

Comment on ADB's 1994 Disclosure and Information Policies

TO: disclosure@adb.org

FROM: Dina Nay
Acting Director, Khmer Institute of Democracy
Cambodia

DATE: 16 September 2003

Dear Mr. Salamon,

I apologize for taking time to reply to your letter dated 13 August 2003 relating to the policy of confidentiality and disclosure of information.

I understand very well that you would like to have some information from our Institute how we handle the request for information. You may aware that the Khmer Institute of Democracy is a non-government organization working on promoting democracy and human rights. Based on our mission, we do not have any limited policy on disclosure of information of our work, in the contrary we would like to have a wide dissemination of information as possible among the Cambodian people about their rights and responsibility in a democratic society.

However, for sensitive and political issue, the matter should be referred to the management of the Institute. But we also encourage staff to speak out in matter relating to the enforcement of laws and the principle of democracy and human rights.

I highly appreciate ADB's policy to provide the greatest possible degree of transparency and disclosure in all areas of its operation. But I also understand that there are some aspects of its operation that might be classified as sensitive information for ADB's limited internal use.

For my comment to ADB's current Disclosure Policy, I would like to request you to consider the issue of the cost of providing document requested if there is a possibility of ADB to cover it or to find way to send it to the end-users for instance by e-mail, etc.

I would like to thank you for your interest in our Institute in exchanging our experience in providing information to the public.

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