

**Greater Mekong Subregion
Economic Cooperation Program
Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM)**
Bangkok, Thailand
26-27 November 2008

Chair: Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith
Deputy Secretary General
National Economic and Social Development Board
GMS National Coordinator
Kingdom of Thailand

Co-Chair: Mr. Thomas Crouch
Deputy Director General
Southeast Asia Department
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

26 November 2008, Wednesday

0830-0900 **Registration**

0900-0930 **Session 1: Opening Session**

- Welcome and Opening Remarks by the Chair and Co-Chair

Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Chair
Mr. Thomas Crouch, Co-Chair

- Brief Statements from the Other Heads of SOM

His Excellency Sok Chenda Sophea, Kingdom of Cambodia
Mr. Li Dongxiang, People's Republic of China (PRC)
Madame Keobang A Keola, Lao People's Democratic Republic
Daw Myat Myat So, Union of Myanmar
Mr. Hoang Viet Khang, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

0930-1100 **Session 2: Review of the Vientiane Plan of Action**

Open Discussion

1100-1115 Coffee Break

1115-1200 **Session 3: Reports on Recent Key GMS Events**

- GMS Environment Ministers' Meeting

Brief Presentation by:
Mrs. Keo Bang A Keola
Chief of Cabinet

Water Resources and Environment Administration
Prime Minister's Office
Lao People's Democratic Republic

Open Discussion

- GMS Tourism Ministers' Meeting

Brief Presentation by:

Dr. Sasithara Pichaichannarong
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Tourism and Sports, Thailand

Open Discussion

- GMS Development Partners' Meeting

Brief Presentation by:

Mr. David Jay Green
Director
Regional Cooperation and Country Coordination Division
Southeast Asia Department
ADB

Open Discussion

1200-1315

Lunch

Presentation on Impact of Climate Change in the GMS

Mr. Javed H. Mir
ADB

1315-1415

Session 4: Draft GMS Sectoral Strategies

- Draft GMS Energy Strategy

Brief Presentation by:

Mr. Nguyen Anh Tuan
Institute of Energy, Viet Nam

Open Discussion

- Draft GMS Human Resource Development Strategy

Brief Presentation by:

Ms. Shireen Lateef
Director
Social Sectors Division
Southeast Asia Department
ADB

Open Discussion

1415-1515 **Session 5: GMS Transport and Trade Facilitation Initiatives**

- Main Bottlenecks in the Implementation of the CBTA
- Priority Tasks for CBTA Implementation for SOM Support

Brief Presentation by:

Mr. Jean-Pierre Verbiest
Country Director
Thailand Resident Mission
Southeast Asia Department
ADB

Open Discussion

1515-1530 Coffee Break

1530-1700 **Session 6: Evaluation of ADB's Regional Cooperation Strategy and Program for the GMS (2004-2008) by ADB's Operation Evaluation Department**

Brief Presentation by:

Ms. Hemamala Hettige
Director
Division 2
Operations Evaluation Department
ADB

Open Discussion

1700-2200 Cocktail Reception hosted by the Royal Thai Government
Pinnacle 4, Intercontinental Bangkok Hotel

27 November 2008, Thursday

0900-1030 **Session 7: GMS Economic Corridors**

- Establishment of the Economic Corridors Forum (ECF)
- Draft Strategy and Action Plan for the North-South Economic Corridor
- Key ECF Activities
- Second Economic Corridors Forum and other suggested Ministerial-level Activities under the ECF

Brief Presentation by:

Mr. Ronald Antonio Q. Butiong
Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist
Regional Cooperation and Country Coordination Division
Southeast Asia Department
ADB

Open Discussion

1030-1045 Coffee Break

1045-1145 **Session 8: Preparations for the 15th GMS Ministerial Conference**

- Dates and Venue
- Format
- Proposed Agenda

Brief Presentation:

Representative of the Thai Delegation

Open Discussion

1145-1200 **Session 9: Other Matters**

1200-1230 **Session 10: Wrap-Up by the SOM Chair and Conclusion of the SOM**

1230-1330 Lunch