (i.e. The World Bank, IMF, ADB, JICA, DANIDA ...), Chairmen and Co-chairmen from among the 18 TWGs, Lead Donor Coordinators of each TWG, NGOs and media. The agendas of the meeting are as follows:

1. Review on the progress of each TWG Action Plans
2. Work progress of each TWG towards the accomplishment of Joint Monitoring Indicator (JMI)
3. Work progress of each TWG in harmonization and alignment efforts

In relation to the above agenda, H.E. Chhieng Yanara, Deputy Secretary General of CDC and Secretary General to GDCC had briefly addressed to the meeting on the work progress of each TWG achieving during from June to August 2005. Subsequently, H.E. Keat Chhon announced for the opening of joint discussion.

Regarding the TWG-F&E, Mr. Mogens L. Christensen, Minister Counselor of Royal Danish Embassy, had expressed his remarks in accordance with his observation that the support from donors for forestry and environment sectors are now falling down. At the meantime, he addressed that forestry is an important factor for contribution to the economic and social development and it is also an important part for contribution to the poverty alleviation of the rural people. Therefore, he wished all donors will re-consider on their support to the Forestry and Environment Sectors. He also raised that presently the local demands for forest supply has been rapidly increased and the forest concession management plan has not been adopted yet. With this regard, Mr. Mogens L. Christensen expressed his comments and suggestion to the RGC as follows:

- There should be urged to have a decision on forest concession management plan as soon as possible.
- Must formulate the forestry plan based on what the forest sector requires to accomplish toward the specific target focusing on the sustainable of forest management such as annual coup plan with the study of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) through consulting with the local community.

In response to Mr. Mogens L. Christensen 's comments, I have clarified that :

1. For the formulation of Action Plan, the RGC has a Forestry Policy, Law on Forestry, Rectangular Strategy, 5-years Action Plan for the implementation of rectangular strategy , TWG-F&E action plan 2005. But due to the lack of financial and technical support, the works could not be carried out.
2. Not only the new action plans, but also the TWG-F&E action plans 2005 that was approved in 2004 still has no support in both financial and technical aspects from the development partners. It was able only to access the regular meeting and secretariats' works with a minimum support from the minor existing forestry projects. In contrast, many NGOs have received a huge amount of fund directly from the private sectors and donors. Unfortunately, FA and MoE did not receive any support for its key roles as the implementing agencies in natural resources management. This is clearly indicated that **there is no balance to ensure the sustainable.**
3. As the Chairman of TWG-F&E, I have urged all donors to have reviewed their position and reconsidered on how to provide the necessity of financial and technical support in governing of natural resources management and forestry to Cambodia. With this concept, I have announced to the meeting that FA, MoE and TWG-F&E are welcome to all donors for further discussion on the issues concerned .
4. For domestic forest supply, I had already informed the donors in the previous meeting that in the coming year 2006 FA will operate the forest business in order to achieve 2 goals:
 - A special coup management to supply for the construction of the National Assembly Building. The budget from RGC to FA for the operation and study on Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) has been approved. The forest business operation in such special coup area will be carried out in the next coming dry-season.
 - For the annual coup , the process of management plan is undertaken and all the progress activities have been reported to TWG-F&E meeting.

In addition to the above report, I would like to inform you that there was many complains from donors during the meeting on MAFF who had not disclosed information to donors and public in relation to the concession land that provided to the private companies in the past.

Therefore, please be acknowledged of this report as well.

Ty Sokhun

C.C.

- TWG-F&E
- "For information"
- File