

## ANNEX 2

### OPEN REMARKS

Workshop

On

Awareness of Plant Variety Protection under UPOV convention

Phnom Penh, 09 Dec, 2015

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#### **Honorable**

Mr. Peter BUTTON, Vice Secretary General of UPOV,

Mr. Katsumi Yamaguchi, Director of Plant Variety Protection Office, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan,

**Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen**

Today I have honor to be here with all of you to attend the Workshop on Awareness of Plant Variety Protection under UPOV convention which were organized by General Directorate of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries and Department of Industrial property, Ministry of Industry and Handicraft in cooperation with International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) and Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries of Japan. In this opportunity, on behalf of Royal Government of Cambodia, I would like to appreciate and thank towards Mr. Peter Buttom -Vice-Secretary of UPOV office and Mr Katsumi Yamaguchi- Director of PVP office, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries of Japan which supported the finances for whole seminar.

**Dear guests,**

Even though, Cambodia is not a member of UPOV, however, UPOV and The Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries of Japan always provide training courses on Plant Variety Protection under UPOV convention to both institutions and stakeholders in

Cambodia. This has helped Cambodian's trainees to gain a lot of new experiences and the opportunities to conduct the new research in the countries around the region on the standard regulation, administration procedure, and especially on the technical works for the criteria on the characteristic of each variety, which is the most important task in The New Plant Variety Protection.

Among ASEAN countries, Only Singapore and Vietnam became the member of UPOV while, other countries are still in the process of consulting and counseling the law with UPOV. Cambodia is one of the agricultural-base economic countries which are trying to increase their productivity of the crop yield for the economic development. Plant Variety is an important element for ensuring food security by developing new varieties that are higher-yielding, better resistance and well adapted in responding to the impact of Climate Change.

The New Plant Variety is an intellectual property rights that Cambodia has adopted since 2008. The overall content of this law is responding to the UPOV convention in 1991. Under this law, every physical person or entity has an exclusive right on the plant variety protection after receiving the certificate of rights.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The agenda of this one-day workshop will be presented by both national and international speakers with their multiplicity knowledge and experiences. Initially, I would like all participants here to consider of the following points:

- 1) Under the UPOV Convention, do the new plant varieties of OPV, Hybrid and GMO have any difference conditions?
- 2) Cambodia always considers the financial support and technical assistant from UPOV and The Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries of Japan as the one priority to help accelerate the operation of the Plant Variety Protection.
- 3) Related to the Global Climate Change issues and its heavily impact on the future plant variety, how will Cambodia develop new plant variety in order to replace the old one?
- 4) Plant breeder based on the agricultural areas, environmental conditions and plant variety's imports, Will they be able to solve the problem of plant variety in Cambodia and increase the agricultural productivity?

In conclusion, according to this presentation and question and answer session on each different topics, we all have receive new creative idea, which is the important element to increase the effectiveness of the process of operating the new plant variety in Cambodia. It also encourages researcher, breeder, investor and farmer to increase the productivity of agricultural yield, effectiveness of the economy and plant variety industry.

Finally, I would like to thank and wish all the participants and delegates both national and international a very happy and successful workshop. I would like to officially open this workshop on Awareness of Plant Variety Protection under UPOV convention starting now.

Thanks!