

Opening remarks for 11th FACCC on 2nd March 2016 at FA (3rd Floor)

Excellences, Distinguished FACCC members, Terminal Evaluation Team Members, Representatives of JICA-Headquarters and Cambodia Office, Representatives from Fisheries Administration and Ministry of Environment, National Council for Sustainable Development and observer participants.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to welcome all participants to the Eleventh FACCC meeting this morning. It has been agreed that this Committee serves as the “Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC)” of CAM-REDD in the Record of Discussions signed between Forestry Administration on behalf of Royal Government of Cambodia and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on behalf of Government of Japan on 27th May 2011. FACCC is the body to provide guidance to CAM-REDD.

Cambodia National REDD-plus Taskforce was established and it made a lot of progress, represented by draft national REDD-plus strategy. Moreover, many protected forests have been managed with constant assistance from CAM-REDD. Among them, Seima Protected Forest successfully completed the validation of VCS and CCB standards last year. FA is preparing for its verification and will try to obtain Verified Carbon Units. Regarding National Forest Programme, major provinces have produced its 5-year forest management plan with support from CAM-REDD, most of them have already been implemented it.

CAM-REDD will be completed in the end of May 2016. The terminal evaluation has been conducted by the joint team as it is agreed in the Record of Discussions.

The assigned member evaluated achievements of CAM-REDD against Project Design Matrix version Seven (7) which is used as a work plan of CAM-REDD. This is essentially identical to the multi-year work plan of Cambodia National REDD+ Taskforce. The team prepared for the draft report, based on the current evaluation standards of JICA in accordance with the consensus between JICA and Royal Government of Cambodia.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to your kind cooperation to the terminal evaluation team. The team was able to complete their evaluation during the assigned period.

This morning, the meeting is going to feature a presentation by the terminal evaluation team on the results of evaluation on achievements of CAM-REDD. Then, we will discuss the results.

JICA and Forestry Administration have also discussed possible post-CAM-REDD and prepared a future work plan. This result will be explained by JICA mission members. In the end of meeting, we expect that the evaluation report is signed and endorsed between the representatives of JICA and FA.

I am very much thankful to the terminal evaluation team for their diligent work.

My special thanks to FACCC members and JICA representatives for their great support to make this work possible. I wish all of the participants a fruitful meeting.