

BUILDING A COALITION FOR TRANSPARENCY

Draft conference program

The **Center for Social Development (CSD)** is a non-profit, non-governmental, and non-sectarian organization, which seeks to promote democratic values and improve the quality of life of the Cambodian people through practical research, training, advocacy, awareness-raising and public debate. CSD envisions a prosperous, peaceful and harmonious Cambodia – the kind of society that supports moral values and technological and social modernization. CSD is a recognized leading non-governmental organization in the fight against corruption and the promotion of justice, peace, and stability, key factors to national development. Work includes hosting public forums on matters of importance throughout Cambodia, monitoring the National Assembly and Senate, the publication of a monthly research bulletin and a program which will result in anti-corruption lessons becoming part of the Cambodian school curriculum. CSD has been invited to be a member of the Royal Government of Cambodia official working group to draft the anti-corruption legislation.

The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**, established in 1966 and its headquarters is in Manila, is a multilateral development finance institution owned by 59 members, mostly from Asia and the Pacific. ADB's overarching goal is to reduce poverty. Its projects and programs, whether direct poverty interventions or otherwise, emphasize one or more of the following priorities: economic growth, human development, gender and development, good governance, environmental protection, private sector development, and regional cooperation. ADB's principal tools are loans and technical assistance, which it provides to governments for specific projects and programs. ADB's lending volume in 2000 was US\$5.85 billion. Technical assistance grants, amounting to US\$172 million in 2000, are provided for preparing and executing projects, supporting advisory activities, and undertaking regional activities.

Conference Concept

The conference seeks to bring together interested parties - including national and international organizations, officials from the Royal Cambodian Government, the Cambodian Parliament, the private sector and the media - to share information and ideas about anti-corruption strategies. The conference serves as a first step in building a coalition of interested parties - from both public and private sectors as well as from civil society - in order to facilitate ongoing cooperation on issues of transparency and good governance into the future.

Corruption is a complex, deep-rooted, and multi-faceted problem. Drawing expertise from across various sectors will help in the development of an effective anti-corruption strategy to help combat this societal scourge. In addition, the input of delegates from foreign countries will help in disseminating examples of good practice that may be of relevance to the Cambodian experience.

The main issues to be addressed at the conference include:

- The ways and the extent to which lack of transparency interferes with development;
- How to develop the anti-corruption legal framework, including the draft legislation on an independent commission and on the law on declaration of assets, and;
- Ways to develop a coalition to build transparency for the new decade.

Workshops on the conference's second day will allow for the discussion and development of ideas on how to move forward. The conference will serve as the foundation meeting of a new coalition, envisaged to be a major force for monitoring the progress and implementation of proposed anti-corruption legislation.

Message from Dr. Peter Eigen

Chairman of Transparency International

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am very grateful to have the opportunity to wish you a highly successful conference, and sincerely wish I could have been with you today. This conference is a tremendously important development by virtue of its subject matter: transparency, good governance and accountability in government policymaking.

Good governance is not a structure that can be imposed from the top down, but requires a more complex engagement by many players. As well as the rule of law, an independent judiciary, a democratic and accountable executive and legislature, and a professional civil service with a strong ethos of public service, an extremely powerful actor is civil society, which helps to create modes of governance that will include considerations of the poor and the weak. These organisations need to make common cause with the anti-corruption effort.

Corruption is also the most important obstacle to international development and democracy, subjects very close to Cambodia, where foreign aid is crucial to the country's economic and social development. Our common cause is about improving the lives of people. It is about contributing to a world where the poor are not imprisoned by exploitation and can enjoy the rights they are due.

Transparency International (TI) is an international non-governmental organisation committed to building, and working with, broad coalitions of individuals and organisations to curb corruption and introduce reforms. TI tackles corruption at the national and international levels by building stronger integrity systems. Our more than 80 national chapters spearhead TI's grassroots involvement within their respective countries. From the very beginning, TI has chosen to play the role of a catalyst, working in partnership with other organisations.

TI believes that civil society organisations should provide much of the impetus and leadership in the global fight against corruption. National governments do not have the global reach to drive this fight, while international institutions have difficulty mustering the political will for effective action. We have to work together we can fight corruption. I wish you all a very productive conference, and a very heartfelt welcome to the coalition against corruption.

Thank you very much.

Day One *Wednesday 22nd August*

8.00 – 8.30 am REGISTRATION

Masters of Ceremonies: Dr. Sieng Huy, *Program Director*
Mr. Heav Veasna, *Managing Director*
Center for Social Development

8.30 - 10.30 am OPENING SESSION

8.30 - 8.40 am Welcoming Remarks: Ms. Chea Vannath
President, CSD

8.40 - 8.50 am Opening Remarks: Mr. Yoshihiro Iwasaki
Director
Programs West Department, ADB

8.50 - 9.00 am Opening Remarks: Tunku Abdul Aziz
Vice Chairman, Transparency International (TI)
President, TI - Malaysia

9.00 - 10.00 am Keynote Address: H. E. Samdech Hun Sen
Prime Minister
Royal Government of Cambodia

9 am COFFEE BREAK

10.20 – 12.30 pm PLENARY SESSION: Transparency: Prerequisite of National Development

Cambodia relies heavily on foreign aid for development and to reconstruct herself, a country which has suffered factional fighting for more than two decades. Because transparency is prerequisite of all sectors of national development, aid providing countries require linking anti-corruption measures and good governance to aid, loan and grant packages. At the same time, the role of aid in reducing corruption has been given increasing importance in promoting concepts of good governance, transparency and accountability in government policy, especially that which relates to the international development aid and debt relief programs. To this end we hope to address questions such as the role that aid has had in increasing corruption and the effectiveness of corruption-related funding conditions.

Moderator: Dr. Chhay Yiheang
Advisor to the Royal Government of Cambodia

10.20 - 10.30 am Presenter: H.E. Mr. Keat Chhon
Senior Minister
Minister of Economy and Finance

10.30 - 10.40 am Presenter: H.E. Mr. Sok An Invited
Senior Minister
Minister of the Council of Ministers

- 10.40 - 10.50 am Presenter: H. E. Mr. Kent Wiedemann
Ambassador of the USA
- 10.50 - 11.00 am Presenter: H. E. Mr. Verghese Mathews
Ambassador of Singapore
- 11.00 - 11.10 pm Presenter: Ms. Eva Mysliwicz
Director, Cambodia Development Resource Institute
- 11.10 - 12.10 pm Questions & Answers
- 12.10 – 2.00 pm LUNCHEON

2.00 – 5.00 pm PLENARY SESSION: Transparency: Government Initiatives

The Administrative Reform Policy is the greatest priority in implementing the Government's agenda of corrections and adjustments to increase the effectiveness of the public service in combating corruption.

- Moderator: Ms. Thida Khus
Executive Director, SILAKA
- 2.00 - 2.15 pm Presenter: H.E. Dr. Hout Vuthy
*Advisor to the Minister
Ministry of Justice*
- 2.15 - 2.30 pm Presenter: Dr. Lao Mong Hay
Executive Director, Khmer Institute of Democracy
- 2.30 - 2.45 pm Presenter: Dr. Chhim Phalvorun
Director, The Parliamentary Documentation Center
- 2.45 - 3.15 pm Questions & Answers
- 3.15 - 3.45 pm COFFEE BREAK
- 3.45 - 4.00 pm Presenter: H.E. Mr. Pok Than
Secretary of State, Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports
- 4.00 - 4.15 pm Presenter: H.E. Mr. Nan Sy, MP
*Member, Commission on Home Affairs, National Defense,
Investigation and Anti-Corruption
National Assembly*
- 4.15 - 4.30 pm Presenter: Mr. Ear Sophal
*Economist, ADB Consultant
The University of California, Berkeley*
- 4.30 - 5.00 pm Questions & Answers

Day Two *Thursday 23rd August*

8.00 – 9.45 am PLENARY SESSION: Deterrence to Corruption: Legal Framework

This session is to collect input for the draft anti-corruption law and the National Action Plan Against Corruption. We cannot crackdown on corruption until we have the anti-corruption law needed to prevent it. Legal measures and independent body mechanism are needed to deter individuals from, and punish them for, corrupt acts. The corruption law should describe and define corruption, the mandate of an independent commission, the penalties, and other legal actions. The government must insure that this law will be enforced to promote transparency.

Moderator: Dr. Bo Chum Sin
 In-country Director, Community Legal Education
 Center, University of San Francisco

8.00 - 8.15 am Presenter: H.E. Mr. Khun Haing
 Minister for Parliamentary Relations and Inspection
 Chairman, Anti-Corruption Draft Law Working Group

8.15 - 8.30 am Presenter: H.E. Mr. Sum Manit
 Secretary of State of the Council of Ministers
 President of the Anti-Corruption Unit (COM)

8.30 - 8.45 am Presenter: Mr. Bretton G. Sciaroni
 Vice Chairman, International Business Club,
 Phnom Penh

8.45 - 9.00 am Presenter: H.E. Mr. Son Chhay, MP
 Chairman, Commission on Public Works, Transport,
 Communications, Post-Office, Industry, Energy,
 Mines and Trades, National Assembly

9.00 - 9.15 am Presenter: Mr. Senaka Fernando
 Senior Manager, PriceWaterhouseCoopers
 (Cambodia) Limited, Chairman of the British
 Business Association of Cambodia

9.15 - 9.45 am Questions & Answers

9.45 – 10.00 am COFFEE BREAK

10.00 – 12.00 noon PLENARY SESSION: Fighting Corruption: Civil Society Initiatives

This panel deals with professional civic education and the experiences of non-governmental organizations: the role of civil society. Civil society – the media, professional interest groups, NGOs, religious and social groups, and academics all play an important role in combating corruption. Civil Society interacts every day with the government and can be a counterweight to its abuses and excesses. This panel will look at initiatives being undertaken within civil society to help build transparency.

	Moderator:	Mr. Urooj Malik <i>Resident Representative for Cambodia, ADB</i>
10.00 - 10.15 am	Presenter:	Tunku Abdul Aziz <i>Vice Chairman, Transparency International (TI) President, TI - Malaysia</i>
10.15 - 10.30 am	Presenter:	Dr. Pung Chhiv Kek <i>President, Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights (LICADHO)</i>
10.30 - 10.45 am	Presenter:	Mr. Geo-Sung Kim <i>Secretary General, TI - Korea</i>
10.45 - 11.00 am	Presenter:	Dr. Kao Kim Hourn <i>Executive Director, Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace</i>
11.00 - 11.15 am	Presenter:	Hon. Dolores L. Espanol <i>Chairperson, TI - Philippines</i>
11.15 - 11.30 am	Presenter:	Prof. Emiliano Bolongaita, Jr. <i>Assistant Professor of Public Policy National University of Singapore</i>
11.15 - 12.00 noon	Questions and Answers	
12.00 - 1.30 pm	LUNCHEON	
1.30 - 3.15 pm	<u>WORKSHOPS: Fighting Corruption: Building a Coalition by the Civil Society</u>	

Fighting corruption requires the cooperation of all institutions of the government and the NGO community. While each element of civil society has an important individual role to play, there is also a need for strong coordination and mutual support and understanding in order to lead a successful campaign.

Moderator: Mr. Koy Neam
Program Officer, The Asia Foundation

Group I: Role of the Parliament

Facilitator: Dr. Chhim Phalvorun
Director, The Parliamentary Documentation Center
Co-Facilitator: Ms. Srey Chan Phallara
President, OUTREACH

Group II: Role of the Government

Facilitator: Dr. Lao Mong Hay
Executive Director, Khmer Institute of Democracy
Co-Facilitator: Ms. Tive Sarayeth
President, Women Media Center

Group III: Role and Agenda of the Civil Society

Facilitator: Ms. Pok Nanda
Executive Director, Women for Prosperity
Co-facilitator: Mr. Nhem Vanthan
*Executive Director,
Khmer Human Rights and Against Corruption Organization*

Group IV: Role and Agenda of the Private Sector

Facilitator: Ms. Oung Chanthol
Executive Director, Cambodian Women Crisis Center
Co-facilitator: Mr. Ear Sophal
*Economist, ADB Consultant,
The University of California, Berkeley*

3:15 - 3:30 pm

COFFEE BREAK

3.30 - 6.00 pm

CLOSING SESSION

3:30 – 4:15 pm

WORKSHOP REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Presenter: Ms. Chea Vannath
President, CSD

4.15 - 4.30 pm

Closing Remarks: Dr. Clay G. Westcott
*Senior Public Administration Specialist
Office of the Director, ADB*

4.30 - 4.45 pm

Closing Remarks: H.E. Mr. Say Bory
Member of the Constitutional Council

4.45 - 5.00 pm

Keynote Address: H.R.H. Samdech Krom Preah
Norodom Ranariddh
President of the National Assembly

CONFERENCE ADJOURNS

CONFERENCE STAFF

Chea Vannath
Chuong Sythol
Ear Sophal
Heal Sok Sary
Heav Veasna
Huy Kanthoul Vora

Kham Sopheak
Lars Salomon
Long Piseth
Me Bunthy
Mom Da
Neou Sun

Nou Chhon
Oum Nareth
Patrick Barron
Pen Phalla
Run Savinn
Sam Sarath

Sen Samondara
Sieng Huy
Sorn Kinal
Souk Sy
Van Sar
Yean Sok Chea