



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
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Statement by

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to

the High-level Segment of the Fifteenth Session
of the Commission on Sustainable Development

on the theme

“Turning commitments into action, working together in partnership”

United Nations, New York
Thursday, 10th May 2007

**Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

At the outset, I am delighted to have the opportunity to contribute to a successful conclusion to the current CSD cycle, and would like to state that Cambodia would like to associate itself with the statement made by the distinguished delegates of Pakistan as Chair of the Group of G77 and China.

The Themes of CSD-15 are defined by close inter-linkages and cross-cutting issues. Among these the *Means of Implementation* stand out as the *most* important and crucial one for the achievement of our common objectives of promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development.

Mr Chairman,

Cambodia believes that the urgent and full implementation of the international commitments relating to the means of implementation in the areas of **Energy for Sustainable Development, Industrial Development, Air Pollution/Atmosphere and Climate Change**, based on the Rio Principle 7 of common but differentiated responsibilities. In this regard, we have noted the slow progress on the implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Capacity Building and Technology Transfer. We call for its immediate, full and effective implementation. We must act on this urgently now and without sparing effort.

In order to effectively cope with the challenges we face in the means of implementation, Cambodia wishes to stress the following points:

- **Energy** is crucial for sustainable development and we should adopt the means of integrating energy access into national sustainable development strategies, poverty reduction strategies, development planning framework, and on the donors' side, into development cooperation policies. Increased use of renewable energy, improved energy efficiency, energy saving measures, cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and clean coal technologies supported by effective policies and increased capacity building, technology transfer, and financing is essential.
- **Industrial development** is both the pillar of modern economic development and the engine of the economic restructuring process. Therefore, poverty eradication and enhancement of public welfare is of great significance for the achievement of the millennium development goals. For industrial development to be achieved, it has to be sustainable, combined with economic growth, social development and environmental protection.
- **Air pollution** is a major threat to human health. Protection of the environment should be addressed in an integrated manner at national, regional and international

levels. Here, we should improve knowledge on health effects and sources of indoor air pollution, and provide financial resources to prevent adverse health impacts due to indoor air pollution, and provide financial resources to prevent adverse health impacts due to indoor air pollution in developing countries.

- In the area of climate change, Cambodia is very concerned about this global environmental problem. As an agrarian and least developed country, our country is very vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, and we have limited means to prepare and adapt to changes. In recent years, we have seen the serious impacts of climate change on people livelihoods and ability to survive with unprecedented droughts and floods. For us, climate change is real, and has caused increasing losses to our economy. Adaptation to climate change has to be part of our country's future planning and action. For this reason, we have recently taken our first steps in developing a Cambodian National Adaptation Programme-of-Action to Climate Change (NAPA). Our next challenge is to mobilize resources for the implementation of this Action Plan.

Mr. Chairman,

Cambodia is committed to the global efforts to reduce green-house gas emissions, and we believe the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol was a turning point in global efforts to combat climate change. As a party to the Kyoto Protocol, Cambodia sees the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) as an opportunity to facilitate new investments in projects that support sustainable development of our country, and at the same time, reduces green-house gas emissions.

We strongly support the inclusion of reducing emissions from avoided deforestation in post-Kyoto regimes. This should be a great incentive for countries to preserve their forest areas, and is a first step towards a more comprehensive and equitable approach to value environmental services.

I thank you.