



## The Minute of Monthly Meeting of the NAA Top Management Meeting

August 2014



On August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 8:30 a.m., the National AIDS Authority (NAA) organized the **NAA Top Management Meeting** at the NAA meeting room chaired by H.E. Senior Minister **Ieng Mouly**, Chair of the NAA with participation from management members including all deputy chairs of the NAA, NAA advisors, NAA Secretary General, NAA Deputy Secretary Generals and all NAA Department Directors. By the way, H.E. Dr Mean Chhi Vun, NCHADS director was present as representative of H.E. Prof. Mam Bun Heng, Minister of Health and first vice chair of NAA. Anyway, H.E. Chea Sam An was not present at the meeting.

The objectives of the meeting were as following:

- 1) To follow-up the monthly progress and achievement report made by the NAA secretariat;
- 2) To follow-up the progress and achievement on GFATM project
- 3) To discuss on indicators for 2015 national budget
- 4) To discuss on government decree on budget used for domestic and international mission order and
- 5) Other business

To begin the meeting, H.E. Chair did welcome members and briefly informed members about the meeting agenda as well as the meeting objectives. H.E. Chair informed the meeting that the top management meeting missed two monthly meetings in June and July due to the busy schedule on the GFATM regional workshop, the commune council election and the participation in the international AIDS conference in Melbourne, Australia. Then H.E. Chair

requested H.E. Dr Teng Kunthy, SG of the NAA to make a brief presentation on the first agenda "the progress and achievement report of the NAA secretariat".

**1) The progress and achievement report made by the NAA secretariat**

H.E. Dr Kunthy, Secretary General of NAA made a brief report on the progress and achievement made by the NAA secretariat on June and July as following:

- The PMER department did organize the training course on M&E for 35 M&E focal point persons at the PAC secretariat in Seam Reap province
- The PMER department did also organize the training course on M&E for 32 M&E focal point persons of Ministerial AIDS Secretariat in Phnom Penh.
- The PCS department did organize meeting with the local authority under the leadership of the Seam Reap PAC to discuss on the legal issue and solution to create positive environment to facilitate the implementation of HIV and AIDS program among MARPs
- The PCS department also organized a meeting in Pursat with the Pursat PAC to improve community program through D&D
- Four officers under NAA secretariat participated in the International AIDS Conference In Melbourne, Australia and
- As usual, the NAA secretariat, especially the project management team of GFATM has always kept itself busy with the GFATM process.

H.E. Secretary General also added that two trainings on M&E for commune council members, and media training and one round table discussion that already approved in the work plan has been delayed due to the change of financial procedure by the GFATM.

After the brief report made by H.E. Secretary general of NAA, H.E. Chair requested secretariat to make a copy of the monthly report on June and July to all members for detail information.

## **2) The progress and achievement on GFATM**

Moving to the next agenda, H.E. Chair invited H.E. Dr. Tia Phalla, deputy chair of the NAA to make a brief presentation on the GFATM progress and achievements.

In response, H.E. Phalla made a brief presentation on the progress and achievement of the GFATM as the following: as SR to GFATM project NAA has received 1.4 million US\$ in 2014 for project grant. Anyway by January 2014, there were 5,000 US\$ hold in NAA account, by March there was 200,000 US\$ in NAA account, by April, the training plan was approved by GFATM, on June GFA set an office working with NAA. As result, there is a difficulty in understanding each other on principle, process and guideline to implement the GFATM project between NAA and GFA. Anyway, it becomes better now. For the future work plan, the entire proposed training plan has to be 50% cut and TA has to be 100% cut.

H.E. Phalla further informed the meeting that there is still a problem of budget revision and extension among approved budget of the total amount of 75 million US\$ between 2014-2015 to 2014-2017 with 6 months in 2018 on HSS and ARV. The principle of 80% absorption of fund now is changed to slow down the financial expense. In addition to GFATM budget extension within the same amount of money, the financial support from USAID was cut about 50% from 10 Million US\$ to 5 Million US\$/year. As result of the budget cut under USAID, KHANA decided to reduce staff from 130 to 90 and many community programs also cut.

To get more information on the progress of the GFATM project, H.E. Chair invited H.E. Dr. Mean Chhi Vun to add more information to the meeting. In response, H.E. Mean Chhi Vun informed the meeting that H.E. Prof. Mam Bun Heng sent his apology to H.E. Chair because H.E. Minister was on mission. H.E. Mean Chhi Vun continued that the budget extension and cut made by GFATM was really a storm that affects every country in the world who are under GFATM and the huge impact are among countries who receive huge amount of money from GFATM while Cambodia is among country that has little impact from GFATM comparing to other countries in the world. H.E. Vun elaborated that in order to challenge with such change, few factors should be considered especially on how many year that Cambodia has still relied on international fun,

the priority based on new evidence (for example, the evaluation of community project shown good and effective but it is costly, therefore how to make the link between health facility and community based with reduced cost. As evidence, the home based care program in Cambodia spent about 13 million US\$ that cover 10,000 PLWHIV), and the consideration on the epidemic change from high-risk to low risk (for example the term most at risk population is change to key population including PLHIV, TB patient, EW, MSM, TG, IDU and youth with suggestion to add prisoner group).

H.E. Vun added that the HIV epidemic does surprisingly change, especially the case of HIV, for example, about one year ago, with finger prick among 25,000 key population, there was about less than 0% HIV infection while about 4% among TG, about 0.2% among pregnant women (some OD was 0%), and about 0.8% among general population. For this epidemic evidence, if we continue to have interventions among MARPs who represents only 60,000 population, we still spend big money with a lower-risk group, therefore we should think about to overturn from 80-20 to 20-80 in order to meet the reality of HIV epidemic. About prioritization, OIs and ART care and treatment is still the top priority that could not be dropped. So far, there is 51,278 PLHIV receiving ARV with the total cost of 93.5\$/person/year but based on new WHO guideline the ART is recommended to change to tenofovir that cost up to 127\$/person/year to 155\$/person/year. For ARV 2<sup>nd</sup> line, the cost increases up to 700\$/person/year to cover about 500 PLHIV in Cambodia. Totally for ART, Cambodia needs 11 million US\$/year, 300,000 US\$/year for overhead cost and some money for transportation. For lab test, Cambodia needs HIV test kit for 340,000 ANC, 48,000 viral load test/year, but we could cut CD4 test kit from 4-2 times/year with increasing number of test machine.

Regarding the CD<sub>4</sub> and viral load test, H.E. Chair recommended NCHADS to discuss with Bernet Institute who has invented a practical CD<sub>4</sub> and viral load test that could be easily used in Cambodia because while H.E. Chair was in International AIDS conference in Melbourne, H.E. Chair had opportunity to discuss with Bernet Institute including the CD<sub>4</sub> and viral load test. In response, H.E. Vun informed the meeting that he totally accepted H.E. Chair recommendation and these test kits is already using in Cambodia.

To end the subject on GFATM, H.E. Chair recommended all members to work hard to get evidence base to develop the concept note that could be used to advocate for mobilizing more resource from GFATM to avoid the second wave of HIV epidemic focusing on youth, factory worker, mobility population etc. H.E. Chair added that from now on, we have to find out mechanism to step by step using national budget to replace the external budget such as the condom program as an example.

### **3) The indicators for 2015 national budget**

For this topic, Dr Dareth, director of the department of administration and finance made a brief presentation on the 2015 national budget by saying that from 2014 to 2015, the proposed national budget is increased to 72% from 5,194.40 to 8,922.55 thousand million riels. He continued that as result from the discussion with MoEF, it sounded to have no problem if NAA could set appropriate indicators that show the effective impact from the proposed budget. Then Dr Dareth presented the guideline and requirement from MoEF on set indicators by using the 2015 national budget. He added that by the end of the year, individual organization has to measure the set indicators and prepare the progress and achievement report to MoEF. If any individual organization fails to meet the target set, it will affect the budget request for the subsequent years. The set indicators have to be presented to MoEF to defend the 2015 budget proposal that is scheduled on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

To facilitate the process of setting indicators for the 2015 national budget, H.E. Chair assigned a committee to work on indicator setting that comprising of H.E. Ratha, H.E. Phalla, H.E. Kunthy, Dr Silvath and all department directors.

#### **4) The government decree on budget used for domestic and international mission order**

For the final agenda, Dr Dareth, director of administration and finance made a brief presentation on the new decree on budget used for domestic and international mission order by highlighting the change from the old decree as following:

- There are six chapters with 27 articles
- The new decree covers more official and staff working within the government organization such as advisor, assistant, contract staff etc
- The amount of money is higher than the old decree
- The domestic mission order could not be given more than 10 days/month and
- There is a punishment chapter in the new decree

For this particular subject, H.E Chair commented that the new decree in general is better than the old one that facilitates the expense for official and staff mission. Anyway, H.E. Chair strongly requested all NAA officials and staff to make a concrete plan on domestic mission including the trip report. H.E. Chair added that we have to pay attention to avoid the overlapping use between the national budget and GFATM budget on mission order. The official and staff who always come to work irregularly or is absent without permission should not be entitled to get mission order.

#### **5) The other business**

For other business, H.E. Chair raised issues and solution as following:

- The GFATM incentive for official and staff has to be finalized as soon as possible based on GFATM condition without further delay.
- The policy board meeting should be organized in November 2014; therefore the preparation must be ready in advance such as the work plan and the budget request.

- The World AIDS Day campaign should be planned ahead, if it is possible it should be in between water festival and 1<sup>st</sup> December.
- To value the participation in the International AIDS conference, the lesson-learnt from the conference should be collected and documented. For example the key lesson-learnt highlighted in the conference such as on the resource mobilization, the decriminalization on MARP, the combined treatment etc.
- H.E. Chair in general appreciated a lot on the functioning of the NAA website so far, there is indeed an improvement, as result, more than 60 countries visited NAA website, with more and more documents uploaded. H.E. Chair urged all members to upload more documents from their department and use NAA websites for communication as FB. The NAA website should be changed to make it fit to governmental organization. H.E. Chair requested all meeting members to select two NAA website names from the proposed 6 names of NAA website. As result, after comments made by H.E. Ung Vuthy on changing [www.cambodiaaids.gov.kh](http://www.cambodiaaids.gov.kh) to [www.cambodia-aids.gov.kh](http://www.cambodia-aids.gov.kh), by H.E. Sim Kim Sen to inform the reader about the new NAA website, the meeting agreed to select two names of NAA websites: [www.cambodia-aids.gov.kh](http://www.cambodia-aids.gov.kh) and [www.naaa.gov.kh](http://www.naaa.gov.kh).

Lok Chum Teav Sim Kheng Kham requested H.E. Chair and all NAA leaders, officials and staff to support and participate in the gender meeting to disseminate the 16 recommendations from Samdech Hun Sen; that will be organized soon. In response, H.E. Chair totally supports the gender activity within the NAA that lead by Lok Chum Teav Kham as H.E. Chair already approved 48 milion riels/year for gender activities.

H.E. Tia Phalla informed the meeting that he received message from Dr Leng Veng Se, Koh Kong PAS that there is a meeting organized on 18<sup>th</sup> August in Trat province, Thailand talking about the migrant worker and ART that NAA and NCHADS should join the meeting to improve the ART among migrant worker. In this particular subject, H.E. Chair supported the idea and commented that NAA should organize field trip on behalf of CCC chair and NAA chair to see the real activity in the field as well.

H.E. Dr Sim Kim Sen proposed to make a proposal on award for active individual and organization contributing in fighting against HIV and AIDS so far.

H.E. Ung Vuthy, suggested to put the new strategy on budget cut and budget revision as a topic for discussion and adoption in the next policy board meeting. H.E Chair agreed on the suggestion made by H.E. Vuthy but H.E. Chair recommended the technical group to prepare it properly in advance to make policy board members easier understood and endorsed.

Before ending the meeting, H.E. Chair concluded the meeting as following:

- 1) Continue to implement Three Zeros, focusing on avoiding 2<sup>nd</sup> wave of HIV epidemic among key population such as EW, MSM, TG, IDU, youth, mobile population etc, focusing on new key population such as youth, factory worker, mobile population etc by advocating more resource from GFATM and others using scientific information on their risk behavior,
- 2) Continue to strengthen the implementation of 7 point government policies,
- 3) Be ready to prioritize the national budget to fill the gap on the cut of the external budget,
- 4) Create a committee to set indicators for 2015 national budget to use for direct defending with MoEF. The committee should be represented by the cabinet, H.E. Tia Phalla, H.E. Secretary General, deputy secretary general (Dr Ros Silvath), department of administration and finance and other related departments,
- 5) Apply properly and effectively the new decree on mission order: there is no more than 10 days/month, there is specific objective and indicator, an official could get 3 time mission order/month and 3 days/time, the official or staff who is absent; does not come to work; could not get mission order (department director should be responsible for such absence)
- 6) Encourage to use website, each activity report must be attached with short document and picture for website posting.

Finally, the meeting was ended at 11:30 a.m. on the same day after H.E. Chair appreciated and wished all members to be healthy and to enjoy the weekend.

NAA, August 18, 2014

Note taker

**Seen and approved**

Dr. Hor Bun Leng

H.E. Ieng Mouly

Deputy Secretary General

Senior Minister and Chair of the NAA