



**Opening Remarks of
H.E. PAN Sorasak
Secretary of State, EIF Focal Point, Ministry of Commerce**

***On the occasion of the
DTIS 2013 Kick-Off Workshop***

***Ministry of Commerce, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
March 25, 2013***

His Excellency Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister, Minister of Commerce
Excellencies, Lauk Chum Teav
Representatives of Cambodia's Development Partners,
Representatives of Line Ministries, Private Sector
Distinguished Participants,

Goodmorning,

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the Ministry of Commerce in my capacity as Focal Point for the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) Programme in Cambodia, and thank you for your participation in this DTIS 2013 Kick-off Workshop.

The EIF is an Aid for Trade partnership in action for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs). The EIF is a global partnership involving LDCs, donors and international organizations, which support LDCs to be more active players in the global trading system by helping them tackle obstacles to trade.

The Diagnosis Trade Integration Strategy (DTIS) is the cornerstone of the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) programme in terms of mainstreaming and integrating trade into a country's national development plan. The DTIS and the country's policies and action plans should be the basis for all subsequent Aid-for-Trade projects. The paramount objective of a DTIS is to identify the constraints that are hampering the integration of the country into the multilateral trading system and the mainstreaming of trade issues into the NSDP, national development plans and long term development vision such as the Cambodia Vision 2030. As we have now embarked on

improving efficiency and effectiveness: to name but a few, mainstreaming the policy response to poverty and gender inequalities, mainstreaming the policy response to regional integration are two areas where more needs to be done. Similarly the capacities of the private sector to engage fully with the policymaking process and to better participate in the dialogue efforts need to be strengthened, through the Private Sector Development TWG and better links between the G-PSF and the Trade SWAp. There is scope to streamline the current arrangements for institutional coordination and consultation.

We are hopeful that the DTIS update 2013 will provide the right forum for this to be discussed approved and be translated into concrete actions. I encourage all of you present here to work with the Ministry of Commerce to ensure that the final product is an ambitious and satisfying one for all.

I welcome the participation today of new participants to our SWAp, in addition to our more traditional partners, who have accepted our invitation to come and share inputs. We also look forward to listening to the report of our Pillar Working Group leaders on progress made under the different programme components since 2008.

I wish you a fruitful meeting.

Thank you!