

2011 ECONOMIC CENSUS OF CAMBODIA (EC2011)

Minutes of the 2nd Census Technical Committee Meeting (CTC) on February 10, 2010

The 2nd CTC meeting was held at the meeting room, New Building, the NIS, Ministry of Planning at 9:00 am on 10 February 2010.

Were present:

CTC members:

- 1- H.E. In Saroeung, Secretary of State, the Ministry of Planning and Chairman of the CTC
 - 2- H.E. Hou Hour, Under Secretary of State, the Ministry of Planning and Vice Chairman of the CTC
 - 3- HE. San Sy Than, Director General, the NIS, Ministry of Planning and Permanent Member of the CTC
 - 4- Mr. Hor Darith, Deputy Director General, the NIS, Ministry of Planning
 - 5- Mr. Chan Sum, Deputy Director General of the Taxation Department, Ministry of Economic and Finance
 - 6- Mr. Heng Sophorn, Director of the Department, Ministry of Industry Mine and Energy
 - 7- H.E. Vy Heang Director of the Department, NIS, Ministry of Planning
 - 8- Mr. Seng Chinda, Director of the Department, Cambodia Development Council
 - 9- Mr. Mich Kanthul, Director of the Department, NIS, Ministry of Planning and Secretary of the CTC
 - 10- Mr. Khin Sovorlak, Deputy Director General, the NIS, Ministry of Planning
 - 11- Mr. Lim Penh, Director of Department, the NIS, Ministry of Planning
 - 12- Mr. Hul Sek, Deputy Director of the Department, General of Taxation Department, Ministry of Economic and Finance
 - 13- Mr. F. NISHI, Chief Advisor of JICA Project
 - 14- Mr. Ota, JICA Expert
 - 15- Dr. Otomo, JICA Expert
 - 16- Mr. Ishida, JICA Expert
 - 17- Mr. Tagagi, JICA Expert
- as well as the members and assistants of the CTC of Cambodia.

The Agenda of the Meeting as follows:

- Opening Address by **HE. In Saroung, Secretary of State, the Ministry of Planning**

and Chairman of the CTC

- Progressive Report by **HE. San Sy Than, Director General, the NIS, Ministry of Planning.**
- Summary Report by **Mr. Mich Kanthul and Mr. F. Nishi** on preparation of a meeting of the Provincial Census Committee (PCC) and the plan of the EC2011.
- Report by **Mr. Hor Darith and Mr. Khin Sovorlak, Deputy Director General, the NIS, Ministry of Planning** on preparation of the pilot survey in March 2010.
- Discussions

Opening Speech and Report:

At the outset, **HE. In Saroung, Secretary of State, the Ministry of Planning and Chairman of the CTC** welcomed the CTC members and requests all participants on what necessary to say and don't say unnecessary thing.

H.E. San Sy Than, Director General of the NIS reported the following things:

- 1- Legal status: the 2005 Statistic Law for implementing the EC2011;
- 2- The Sub-Decree of the EC2011 was enacted on 26 August 2009;
- 3- Decision on the membership of the National Census Committee (NCC) consists of 22 members;
- 4- Establishing the CTC consists of 11 members;
- 5- Core staff of the EC2011 consisting of 40 members approved and signed by chairman of the CTC and soon the PCC would be announced under this decision on 15 February 2010. The organization chart of the EC2011 was created as distributed in the meeting and as well as discussed with JICA Experts on preparation of a ceremony of the PCC which would be attended by Ambassador of Japan and Chief Representative of JICA Cambodia.

He also pointed out that normally one year before the census we were very busy to prepare the documents both technical and administrative work. The forms and some documents were revised after conducting the pre-test in Phnom Penh. For the meeting on 15 February, we will invite the relevant ministries including municipal and provincial officers to join in the meeting. In addition, the enumeration of the pilot survey is important and will be implemented in next month as a dress rehearsal of the EC2011 which will use the same forms and calendar as the EC2011.

Mr. F. Nishi asked the CTC members to approve the following documents for the PCC:

- 1- Agenda of the PCC meeting;
- 2- The Sub-Decree on the EC2011;
- 3- Implementation Plan of the EC2011;
- 4- On the work plan of the EC2011, some points were added. The details on census mapping will be explained in April 2010;
- 5- The comments at the CTC will be accepted for the pilot survey;
- 6- Both Khmer and English leaflets for the pilot survey were explained that blue one described the purpose of the pilot survey and white one did the use of economic census data;
- 7- The pilot survey will be conducted not only as a test but also as a sample survey which can release the national level results because the sample size is more than 1 %;
- 8- Duty and Role of the NCC;
- 9- Duty and Role of the CTC;
- 10- Duty and Role of the PCC;
- 11- Press release for the PCC;
- 12- National Report of the 2009 Nation-wide Establishment Listing (EL2009) both in Khmer and English will be distributed in the meeting.

, and he asked so that all participants may cooperate to organize the PCC for the EC2011. He added that the PCC used to be organized also in Japan.

Mr. Mich Kanthul, Director of the Economic Statistics Department, NIS reported about the work plan of pilot survey starting from November 2009 till June 2010 as distributed at the meeting.

Mr. Hor Darith, Deputy Director General, the NIS reported on two main things as follows:

1- Regarding EA (Enumeration Area) maps for the pilot survey, the 2008 Population Census EA maps will basically be used and we have already prepared for 199 selected villages. These EA maps are drawn only the main points such as the boundary of the village and some landmarks, and if there were any mistakes with boundary of village, we need to update these EA maps so as to meet the real situation.

2- On an administrative letter for the pilot survey, an official letter from the Ministry of Interior has already prepared. Director of the Planning Department of Phnom Penh Municipality suggested that this letter was necessary to receive at least two weeks before starting the enumeration because we need to send it to all provinces for asking the admission.

Mr. Khin Sovorlak, Deputy Director General, the NIS briefly reported about some works as follows:

1- The 199 villages were selected from 112 districts with including 692 large scale establishments to be covered.

2- The Form: we already conducted the pre-test from 16 to 31 December 2009 to test the Form. Some revisions of the Form were made based on the comments at the 1st CTC, and we finalized some works such as Manual for Enumerators, Supervisors and other documents so on.

3- The staffs from relevant ministries will join with us in real situation.

4- One Enumerator will be responsible for one or two villages/ EA due to number of establishment in the village.

H.E. San Sy Than

Revisions:

1. Point 6 of Article 5 there were some mistakes on wording.

2. Documents have to be revised in accordance with procedures advised by the Council of Minister.

3. Capital/Provincial Census committee is composed of 12 members and Census Technical Committee is composed of 11 members.

Mr. Heng Saphorn from MIME raised a question that a lot of construction and transportation establishments were registered with the Department of Construction and Department of Public Transport. Therefore should these two departments be included as the PCC member? The second issue is that we should inform large enterprises about the enumeration by letter and make an appointment with them before visit so that the enumerators may easily be allowed to interview the enterprises without any problem.

Mr. Chan Sum from the Taxation Department mentioned that regarding the PCC member, there was not the Capital Taxation Department but Khan Taxation Offices only. So, he proposed to revise the name list of the PCC members. Relating to the Form, at the fist CTC meeting he noted that there were two types of forms: one more is the supplementary form. Why is now only one? In

addition, why is “Statistical purpose only and not used for taxation purpose.” mentioned on the form? He requested to erase the word of “Statistical purpose only and not used for taxation purpose.” so that it could be used also for taxation purpose. One more thing, he additionally requested to add a question whether the establishment registered with taxation office or not.

H.E. In Saroung stated that Phnom Penh Capital had no Taxation Office and we would revise the PCC member list.

Mr. Ishida said that firstly, the supplementary form was canceled. Secondly, printing the word of “Statistical purpose only and not used for taxation purpose.” on the form was in accordance with the international standard as well as other censuses and surveys. In addition, according to experience, most of establishments mind that they may be imposed tax after the survey. Therefore, the word is necessary to print.

About the form we include a question of “Nationality of representatives” and “Inventory of Stocks” as suggested by SIDA. “Regular workers by type of activities” was deleted due to found many mistakes at the pretest.

Mr. Ishida thanked to the Taxation Department for providing us with tax return form and he suggested the Taxation Department to provide also these explanations and definitions in details.

Mr. Chan Sum mentioned if the form followed tax return form, respondents might understand. Then, why the number of establishments registered with the Taxation Department are less than the results of EL2009. He continued that the results of EL2009 maybe included also street gasoline sellers, street vegetable sellers, and morning market. He requested to explain the definition of establishment because it is the first time for him.

Mr. Ishida said that we tried to cover all establishments in Cambodia even if those establishments have no more than small incomes. But since there are so many those small income establishments, those establishments will impact national economy. The form includes a question of “Year of starting business” that allows us to classify whether it is a new establishment or not.

Mr. Hor Darith: relating to construction and transportation establishments, according to the last experience there was no issue in data collection because most of establishment owners are Khmer. Regarding the advance notice letter to large establishments, we can start to prepare from now on because we still have three weeks more for preparing this letter. He continued if we

compared the results of EL2009 with the statistics of the Taxation Department, the number in the results of EL2009 must have been bigger because we included small establishments in the market.

Mr. Chan Sum raised a question that establishments which gained more than 500,000 riel had to register with the Taxation Department and to pay tax. Is it possible to identify whether the establishment registered with the Taxation Department?

Mr. Khin Sovorlak said whether the establishment was registered with the Taxation Department or not could be identified through the question 4.2 asking licenses from ministries/agencies.

Mr. Chan Sum again insisted to erase the word of “Statistical purpose only and not used for taxation purpose”.

Mr. Nishi said that we couldn’t delete it because the Statistics Law of Cambodia stated “Statistical purpose only” clearly. If we used the collected forms for taxation purpose, we won’t be able to get proper answers from the next survey. On the other hand, result tables including whether registered with the taxation office or not could be used for all users including the taxation offices.

Mr. Mich Kanthul: I totally agreed with the announcement to large establishments to get their cooperation because there were a lot of difficulties in 2007.

H.E. In Saroung concluded all of the above mentioned discussions and the distribution of documents on the Capital/Provincial Census Committees. He asked to confirm whether all capital/provinces received the invitation letter of the Capital/Provincial Census Committees. Regarding the matter that only a few participants may attend in the enumerator training, he suggested to remind trainees because that time would be during the occasion of Chinese New Year. He requested all participants to consider more because he received some comments from his friends saying that this work may not be successful. For example,

1. Large establishments will not cooperate to us.
2. Responses will not be correct.

Finally, he thanks to all members for participating and providing their reports and comments.

Mich Kanthul
Secretary of CTC