



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**  
**PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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STATEMENT BY

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IN CHARGE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PLANNING,  
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**Second ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development**  
**Follow-up**

The 71<sup>st</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly

New York, 22 – 25 May 2017

Excellency Mr. Chair,

Excellencies, and distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to ECOSOC for electing Cambodia as a member of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA, and UNOPS.

My delegation is pleased to attend this important event and we strongly hope that this will be a great opportunity to share our experience and learn about other countries' experience on the localization process of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into national context, as well as integration, and measures for achieving the SDGs.

Today's Forum, "Financing for Development Follow-up", highlights our globally shared undertakings and responsibility to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the next 15 years, advancing on the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which we jointly adopted 15 years ago.

Over the past two decades, Cambodia has strengthened its cooperation with countries in the region and around the world in development and has made remarkable transformations, especially in securing full peace, strong political stability and improved public security with high economic growth averaging 7.7 percent per annum. Poverty rate has been dramatically reduced from 53 percent in 2004 to 13.5 percent in 2014, allowing Cambodia to achieve the MDGs targets on poverty reduction and other social sectors ahead of 2015. The other four goals were already achieved while the remaining goals are put in the top priority of our Government to achieve in the next mandate of global agenda.

Cambodia is now in transition towards the next stage of development, becoming a lower-middle income country by 2016. In this regard, the Royal Government of Cambodia considers that all the 17 SDGs, which were built on the MDGs, are very relevant to Cambodian contexts especially in strengthening its achievements made over the past 15 years. But they are even more important to support Cambodia's transition into a middle income country status especially during its early stage. However, Cambodia will incorporate the "clearance of landmine and unexploded ordnance" as an additional goal to the SDGs to fully reflect the actual situation and the need on the ground.

In the process of localizing SDGs into national context, we started discussing among government agencies, Development Partners and Civil Society Organizations since November 2015, on both technical and political levels. Line ministries have been requested to review the

list of targets and indicators of global SDGs and to select the relevant ones into the list of targets and indicators in Cambodian Sustainable Development Goals (CSDGs). All targets have been selected and additional three targets have been added from the new proposed ( 18th ) goal, a total of 172 targets.

For selecting indicators, criteria has been set for each indicator such as definition, responsible agency, data source, sources of data, and also the method to calculate the value of each indicator. In addition, for each indicator, there is a need to define baseline ( 2015 ) and annual targets from 2016 to 2030. The targets will be used for monitoring the achievement of those indicators and targets after implementation. The number of indicators is still not clear yet since some of the indicators in the list did not fulfill the criteria; but in conclusion, there will be more than that in the list from global SDGs since some indicators need to be replaced by another proxy indicator and some more indicators have been requested to include in the list. Cambodia expects that after finalizing the list of goals, targets, and indicators, a CSDGs Framework will be developed and will be integrated into the next National Strategic Development Plan ( NSDP ) 2019-2023. As the result from a survey ( Rapid Integrated Assessment - RIA ) conducted by UNDP, around 70 to 80 percent of SDGs exists in the Government's policies and strategies.

Excellencies, and distinguished delegates,

Cambodia fully endorses the Addis Ababa Accord and Action Agenda for financing for development that focuses on domestic resource mobilization to meet the development needs. In this connection, private sector would also play a very important role to produce, collect, and share resources for development to achieve the SDGs through Private-Public-Partnership ( PPP ).

However, Cambodia would still like to request an extension of support provided to those Least Developed Countries who are successfully graduating into the next stage of development until they could well stand on their feet, by providing official development assistance ( ODA ) either grant and/or concessional loan to address the basic needs such as infrastructure gaps and human resource and institutional development.

Forging consensus on the SDGs is a major achievement by our global leaders. However, ensuring the success of these goals remains a big challenge for all of us. We have to make a strong and concerted effort to implement the FfD outcomes and ensure the delivery of means of implementation of the SDGs. My delegation would like to reaffirm Cambodia's commitment to these ends.

Thank you for your attention!