

# THEMATIC COMPILATION OF RELEVANT INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY CAMBODIA

## ARTICLE 13 UNCAC

### AWARENESS-RAISING MEASURES

#### CAMBODIA (SECOND MEETING)

##### **1-Awareness-Raising Policies and Practice:**

The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) introduced the "Rectangular Strategy" Phase II as the socio-economic policy agenda of the "Political Platform" of the RGC in the fourth legislature of the National Assembly. This strategy is to be implemented mainly through the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP), will be our means to further pursue our vision of building a Cambodian society to enjoy peace, political stability, security and social order, and sustainable and equitable development, with strict adherence to the principles of liberal multiparty democracy, respect for human rights and dignity.

One of the core elements of the Rectangular Strategy is fighting corruption which constitute as a high priority task and is a part of good governance. We are aware that the Anti-Corruption Law (ACL), adopted and promulgated by Royal Kram on 17 April, 2010 provided an important legal instrument to fight corruptions more effectively.

The Rectangular Strategy also applied strict strategic measures to eliminate the roots of corruptions through interrelated actions below:

- 1. Preventive Measures:** The RGC will continue to raise awareness on all aspects of corruption, including its causes, impacts and consequences and thus to encourage public participation in preventing and combating corruption. Concrete measures will also be pursued encourage all levels of government officials to adhere to dignity, morality, professionalism and responsibility in fulfilling their duties.
- 2. Strengthening Accountability and Institutional Capacity:** The RGC will focus on improving its effectiveness in avoiding conflict between the public and private interests by adhering to the principle of incompatibility between functions, especially incompatibility between political and public servant positions; and between political or public servant positions and private activities. The RGC will also reduce and eliminate the use of public positions, influence and power which blur or bias the decision-making process.
- 3. Public Support and Participation:** Public support and participation is sine-qua-non for effectively preventing, reducing and fighting corruption. In this context, the RGC will continue to further promote and protect the freedom, to seek to obtain and to disseminate information on corrupt cases in the media. However, this should be done in a credible and responsible manner by respecting the rights, honor and dignity of people involved while protecting national security and public order.
- 4. Private Sector Participation:** The RGC will continue develop and pursue implementation of policies, legal and regulatory framework and procedures to protect the integrity of the private sector in order to prevent collusion and to ensure fair competition between private companies/enterprises by ensuring proper behavior, honorable conduct and dignity in all business transactions. The RGC will safeguard the balance between the rights and interests in the contract made between the public and private sector.

- 5. Strengthening of Law Enforcement:** The RGC will take strict legal measures against the culprits in order to eliminate the culture of impunity, reduce corruption and increase public confidence.

**With regard to the Anti-Corruption Law, comprising of 40** Articles taken from the Criminal Code and including 15 Articles from the Anti-Corruption Law, the goal is to root out corruptions via the public participation, education, prevention, law enforcement, and international cooperation. In addition, broad participation from all sectors has been included in the Strategic Planning of the National Anti-Corruption Council for 5-Year Term (2011-2015) and the Action Plan of the Anti-Corruption Plan for 2-Year Term ((20112012). It is our perspective that the broad participation from all sectors is a key to ensure integrity, accountability as well as the respect of human rights and transparency. The Anti-Corruption Unit has set forth a three pronged approach as three vital measures: 1-Public Education, 2-Prevention and Obstruction, and 3-Law enforcement and curbing graft offences, and backed by strategic partnership in term of cooperation regionally,, internationally.

**In the area of Rule of Law:** The Kingdom of Cambodia, recognizes and fully abide by human rights stipulated in the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Covenants and Conventions related to Human Rights, Women and Children's Rights. The Cambodian people have equal status before the law, enjoying the same rights and freedom and obligations regardless of race, color, sex, language, religious belief, political tendencies, national origin, social status, wealth or others.. However, the exercise of personal rights and freedom by any individual shall not adversely affected the rights and freedom of the others. The exercise of such rights and freedom shall be in accordance with the law.

The Cambodian citizen have genuine freedom of expression of their ideas,, freedom to receive information, freedom of publication and freedom of assembly but no one shall exercise his/her rights to infringe on the honor of others, or to affect the good customs and tradition of society, public order and national security. In connection to the media, there is a law on press regime providing the guidance for implementations.

1. Code of Conduct for Internal Auditors issued by the Ministry of Finance and Economy (MEF)