



គណៈកម្មាធិការ
សហប្រតិបត្តិការដើម្បីកម្ពុជា
Cooperation Committee
for Cambodia
Comité de Coopération
Pour le Cambodge

ទស្សនវិស័យ: ការអភិវឌ្ឍប្រកបដោយនិរន្តរភាពសម្រាប់ប្រទេសកម្ពុជា
Vision: Sustainable development for Cambodia

Minutes of 249th Bi-Monthly Member Meeting

Meeting Date: 5th October 2017

Meeting Time: 8:00am to 12:00pm

Meeting Venue: Diakonia Center

Recorded By: CMD

CCC Bi-Monthly Members Meeting

The 249th Bi-Monthly Members meeting convened on 5th October 2017. Based on CCC's Bylaw, the meeting designed for participants who are country representatives/executive directors and senior leaders/managers of CCC members to attend and bring the common concerns on the development challenges and prioritize the issues to be addressed by relevant stakeholders.

The purposes of this meeting are:

- To welcome new members and share some key progress of Cambodian Sustainable Development Goals (CSDGs)
- To update on the LANGO and Taxation implications and their next steps
- To discuss the civic space-related issues, and define collective efforts in addressing them

Key Summary:

- CCC had signed the MoU with the LAC and DFDL related to the support member on the Law on Association of Non-Governmental Organization and Taxation implementation
- Presentation of Liger Learning Center, new member of CCC on their activities and their future plan
- CSDGs and its implementation process with responsibilities of each ministry
- LANGO and Taxation's implementation challenges had been collected and share to member for lesson and discussion for finding the new challenges

Topics	Speakers/Presenters
Welcome and Opening Remarks	On behalf of CCC Excom, Mr. Soeung Saroeun, CCC Executive Director welcomed and appreciated to the audience for continuing to support CCC as a partner in improving accountability and other challenges. He addressed the preparation of CCC-Governance Hub Program- a five-year program that is attributed to member's contribution and involvement. He also mentioned about the current situation that referred to current political upheaval. He also referred to Paris Peace Accord, 1991, since then there are more than 460 legal instruments and Cambodia has ratified many legal papers on human rights. However, he also raised that recent situation-consecutively happen to break the pledges and leading to force close news agencies, and other NGO institutions. As result, the current political situation is difficult to predict. He also encouraged CSOs to be stronger and take this opportunity to strengthen its role. He encouraged all staffs to avoid from self-sensor (self-panic), but help strengthening CBOs at the local level. He suggested/encouraged to imply LANGO and tax law, as he referred to two legal firms that signed MoI with CCC to help CCC members on tax and other related issues, for example, request for forgiveness on previous tax, help on tax work, LANGO and NSSF (National Social Security Fund). These legal firms also help awareness on required conditions and report writing. Additionally, lawyers from those legal firms also help any NGOs if any accusation or legal facing and those legal firms will be assistance until early 2018. He suggested promoting awareness on LANGO and tax law during this quarter of the year. He also mentioned on the localization of sustainable development goals (CSDGs). Finally, he appreciated all members for constantly supporting CCC in terms of

	cooperation and partnership.
<u>Section 1: CCC and Member Sharing</u>	<p>Presentation 1: Representative from Liger Learning Center did a presentation about LLC's mission on education to concentrate to help children all around the country. The province-based organization is located in Kandal province and it registered in the USA. LLC will change to be Liger Leadership Academy in the future. In addition, at the end of the presentation, there are two questions (i) what kind of children are selected for LLS and (ii) question is to suggest cooperation with state-run school. Answering those questions- children have selected which base on several criteria, for example, children of age 6, they can read and high commitment. Regarding question two, yes LLC has coordinated with Ministry of Education on education strategy. Liger Learning Center's more details.</p> <p><u>Cambodian Sustainable Development Goals (CSDGs)</u> Mr. Chen Sochoeun, Research and Membership Development Manager of CCC</p> <p>CCC is once among CSOs, invited in an inter-ministerial meeting on CSDGs on 29 September 2017. There are three NGOs among CSOs, were invited to the ministerial meeting, they are CCC, CDA and NGO Forum There is a consolidated paper of CSDGs which received from MoP (Ministry of Planning). This paper will be a further comment before Minister of Council ratifies it, but no specific date on final ratification of the CSDGs.</p> <p>The localization of SDGs, consists of global 17 goals but Cambodia added one more goal on UXO. So, CSDGs has 18 goals and 171 targets, 416 indicators but certain indicators will be dropped because of lack of clear definition. The responsible individual ministry holds those indicators to implement but some ministries just share/provide data and info to the responsible ministry to achieve those indicators.</p> <p>Localization on CSDGs bases on data availability and MoP plays the role a secretariat to coordinate with those ministries. Meanwhile, some ministries have still discussed on certain indicators due to technical constraints.</p> <p><i>Q1: when CSDGs is ratified after ministerial meeting?.</i> <i>Q2: Has government discussed on the timeframe to implement to achieve those goals?</i> <i>Q3: what activities to be implemented to meet the 18 goals through the defined indicators?</i></p> <p><i>Responding to the 3 questions above, there is no specific date for a final ratification on CSDGs. In addition, both responsible and involved ministries hold their responsibility to fulfill their activities and MoP plays a role as coordinator.</i></p> <p>CSDGs more details.</p>
<u>Section 2: Update on the LANGO and Taxation</u>	<p>Mrs. Sin Putheary, Head of Communication and Member Development of CCC</p> <p>She gave a verbal presentation on post-deadline of Mol's circular on LANGO and progress on tax compliance. LANGO has already been ratified since 2015 and CSOs are</p>

required to obey. As an example, MOI's notice that required all NGOs to submit reports by the end of September 2017, deadline 29/9/2017.

Asked about report submission, most of the members had already submitted. Only one member (Ponleu Ney Kdey Songkhem) has not yet accepted the submission. She mentioned on the process of report submission to Mol and other related issues.

As aforementioned, CCC has signed MoU with two legal firms to help CCC and its members on legal work. Meanwhile, she also showed CCC facebook, which latest themes and info are posted on that account, this includes all information related to tax law. MoU between CCC and those legal firms will be circulated to CCC members. There are several questions related to reporting submission.

These questions were (i) Amrita Organization has not submitted because this organization is a Foreign NGO, which is registered by MoFAIC (Ministry of Foreign Affair and International Cooperation), So, how to do with Mol's notice? (ii) question about certain problems with EC (Equitable Cambodia) organization, which is suspended for 30 days of its operation because of LANGO implemented, Does EC belong to CCC member or not? How to advise EC to avoid such trouble? (iii) Cafod Organization asked about the challenge and constraint when submitting a report to MoEF (Ministry of Economy and Finance) and would like to be updated/solved.

In response to those questions, a legal expert from LAC to clarify as follow-respond to question from Ponleu Neykdey Songkhem, LANGO requires to notice (all notices, change names of organization, location, leader) must inform to Mol to be accepted/recognized. If Mol does not receive any notice so Mol will not accept the report submission. Administrative procedures are complicated and deadline over for submission the report, so further discussion with Mol to be prolonged. Regarding INGO (International Non-Governmental Organization) should be called FNGO in according to legality, and FNGO is required to submit a report to MoFAIC. All reports have no format and it is required to summarize. Regarding submit a report to MEF, it is quite complicated because the MEF administrative office just receives the reports but no name or stem. Regarding EC, it is right for EC but until now EC keeps quiet on that constraints to avoid more trouble.

Group Discussion

	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Question</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">What needs to be done for support CSO at both national and sub-national to prepare well in responding to current situation and emerging issues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well understand and adaptive to the geo-politics and economic status • Well compliant with the legal frameworks and adequate legal support • Alert and prepared for security and political risk management for both individual and institutions • Strengthen communication and public image • Promote networking and alliance building • Promote the mediation and conflict resolution • Other supports/preparations (small grant, operations, mutual understanding with donors, representativeness, multi-stakeholder partnership.....) • Multi-stakeholder partnership
<p><u>Closing remark</u></p>	<p>Mr. Soeung Saroeun Executive Director of CCC</p> <p>In the closing remark, he expressed special thanks to all participants for asking questions actively, participated in the small group discussion on the current situation and emerging issue is responding. He suggested to the members to stay updated on other advocacy efforts on the social media, CCC's email and other meetings.</p>

General Feedback of Participants:

Description	Don't know	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good
Overall rating of this meeting	-	-	5%	77%	18%
Contents of the meeting	-	-	8%	77%	15%
Organizing of the meeting	-	-	8%	69%	23%
Facilitator/resource persons	-	-	3%	77%	20
<i>General Comments</i>					

In general, no any comments from the participants.

Next Bi-monthly members meeting suggestion topic

- *Election and related issue*
- *Share the format of financial report submitted to Mol and MoEF*
- *Taxation (Tax road on NGO vehicle)*
- *Share the funding opportunity*
- *Update on the working group of taxation*
- *Tax registration*
- *Labor law (how to comply it)*
- *Update on the LANGO implementation*