

**Ministerial level consultations of the twenty third session of the
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Nairobi, Kenya, 21 -25 February 2005
Cambodia Contribution to GC 23**

With this connection I would like to share with you the Rectangular Strategy of Cambodia on the issues of water, sanitation and human settlement that the main points are going to discuss in GC 23.

Land and water are the two fundamental natural resources that serve as the basic for socio-economic development and poverty reduction, especially in the rural areas. The Royal Government of Cambodia will continue to implement the Law on Land Management and land policy to strengthen an equitable and efficient system of land management, distribution, land tenure security, eradication of illegal settlement and land grabbing and the control of land ownership concentration for speculative purposes. The Royal Government will continue to accord priority to the strengthening of land tenure rights of the people who need small lots for settlement and family production within the social land concession framework, as a mechanism to assist poor households and vulnerable groups.

The National Policy on water resources and irrigation is a part of broad program to protect, manage and assure sustainable exploitation of both fresh-water and marine resources while enhancing bio-diversity and sustainability for equitable benefit to the public. The objectives are to anticipate and prepare ourselves to meet the growing challenges facing Cambodia's water resources in the next 20 years by adopting relevant measures.

Thus the Royal Government will focus on:

1. Providing all citizens with clean and safe water;
2. Protecting all citizen from water-related diseases;
3. providing adequate water supply to ens ure food security, economic activities and appropriate living standard; and
4. Ensuring water resources and an environment free from toxic elements, while enabling a supportive fisheries and ecological system

The Royal Government will develop and expand irrigated lands and effective water resources management by improving the efficiency of the existing the effectiveness of water communities and reducing the vulnerability of the population to natural disasters and its total dependence on natural conditions.

In fact this is long way to go, and we must make our most efforts to successfully expedite the implementation of this political platform, strategies, concrete reform measures, which we have laid out to the best interest of our people. In this spirit, I would like to share with all member of the GC 23 of this comprehensive and in depth reforms for poverty reduction, progress, prosperity for over the World.

Senior Minister, Minister of the Environment

Dr. Mok Mareth