

**Minutes of Workshop
Planning and Organization of a National Forest Programme
Forestry Administration's Meeting Room, 12th January 2007**

1. Welcome by Chairman

The meeting began at eight fifteen in the morning as planned with a welcome address from chairman, Mr. Chea Sam Ang, Deputy Head of Forestry Administration, who firstly welcomed all participants and followed by highlighting activities done by FA related to National Forest Programme (NFP) and the needs of Formulation a National Forest Programme in order to get involvement from a multi relevant stakeholders.

2. What is a NFP?

Dr. Ida Theilade, consultant from FLD, pointed out that today's workshop is an internal one to discuss and brainstorm on NFP in a Cambodian context. She gave an overview on NFP, Vision and Mission of a NFP, Main elements of NFP, how to design a NFP, Main Processes of NFP as well as highlighted some NFP approaches from other countries.

The definition of a NFP by FAO is "A wide range of approaches to process of planning, programming, and implementation of forest activities in a country". For GTZ the NFP is 'A country specific political process aiming at conservation, management and sustainable development of a country's forest. It results in agreed objectives, policies and strategies for sustainable forest management and in specific actions for implementation".

The presentation also gave example of main elements of NFP, which consist of National Forest Statement, Sector Review, Policy, Legislation and institutional reform, strategy development, action plan, investment programme, capacity building programme, monitoring and evaluation system, coordination and participatory mechanisms.

Dr. Ida reminded the workshop of the important thing that a NFP it is not formulated by external consultants but it is a government-let multi stakeholder process.

The participants raised some questions and comments such as Mr. Khorn Sareth, head of forest management office asked that "what is the difference between NFP and National Forest Planning? And the answer was by Dr. Ida that "The National Forest Planning is part of NFP followed by Sarah Burggess who said that this kind of question come very often because in some countries/places they have similar definitions of these NF Programme and NF Planning but NF Programme is a mechanism to cover the overall framework, and compile existing related documents.

3. Strategic Planning and Group discussion

Dr. Ida gave some ideas for preliminary analysis including identification of main issues to set up the Cambodian NFP vision and mission. In the presentation shown the main phases of NFP process, which consist of organizing, strategic planning, implementation, revising and updating. In organizing the process there are steps of identification of partners, national coordination mechanisms and development of a communication strategy. In the strategic planning process there are preliminary analysis, in-depth sector analysis, strategic analysis, formulation of NFP and NFP

documentation. For the programme implementation there are implementation, coordination and monitoring, capacity building, policy, legal and institutional reform and investment programme, whereas the revision and updating step consist of evaluation, re-assessment of national and international context and updating the NFP.

Dr. Sok Heng suggested the participants to split into two groups for discussion on formulation of Cambodian NFP vision and mission based on main issues identified and national strategies and time allowed for each group was 30 minutes.

4. Group Presentation

The results of discussion of each group were presented:

Group 1

The group indicated that in forest management there are three main issues: Land, Forest and human/people.

Land: since the decade of 1960s up to 1990s only the ministry of Agriculture has authorization on land management and certification through department of land management. But since after county's global election in 1993 the department of land management was transferred to new-created ministry called "Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction". At present there are many institutions have authorization on land such as MAFF, FA, Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction (MLMUPC), Ministry of Environment, CDC, Provincial Development Council, Local Authority and there are no clear function and authorization on land management. Forest land boundary is not clear and not demarcated yet. That's why the conflict in land occurred a lot and forest land is encroached and cleared. FA wants to protect forest land for sustainable forest management.

Forest: Forest demarcation not being done yet, population growth, increased wood demands limited law enforcement lead to disturbance of forest and forest land. So NFP is needed to assure to sustainable management, conservation of existing forest.

Human/People: follow the discussion people are divided into two groups as Local community and FA competence.

Local community: little knowledge on forest and conservation, poverty, and migration are main factors, which lead them to commit activities against forest law.

FA competence: no clear function and responsibility, lack of government budget, lack of tools and means for operation, improper staff deployment, no right direction indication, lack of evaluation of performance of FA/staff..

According to time constrain the group focus on only main issues not the vision and mission but they can be picked up from vision and mission of national forest policy statement.

Group 2

The discussion found out main issues in current forestry sector as follow:

forest land encroachment elsewhere of the country,

no legal wood supply for domestic uses,

overlap function and role between various institutions on land management,

conversion of forest land into concession land for economic development,

lack of skill amongst the implementation officials,

poverty, population growth and fast development

no boundary of forest land,

limited research in forestry and wildlife sectors,

limited enforcement of forestry law.

From the above issues the group drew the vision and mission of NFP as follow:

Vision: Go forward sustainable forest management focus on conservation of biodiversity, provide service of wood procurement, environmental service to enhance national socio-economic.

Mission:

sustainable forest management
contribute to poverty reduction and improve rural livelihood
change from management to public services offering in forestry sector
implementation of government rectangular strategic policy.

Dr. Ida commented that in further work the two presentations and findings should be combined to formulate the main issues of a NFP in Cambodia, as seen by FA. The issues identified by the two groups are in line with the Forest Policy Statement, the Rectangular Strategy and the National Strategic Development Plan, which focus on three main areas forest conservation, poverty reduction and good governance. Dr. Sok Heng gave a presentation on general principles guiding for Cambodian NFP preparation and the organization of the process including identification and analysis of stakeholders, identification of partners. He point out that NFP is a participatory process and requires a broad inter-sectoral approach at all stages, including formulation of policy, strategies and action plans as well as their implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Key elements for Cambodian NFP are national forest policy statement, sector review, policy and legislative reform, strategy development, capacity building programme, investment programme, monitoring and evaluation system and coordination and participatory mechanisms. Dr. Sok Heng also raised the subject on main stakeholders in forest sector for workshop participants to discuss. Stakeholders proposed by workshop:

Government agencies

FA

MAFF

MoE

Ministry of Industry, Mine and Energy

Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction

Ministry of Interior

Ministry of Economic and Finance

Council of Ministers

Ministry of National Defense

Ministry of Commerce

Ministry of Tourism

Civil Society Organizations

Mutual benefit organizations, which consist of community based organizations (indigenous and introduced), trade unions, professional associations.

Public-benefit organizations are the NGOs, who work on social, human rights, and environment.

Private Sector

Foreign investor and concessionaires

Cambodian Timber Industry Association

Builders and furniture manufacturers.

Donors

International financial institutions

Bilateral donors
Inter-government organizations
International Organizations

All above stakeholders should be involve through meeting, workshop, conferences, internet debate, public hearing, and discussion.

5. Discussion on TOR for NFP Task Force

Dr. Ida asked the participants to read and give comments on draft on TOR for Task Force of NFP with overall objective is to promote sustainable management and equitable use of forest in Cambodia to improve the livelihoods of poor people to support a balance socio-economic development, where the specific objective is to support and contribute to the development of a national forest programme in Cambodia. In general participants agreed with the draft TOR only few comments were asked to be inserted into draft for Dr. Ida to improve.

All participants agreed and suggested that since the Task Force will have many task to do and members come from several agencies so a full time national facilitator should be recruited to support the Task Force.

6. Sum up and closing remark

Mr. Chea Sam Ang reviewed and sum up all important points discussed during workshop, and suggested that NFP should be formulated within a year of time not two years as planned because the FA wants from year two to implement of NFP. He asked Dr. Ida to review the TOR of Task Force and send back for final comments and suggested FLD and Danish Embassy to allocated fund for recruitment of one fulltime national facilitator for the Task Force.

He highly evaluated that the workshop get fruitful discussion and out puts. Comments and suggestions from participants will be useful for the formulation of NFP and expect that they will be invited for next step meeting or workshop. He express sincere thanks to all participants who spent valued time to attend this workshop and wish them safely back to homes and work places.

Special thanks to Dr. Ida contributed and brought key elements and examples for the formulation of Cambodian National Forest Programme and wish her the best and success for next step for NFP and other works, safely back to home country. The workshop was closed the same day at 6 o'clock in the evening under fruitful discussion.

7. List of Participants

Mr. Chea Sam Ang, Deputy Director General, Forestry Administration
Mr. Ung Sam Ath Deputy Director General, Forestry Administration
HE Tim Sypha Head of Mekong Inspectorate, FA
HE Vann Sophanna Head of Northern Tonlesab Inspectorate, FA
Mr. Eang Saveth Head of Southern Tonlesab Inspectorate, FA
Mr. Hout Ponloeu Head of Coastal Inspectorate, FA
Dr. Andrew Wardell Counsellor-Development, Royal Danish Embassy
Dr. Ida theilade Forest & Landscape, Denmark, FLD
Mr. Kimura Yuzuru JICA representative at FA
Dr. Sok Heng Chief of Community Forestry Office, FA
Mr. Long Boung Deputy Head of Coastal Inspectorate, FA
Mr. Chheang Dany Deputy Head of WPO, FA
Dr. Pak Canada Chief of FWTC, FA
Ms. Vong Sopanha Deputy of Administration and Inter. Cooperation Office, FA

Mr. Chan Sophal	Deputy Head of FWSRI, FA
Hun Eang	Head of Kandal Cantonment, FA
Mr. Soun Bunthan	Head of Kampongcham Cantonment, FA
Mr. Tep Nheata	Deputy Head of Kampongthom Cantonment,
Mr. Khorn Sareth	Chief of FMO, FA
Mr. Chorng Tol	Deputy Head of LLO, FA
Mr. Hang Sun Tra	Head of FITDO, FA
Mr. Sok Srun	TWG F&E
Mr. Than Sarath	Chief of Planning Office,
Sarah Burgess	Observer
The Minute Taker	Long Boung