

**Remark by His Excellency Chin Bun Sean,  
Secretary of States, Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications  
on the Occasion of the Opening of the GMS+ROK  
Communications Cooperation Workshop 2010, at Cambodiana  
Hotel, Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia**

**Address Given on June 07, 2010**

- **Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, National and International Guests;**
- **Distinguished Delegates representing Korea Communication Commission (KCC) and Korea Internet Security Agency (KISA) and Delegates from GMS Countries;**
- **Representatives of all Telecom Operators;**
- **Good Morning!**

On behalf of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and my own, I would like to welcome the presence of Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen and honorable guests who have come from KCC and KISA of the Republic of Korea, and representatives from the GMS Countries.

It is my great honor and pleasure to have about 10 minutes to be on this podium to present a congratulatory to this workshop on ""GMS+ROK Communications Cooperation. Construction of Information Superhighway Network in the GMS Countries"" in this great city of Phnom Penh. Ten minutes are just a blink of your eyes but I will try to put everything in a nut shell. The purpose of this workshop is to share the strategy and management skills of Korean ISN and relevant technologies reflecting global trend of FMC convergence and further

cooperation with GMS countries in communications fields. This Workshop from June 07 to 10, 2010 is co-hosted by Korea Communications Commission (KCC) and the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, Cambodia (MPTC) and organized by Korea Internet & Security Agency (KISA).

Congratulatory note usually comes after a successful meeting. But today I am very certain that this workshop will be a successful one. That is why I offer a congratulatory note in advance.

The topic of this workshop is very timely. Today we need to diversify our economy and industries to alleviate the impacts of the uncertainties from the global financial crisis. Cambodia is no different from other countries. We have been affected by this global financial crisis. Greece is in big financial trouble at this moment. Spain and Portugal may be the next countries in line. We will see. When a country, a family or a person spends much more than it earns, it will run into trouble sooner or later. This is a lesson we learn in economics 101.

Cambodia has been fortunate. We also suffer like the rest, but our problems are a lot smaller. The economic growth of Cambodia has been mainly driven by four main sectors: agriculture, garment, construction, and tourism. Oil, gold and other minerals will come next. Our economic growth in 2009 was dismal. The prediction ranged from 0 to 2%. However the growth of the telecom sector in Cambodia in 2009 was significant.

In recent years, the ICT in Cambodia has witnessed a big progress. Now there are nine mobile phone service providers and four fixed phone operators. Last year there were about 4

million users now there are close to 6 million users out of 14 million people. In other areas such as internet services, the number of companies has increased just from a few companies to more than 10 companies in 2009 with competitive pricing and quality services. The voice services have covered virtually the whole country even in the remote areas. The ICT sector has leapfrogged from Analog to GSM to 3G systems and next year we might have a 4G system. Varieties of technologies have been used for the internet services ranging from dialup, ADSL, wireless and other broadband technologies. According to the London-based Business Monitor International (BMI) the telecom sector is expected to grow around 62% this year compared to 42.5% last year.

The government of Cambodia has a very liberal policy regarding to the investment in the telecom sector and very strong rules and regulations to protect the consumers. While the government is looking after the wellbeing of the consumers, it allows the private sector to prosper and to compete fairly to ensure an orderly telecom market for the users. Cooperation between public and private sectors is crucial to guarantee optimal use of resources for the whole society. Access to ICT is important for economic development of a country. It improves the efficiency and competitiveness of firms and government agencies by reducing the transactions costs, facilitating quicker and easier access to all sorts of information and the documentation, and improving efficiency and helping firms and households to overcome constrains imposed by operational speeds. ICT also enables firms to obtain better access to knowledge and local and international market information, to supply commodities to far distant markets, to improve decision-making across the value chain, and

to improve the flexibility of firms in responding to the consumers' demand.

When Cambodia hosted the Meeting of the Telecom Ministers (TELMIN) three years ago in Siem Reap, our Prime Minister said that Access to ICT is the Rights of all Citizens in Cambodia. This is the goal that we are working to achieve.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen!

According to the speech given by of Representatives from KCC & KISA, it reveals that the **GMS+ROK Communications Cooperation Workshop 2010** will allow us to learn about the Korean ICT policy, the latest issues, the trend, and the overview on ICT market and development strategy in Korea and in the GMS Counties, and also the status of the construction of ISN and direction of Next Generation Broadband Building as Fixed Mobile Convergence Network and New Technologies of Broadband construction.

I also would like to take this opportunity to thank the Korea Overseas Advanced Learning Program (KOALP) for training 134 Cambodian trainees and 32 of whom are from MPTC. During this workshop these alumni will have an evening together to exchange information and to compare your notes.

Last but not least, I would like to wish Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen and all the Distinguished Guests to have a fruitful workshop and do not forget to take this one-week sojourn to visit some interesting places in the Greater City of Phnom Penh and hopefully you have time to visit the famous temple of Angkor Wat. Cambodia is indeed the Land of Wonder.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**