Speech by Mr. Yasujiro SUZUKI, Chief Representative of JICA Cambodia Office

on

the Occasion of the Ceremony for the Release of the Final Results of the Nation-wide Establishment Listing of Cambodia 2009 of the National Institute of Statistics, Ministry of Planning

CJCC, Phnom Penh December 9th, 2009

H.E.Mr. Chhay Than, Senior Minister, Minister of Planning (MoP),
H.E.Mr. Masafumi Kuroki, Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary of Japan to Cambodia
H.E. In Saroeurng, Secretary of State, MoP
H.E.Mr. San Sy Than, Director General, National Institute of Statistics (NIS), MoP
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Japan International Cooperation Agency, I would like to say a few words to congratulate Ministry of Planning on the release of the final results of the Nation-wide Establishment Listing of Cambodia 2009.

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to Ministry of Planning (MoP) and National Institute of Statistics (NIS) for its invaluable leadership in improving official statistics in Cambodia. It is indeed a pleasure for JICA to have been built a partnership with MoP including NIS in various ways.

JICA's support to NIS started from dispatching Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers and a Senior Volunteer for providing technical assistance since 1999. JICA also provided trainings for more than 600 statistical staff through technical cooperation project which started in 2005. Now, the Project on Improving Official Statistics in Cambodia Phase 2, started from 2007, aims primarily at capacity development of the Royal Government of Cambodia to implement General Population Census and Establishment Surveys.

Qualified and updated official statistics help people clearly understand the socio-economic situation of a country, so that can contribute to the formulation of the appropriate development policies and the alleviation of poverty. Qualified and updated official statistics improve capacity of public administration and contribute to good governance, which is one of the priority areas for JICA's cooperation in Cambodia.

In this context, what I would like to emphasize is the importance of applying the findings. If data is not used properly, value for qualified and updated official statistics will be lost. Today, participants can receive not only the results of the establishment survey, but also presentation to be inspired how to apply data for development planning and monitoring. I am looking forward to an intense discussion among participants to make the maximum usage of the Nation-wide Establishment Listing.

Finally, I would like to conclude my speech by expressing my anticipation for the fruitful success of the ceremony, and the great success of further development planning and implementation through National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) updates from line ministries and sub-national governments, as well as the great success of the strategic market planning of private sectors in Cambodia.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.