Cambodia.

Remarks

by

H.E. Dr. Aun Pornmoniroth Minister of Economy and Finance (MEF) At the

3rd International Conference on Financing for Development "Time for Global Action"

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 13 – 16 July 2015

- H.E. President of the Conference;
- H.E. UN Secretary General;
- Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen!

I am pleased to speak at this **third International Conference on Financing for Development.** I would like to thank the People and Government of Ethiopia for their warm hospitality extended to our delegation and for the excellent arrangement of the conference.

This meeting is timely and closely linked to implementing the Post 2015 Agenda or SDGs, which aim to raise living standards, create decent jobs, and empower people of the world. Cambodia fully supports the Addis Ababa Action Agenda which, we believe, will help mobilize resources to finance the SDGs. Thus, we look forward toward a consensus among all stakeholders, either from developing and advanced countries, to support and commit to this Actions Agenda.

In this context, allow me to highlight few points of utmost importance according to Cambodia's view:

First, the need to strengthen domestic public finance and revenue mobilization that enhances countries' ownership over their future development. But for this to happen, it requires an enabling environment and support to build a robust national public finance system. Cambodia has been making its utmost efforts to deepen and broaden its revenue base through implementing Public Financial Management Reform Program and Revenue Mobilization

Strategy with support from development partners. Thus, we look forward to their continued support to these reform efforts.

Second, the promotion of private sector to play their role as engine of growth. Aid alone will not be sufficient. Private capital will be required to meet financial demands for SDGs. We particularly recognize the important contribution that trade and FDI can make to promote structural transformation, economic diversification and sustainable development. Government policies and strategies need to be strengthened to make positive spillovers from FDI and trade on development, especially in infrastructure, knowledge and skills, technology and innovation as well as in integrating domestic SMEs into regional and global value chains. Thus, we need financial and technical assistance and capacity building to support our efforts.

Third, continued support to newly graduate middle income countries – especially to facilitate their continued access to grant and concessional financing during this critical transition. Cambodia, as one of those countries, appreciates further support to make our structural transformation and graduation smooth and sustainable. Thus, we support the proposed review of low-income graduation criteria to go beyond simple per capita income and include level of development, vulnerability, debt level, ability to mobilize domestic resources, access to other sources of finance and the type of programmes being funded.

Fourth, supporting climate change and environmentally-related initiatives particularly the Green Climate Fund. Cambodia has been identified as highly vulnerable to climate change. In this regard, the FfD is an opportunity to press for further progress in mobilizing additional resources for the Green Climate Fund. We would like to urge for simpler and faster disbursement procedures, and caution on multiple and fragmented funding sources. The FfD shall also seek to enhance public and private contributions to the Global Environment Facility.

Fifth, the need to deliver on ODA commitments. While thanking those countries who have honored or even gone beyond

their existing commitment, we believe that the Addis conference represents an opportunity for donor countries to reaffirm their commitment to allocate 0.7% of GNI to ODA. Thus, we would like to stress on turning this Addis Ababa Action Agenda into proactive implementation with effective monitoring and coordination.

Thank you for your kind attention!