

2008 GENERAL POPULATION CENSUS OF CAMBODIA

Minutes of the 3rd National Census Committee Meeting (NCC3) June 05, 2007

The 3rd NCC meeting was held at the meeting room of Ministry of Interior on 05 June 2007 at 8:30 am.

Were present:

NCC members:

HE. Sar Kheng, Deputy Prime Minister Ministry of Interior and Chairman of NCC

HE. Chhay Than, Senior Minister, Minister of Planning and Vice Chairman of NCC, Chairman of CTC

HE. Chea Sophara, Secretary of State, Ministry of Land Management and Construction

HE. Thach Phen, Secretary of State, Ministry of Information

HE. Osma Hassan, Secretary of State, Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training

HE. Ms Chan Sorey, Secretary of State, Ministry of Woman's Affairs

HE. In Chantha, Secretary of State, Ministry of Rural Development

HE. Eng Hout, Secretary of State, Ministry of Health

HE. Seang Kim Han, Secretary of State, Ministry of Tourism

HE. Chea Se, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

HE. San Sy Than, Director General, NIS, Ministry of Planning

Observers:

Mr. F. Nishi, Chief Advisor, JICA

Ms. Hang Lina, Deputy Director General, NIS, Ministry of Planning

Mr. Has Bunton, Deputy Director General, NIS, Ministry of Planning

Mr. Hor Darith, Director, Census Department, NIS, Ministry of Planning

Mr. Sok Vanna, Program Manager, UNFPA

Dr. Sunichi Inoue, JICA expert at NIS

Mr. Long Chinthra, Deputy Director, Census Department, NIS

Mr. Sok Borith, Chief Survey Division, Census Department, NIS

Mr. Shibanuma Akira, JICA expert

Mr. Masashi Nozaki, JICA expert

Mr. Kim Net, Chief of Social Statistic Analyses Bureau, Social Statistics Department, NIS

Mr. Chhun Bonarith, Vice chief, Statistical Information Bureau, Census Department, NIS

Were Absent (Apologies):

HE. Seng Limnov, Secretary of State, Office of Council of Ministers

HE. Ith Praing, Secretary of State, Ministry of Industry, Mine and Energy (Sent representative)

HE. Neang Phat, Secretary of State, Ministry of National Defense (Sent representative)

HE. Ouk Chay, Secretary of State, Ministry of Planning

HE. Ouk Rabun, Secretary of State, Ministry of Economy and Finance

Opening Speech and Report:

HE Sar Kheng, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Interior and Chairman of National Census Committee (NCC) welcomed the NCC members and all guests and participants for attending the meeting. He pointed out the agenda of the meeting: Report of Senior Minister of Planning on the preparations of the census, the notice to all provinces and municipalities to stop provisionally the changes the names of villages, communes and boundaries, the request of teachers and educational personnel for the 2008 population census, the enumeration of defense personnel and other matters. He said that the meeting was firstly focused on informing local authorities to stop to create new villages, communes or change the village and commune name and boundaries. Secondly, the meeting discussed about how to use the service of teachers and to request school teachers to join the census work and thirdly, the meeting discussed how to enumerate the armed forces.

HE Chhay Than, Senior Minister, Minister of Planning and Vice Chairman of NCC reported that we have conducted two NCC meetings so far, the first one approved and formed the census technical committee (CTC) and the second meeting approved the census logo and established census publicity committee. He said that NCC has made a budget request to Royal Government of Cambodia and got the approval of Government budget of US\$ 746, 758. The Census Technical Committee actively fulfilled its work as coordinator with development partners and resolved big technical issues arising from the preparatory phase of the Census. As of June 2007 the Census Technical Committee have had 6 meetings especially to solve the issues relating to coordination works, the funding of the census, mapping, data processing, selection of software, training of staffs, pilot census, approval of census questionnaire, census campaign and other preparatory activities. And then, he reported on mapping activities, training activities, pilot census work and informed the future plan for the census. He concluded that in general, preparation of the census is going well to achieve the success of the census.

Planery Discussions:

Regarding to the first issue – stop to create new villages or stop to change names and boundaries of villages and communes – Excellency Deputy Prime Minister said that there are two ways or options to inform local authorities: (i). Ministry of Planning make request to Minister of Interior to inform the local governments to stop changing names and boundaries of villages or (ii). National Census Committee (NCC) informs directly to the provincial census committees to stop changing the names and boundaries. For the second issue – using school teachers as supervisors and enumerators – H.E. Chea Se, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Education Youth and Sports said that the Ministry will approve the request of school teachers to participate in the census. Director General, NIS, mentioned about the experiences of 1998 population census when we requested 34,000 teachers and education personnel for one and half month and everything worked well. The Chairman agreed to the request of 40,000 teachers and education personnel but he reserved the possibility to include also good students and the like available in the village or area.

Lastly, the third issue is about the enumeration of armed forces. The chairman of the NCC has read the paper on the special arrangements for defense personnel enumeration. The contents of the paper include the ways or methods to enumerate different categories of defense personnel and stressed that we will use the same procedures as 1998 census. And then, the meeting members approved this paper.

As summary of the meeting and discussions, H.E. Sar Kheng mentioned again the importance of the census for the development and the commitment of the Royal Government of Cambodia to undertake the census as strategic tasks and data are very valuable for the country and stressed on 2 key issues for the success of the 2008 population census: (1) the training of census personnel and (2) census publicity among population to get their cooperation.

The meeting was concluded by H.E. Mr. Sar Kheng, Deputy Prime Minister and adjourned at 10:30 am, at the same date.

San Sy Than
DG, NIS
Secretary of NCC