

**Minutes of the First General Meeting
of 2009 Nation-wide Establishment Listing of Cambodia (EL2009)**

Date 24 Nov 2008

Attendants of the meeting

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|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1- H.E Chay Than | 15- Mr. Hikoyuki Ukai |
| 2- H.E In Saroeun | 16- Mr. F. NISHI |
| 3- H.E San Sy Than | 17- Dr. Inoue shinichi |
| 4- Mr. Hor Darith | 18- Dr. Otomo |
| 5- Mr. Has Bunthan | 19- Mrs. Nishiyama |
| 6- Mr. Mich Kanthul | 20- Mr. Imai |
| 7- Mr. Khin Sovoleak | 21- Mr. Nishimura |
| 8- Mr. So Tonnere | 22- Mr. You Seng An |
| 9- Mr. Lim Penh | |
| 10- Ms Tong Chayrine | |
| 11- Mr. Nim Saomony | |
| 12- Mr. Khin Bunna | |
| 13- Mr. Mak Sovichea | |
| 14- Mr. Kim Net | |

I- Welcome Speech by H.E Chay Than, Senior Minister.

Senior Minister welcomes all participants in the meeting. He thanked JICA that supported conducting the Population Census held on March 2008. The preparation of the 2011 Economic Census of Cambodia is very important. It could assess the Economic Growth of Cambodia, as is stated in the rectangular strategy of Royal Government. And it will be a fundamental data for developing National Account Statistics, which is the indicator to show the economic situation of the country and the indicator will enable us to compare the country's economic situation with the Asian Economic situation while the world economic recession.

Senior Minister also mentioned the history of Establishment Survey. The NIS has conducted large scale nationwide surveys 3 times already in the year 1993, 1995, 2000 and quarterly surveys for three years in 2001, 2002 and 2003 which supported both technically and financially by Asian Development Bank (ADB). But the above survey was suspended for many years because of the lack of fund.

II. Report by H.E. San Sy Than, Director General, NIS

By the assistance of JICA Project on Improving Official Statistics in Cambodia Phase 2, the NIS has conducted the General Population Census of Cambodia 2008 and organized the first general meeting on EL2009.

DG said that the NIS has conducted a series of Establishment Survey in 1993, 1995, and 2000. In the forthcoming EL2009, the NIS will invite relevant line ministries, provincial and municipal planning offices to cooperate and explain the listing form to them. As the Statistics Law was enacted in May 2005, it is the strong base for development of statistics in the future.

According to the Statistics Law, the NIS needs to conduct the Economic or Establishment Census at least once every 10 years. So, with technical and financial assistance from JICA and Government of Japan we will have 2011 Economic Census. Then, the statistical system of Cambodia will serve better to the needs of data users in the areas of macroeconomics and establishments. EL2009 will provide a frame for the various economic surveys and assessments.

III. Introductory report by Mr. F. Nishi, JICA Chief Advisor

Regarding the outline of EL2009, Mr. Nishi briefly mentioned that this meeting was to ask the approval of Senior Minister and discussed the outline of EL2009. He requested Senior Minister to attend the coming meeting which was planned to invite line ministries, provincial offices of MOP in 11 December, 2008.

EL2009 is a difficult task and some elements in EL2009 are different from those in Population Census. Mr. Nishi strongly welcomed the intervention from Senior Minister to help smooth the implementation of EL2009. To get successful EL2009, he said we would need to spend fund in publicity. That is, JICA Project provide 300 banners and 400 T-shirts with caps for enumerators, and approach to media. Then, the owners of establishments will understand EL2009 and allow enumerators to interview them.

EL2009 will provide very important statistical indicators such as the ratios between Cambodian establishments and foreign establishments, between individual and incorporated, and between state-owned and private.

JICA Project has already provided two important activities: the 2006 Establishment Listing and the 2007 Establishment Statistics Sample Survey in Phnom Penh in addition to the core staff training in Indonesia from 2006 to 2008.

IV. Detailed Report by Mr. Mich Kanthul, Director, NIS

With handouts, Mr. Mich Kanthul explained the outline of EL2009, in detail as follows:

Purpose, Reference date, Period of enumeration, Legal basis, Areas coverage, Coverage, Field organization, Method, Estimated number of establishments in Cambodia, Topics to be studied, Data processing, Analysis, Dissemination, Fund contribution, and Preparatory stages.

V. Discussion

During the discussion, H.E Chay Than raised the question on how to classify the establishment size. Answering this, Mr. Mich Kathul said it is possible to classify the Establishment by the number of the persons engaged as follow:

- A- Establishment with 1-9 persons engaged
- B- Establishment with 10-49 persons engaged
- C- Establishment with 50-99 persons engaged
- D- Establishment with 100persons and over engaged

Mr. F. Nishi added the training would allow the enumerators and supervisors to understand how to classify the establishment units.

Senior Minister asked how the enumerators can collect the information that related to the sale amount, taxation and production amount because all these questions are possibly refused by the establishment owners.

Mr. F. Nishi answered that EL2009 would not ask for the above information. EL2009 requires recording the existence of the establishments and basic questions only.

H.E. In Saroeun asked whether EAs of EL2009 would be the same as those of the Population Census. Also, he commented that some enumerators quitted their task in the early or the middle of the enumeration process of the Population Census. How can we recruit qualified enumerators for this EL2009?

Mr. F. Nishi answered that the EAs of EL2009 would be allocated commune by commune. The recruitment of the enumerators and supervisors will be done at the provincial level. And, there will be training before they undertake the task, going to the field.

Mr. F. Nishi asked Senior Minister how much the Royal Government of Cambodia will finance for this EL2009.

Senior Minister answered that the fund from the Royal Government would be around 5% - 10% of the total payment of EL2009.

Mr. F. Nishi recommended that the NIS should follow Indonesian census cycle. The Population Census was conducted in 2000 with a 10 year interval. The Agriculture Census was conducted in 2003 with a 10 year interval. The Economic Census was conducted in 2006 with a 10 year interval. The censuses are evenly timed, so staff has sufficient time to prepare for the censuses.

Mr. F. Nishi added the responsibility of the fund management as follows. After Japan side once issued the fund to Cambodian side, Cambodian side has to take responsibility even if the NIS staff , enumerators, or other Cambodian staff lost the fund. Japan side cannot issue the fund again.

Mr. Imai mentioned that the NIS should immediately make a data processing plan of EL2009. Firstly, as for data entry, the NIS will be able to use CSPro for the data processing of EL2009 or use MS-ACCESS newly. If the NIS tries to use new system, he is ready to provide the related training. Secondly, as for tabulation, the NIS will be able to use “Simple Calculation System” being used for the tabulation of the supplementary tables of 2008 Population Census. And he also mentioned that the NIS should discuss the enhancement plan of IT infrastructure toward 2011 Economic Census since it influence budget allocation directly.

VI. Closing remarks by H.E Senior Minister

When there are workshops and meetings at the new building, they always remind Senior Minister of the assistance from the Government of Japan and JICA. The meeting is important for the preparation of EL2009. Senior Minister hopes that data from EL2009 will be beneficial for Cambodian Royal Government to make policy. Finally, Senior Minister has a special thank to Chief statistic Advisor, JICA Experts, representative of JICA and all participants and also wish to have a good health and good luck.