(3) Southwest Phnom Penh Irrigation and Drainage Rehabilitation and Improvement Project

(a) Background and Necessity
Agriculture is the core of the economy and industry in Cambodia, accounting for more than 30 percent of the gross domestic product and 70 percent of the employed population. In addition, 80 percent of the country’s population and more than 90 percent of the poor live in rural areas, so agriculture is also an important field from a perspective of alleviating poverty. Many of the existing irrigation facilities were constructed by the Pol Pot regime (1975 to 1978), and they do not function adequately due to degradation as well as design and construction issues. In addition, the levels of facility maintenance and management capacity are low, as are the irrigation rate and cultivation technology, so that agricultural modernization has not progressed. Of the 2.96 million hectares of rice paddies in the country, approximately 770,000 hectares (2011) can be irrigated during the rainy season, a mere 30 percent of the rice paddy area in the country, resulting in extremely low rice productivity for Cambodia compared to other countries, and making productivity improvement a priority for agricultural development.

(b) Objective and Summary
This project will repair and construct irrigation and discharge facilities in five regions located in three southwestern provinces of Cambodia, increasing the agricultural productivity in the target regions, and thereby improving the livelihoods of agricultural workers.

The loan funds will be allocated to public works, the procurement of equipment and materials, consulting services and the like.

(c) Executing agency
Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology
Address: #364 Monivong Boulvard, Sangkat Psar Deumthkov, Khan Chamkar Morn, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
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(d) Planned Implementation Schedule
(i) Completion of project: April 2021 – when the facilities are put into service
(ii) Issuing of letters of invitation for consulting services (including detailed design work): October 2014
(iii) Tender announcement of initial procurement package for international competitive bidding on project construction:
Procurement package titles:
1) Roleang Chrey: Headworks, Primary and Secondary Channels
2) Upper Slakou: Primary and Secondary Channels, Kandal Stung Bati, Main Channel 35, Srass Prambai: Primary Channel
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