

**AIDE-MEMOIR FOR LCT TEKRETH KAMRANG,
SECRETARY OF STATE, EIF FOCAL POINT**

**Study Visit of Korea University (undergraduate students)
February 2, 2016**

BACKGROUND ON REQUEST

The Republic of Korea has successfully moved from being a recipient of Donor Assistance, in the field of trade until the mid 1990's to becoming one of the key bilateral donors of Aid-for-Trade in the past years, in particular in South-East Asia, including Cambodia. As a member of OECD, Korea is prone to promote its use of Aid-for-Trade in supporting partner's development goals. This has meant an increasing number of academics and scholars study the use, outcome and impact of Aid-for-Trade resources. The Development Awareness Program, funded by Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), and Graduate Program of Area Studies, funded by Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP) are parts of this initiative to increase visibility of assistance provided by Korea

Cambodia is considered as a success story in Aid-for-Trade: in mobilizing resources since 2001 until 2014, in setting-up the Trade SWAp, in monitoring resources using Roadmaps, in ensuring broad participation of stakeholders (liaison officers and core team in line ministries), in updating twice its trade strategies and in putting private sector development at the forefront of its national development policies. Several universities and official delegations have come to Cambodia and more specifically in the Ministry of Commerce to study our best practices, in particular in setting-up a Sector-Wide Approach on Trade (Trade SWAp), in creating institutional capacity to manage Aid-for-Trade resources (SSC-TD-TRI and DICO). This follows similar visits from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Lao PDR, Nepal, Timor Leste and Zambia as well as from the ODI (UK).

OBJECTIVES OF THE VISIT

The purpose of this 2nd visit to Cambodia is to have a good understanding of Aid for Trade (AfT) issues in Cambodia and the role of Ministry of Commerce in enhancing Aid-for-Trade activities and setting policies. The visit will consist in a workshop and visits to individual institutions, such as Phnom Penh Special Economic Zone, in order to promote the students' understanding of AfT in Cambodia. The delegation will be led by Professor Kang, Research Professor of KU/GSIS, who will be accompanied by 7 undergraduate students of GSIS.

The visit to MoC will consist in a courtesy visit to LCT Tekreth Kamrang, Secretary of State, Ministry of Commerce, followed by a half-day workshop on Cambodia's recent Aid-for-Trade, Cambodia trade development and key reform processes.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR MOC / CAMBODIA

By hosting the Korea University delegation, the Ministry of Commerce could consider using the visit to achieve the following objectives:

- Promoting ownership of Aid-for-Trade programme and project implementation by Ministry of Commerce
- Detail the mechanisms to align trade policy and priority reforms and donor support
- Highlight key funding gaps, in particular for the period 2016-2020, for which donor assistance could be provided, using MTP 2016-2020.
- Promote cooperation between the Korea University, KOICA and the MoC