JOINT PRESS RELEASE

Inauguration Ceremony for Sihanoukville Port Special Economic Zone

Phnom Penh, April 30, 2012

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Cambodia Office and Sihanoukville Autonomous Port would like to announce that the inauguration ceremony for Sihanoukville Port Special Economic Zone (SPSEZ) will be organized on **Tuesday, May 1, 2012 at 8.00 AM in SPSEZ**, presided by **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN**, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia and **Excellency Masafumi Kuroki**, Japanese Ambassador to Cambodia, and with the participation of representatives of high ranking officials of the relevant ministries/ institutions, local authorities, and others.

Japanese government provides 3,651 million Japanese Yen (approximately USD 33 million) as Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan for SPSEZ development project. The construction was started in October 8, 2009. It covers an area of approximately 70 hectares of land next to Sihanoukville Autonomous Port.

Japanese government has put priority on supporting the promotion of private sector investment and trade in Cambodia, and has supported the rehabilitation and expansion projects of the Sihanoukville Autonomous Port and other infrastructure development projects in Cambodia. Japanese government has also provided Cambodia with policy proposals on investment promotion and facilitation for improving the investment climate. Supporting the construction of the SPSEZ is part of JICA’s private-sector development initiatives. The SPSEZ is expected to attract more foreign direct investments, which can generate employment opportunities as well as develop Cambodian economy.

A Japanese paper manufacturing company has already decided to invest in the SPSEZ. The company, **Ojitex Harta Packaging (Sihanoukville) Ltd.**, is expected to invest 1.2 billion yen (approximately USD 15 million) in total and the factory construction will be completed in 2013. Their products will be mainly for domestic consumption. The reason they choose this SPSEZ over others is because of its well-equipped infrastructure, according to the company’s press release. In addition, **R.M Asia Co. Ltd.**, a famous American manufacturer of Ford Company, is planning to lease in the SPSEZ with the total of 1.6 ha for assembling and installing of Ford car in purpose of export and local consumption. As Japan’s ODA project recipient, Sihanoukville Autonomous Port is proud of SPSEZ infrastructure.

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<th>Access Road</th>
<th>Waste Water Treatment Plant</th>
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<tr>
<td>SEZ Center (right)</td>
<td>Container Freight Station (CFS) (left)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Water Treatment System</td>
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