PRESS RELEASE
Phnom Penh, April 26, 2012

First Steering Committee Meeting
On
The Project for Comprehensive Urban Transport Plan in Phnom Penh Capital City

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Cambodia Office would like to announce that the First Steering Committee Meeting on the “Project for Comprehensive Urban Transport Plan in Phnom Penh Capital City” will be held on April 27, 2012 at 15:00 to 17:00 at meeting room (Old Meeting Hall) of Phnom Penh Capital Hall. The meeting will be chaired by Mr. Chreang Sophan, Deputy Governor of Phnom Penh Capital Hall with the participation from Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT), Ministry of Interior (MOI) and JICA study team.

The objectives of this project are to (1) formulate a comprehensive urban transport plan for Phnom Penh Capital City targeting 2035; including short-term plan (2016) and medium-term plan (2020); (2) conduct a pre-feasibility study on the priority projects and 3) strengthen and improve the implementation capacity of the urban transport-related agencies. The project will cover 678 km² of the whole administrative areas of Phnom Penh Capital City (9 Khans). The period of this project is 25 months started from March 2012 and scheduled to be completed in March 2014.

It is important to note that JICA used to conduct “The Urban Transport Master Plan in the Phnom Penh Metropolitan Area” in 2001 with target year 2015 and recently “The Project for Traffic Improvement in Phnom Penh City” from March 2007 until 2010. However, traffic congestions and traffic accidents have increased due to fast growing of number of cars and motorbikes. Moreover, the changes of transport conditions in Phnom Penh after 2001 are obvious, namely, 1) population stagnation in the central area and rapid increase in suburban areas (increase rate of central 4 Khans: 3% decrease and suburban 5 Khans: 69% increase); 2) deterioration of traffic conditions; 3) expansion of municipality jurisdiction and 4) progress of large-scale development by the private sector. Therefore, it is necessary not only to revise the 2001 Master Plan but also to develop new countermeasures. Based on the above, the project is required to formulate a comprehensive urban transport master plan targeting year 2035.

This project will support the efforts of Phnom Penh Capital Hall to tackle the emerging issues of urbanization that 1.5 million people (2008) face in the city.

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