

## **Kingdom of Cambodia**

Nation Religion King

### **Opening Speech By**

#### **His Excellency Dr.TIN PONLOK**

Secretary General of General Secretariat of National Council for Sustainable Development (GSSD)

*Signing Ceremony on the Memorandum of Understanding between National Council for Sustainable Development and GIZ, Climate Finance Readiness Programme*

*Phnom Penh, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2015*

- **Mr. Adalbert Eberhardt, Country Director, GIZ Cambodia**
- **Ms. Regina Bernhard, Advisor, GIZ Germany**
- **Ms. Sandra Stajka, Director of Food Security and Environment, USAID/Cambodia**
- **Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen**

Today, It is my great pleasure and honor to sign on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSO) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH, Climate Finance Readiness Programme (GIZ, CF Ready).

On behalf of H.E. Say Samal, Chair of NCSO and Minister for Environment, allow me to express our sincere thanks to the GIZ-Climate Finance Readiness Programme (GIZ, CF Ready), commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and co-financed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Global Climate Change Office, in supporting the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSO) in implementing our Cambodia's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process with a specific focus on the development of a financing strategy.

As the one of most vulnerable countries, Cambodia takes climate change very seriously high in our development agenda. We believe that we can turn the climate change crisis into a new opportunity for a greener, low-carbon, resilient, equitable, sustainable and knowledge-based development. Within our limited resources and capacity, we have done our utmost to respond to the challenges caused by climate change and to contribute to global efforts to address climate change issues through building our institutional capacity, formulating and implementing policies and strategies, mainstreaming climate change into national planning and budgetary processes, building our climate change financing and monitoring and evaluation frameworks, and implementing actual measures to build community resilience and sustainable livelihoods.

The cooperation with GIZ today to support the Cambodia's NAP process implementation, is one more new initiative to move Cambodia forwards to address climate change in order to support the implementation of Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCCSP) 2014-2023.

I would like to inform you that what we have archived to sign today, it comes from our long time cooperation with GIZ, UNDP and NAP-Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP) in preparation NAP road map and NAP process for Cambodia since 2014. Based on the stock taking assessment, the goal of the NAP process in Cambodia is defined as “Ongoing Climate Change Adaptation processes are strengthened through cross-sectoral programming and implementation at national and sub-national level.

To operationalize this goal, there are six key intervention areas should be focused for implementation such as:

- (1) Inter-sectoral coordinated implementation,
- (2) Data systems and analyses,
- (3) Support financing systematically,
- (4) Capacity development and vertical mainstreaming,
- (5) M&E framework development and implementation, and
- (6) Qualitative mainstreaming.

One of the intervention areas is the support to development of climate financing systematically, that GIZ and NCS D will work together in the 3 years time based on the signing the MoU today. We have started the first activity for our cooperation by conducted a training workshop on the climate finance readiness which held on in June in this year in Siem Reap province, participated by many concerned institutions.

I personally do believe that in the future, GIZ and USAID will further support not only for financial capacity development component, but need to support the whole NAP- process implementation areas as well.

Least but not last, I would like to sincerely thank to GIZ, Climate Finance Readiness Programme and USAID for the support to implement the NAP process for Cambodia. I would like to thank to Mr. Adalbert Eberhardt, Ms. Sandra Stajka, for making meaningful remarks and especially Ms. Regina Berhard for flying very long distance from Bonn to Phnom Penh for signing this important MoU. I also thank to Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen for taking part in this ceremony.

I would like to wish you all to be successes in your work and good health.

Thank you.