

## Outcome Statement

CCC Annual General Meeting 2016

16 March 2017, Hotel Cambodiana, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is the biggest membership platform of the Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) in which all development actors across Cambodia are invited to this meeting to share their experiences, to discuss, and to find the best possible solutions for some common issues.

251 participants as CCC members and partners including civil society, government, development partners, and private sector attend the AGM which held under the theme: “Enhance the CSO Collaboration in contributing to the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals” and the three sub-themes: 1). Civic space: enabling environment around CSOs; 2). CSO Financing for Development; and 3). CSO harmonization and accountability.

The AGM applauds the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the next 15 years. The AGM appreciates the multi-stakeholder process for the localization of SDGs and the development cooperation at all levels. The application of “Leave No One Behind” principle also discussed. However, we continue to experience the lack of meaningful engagement among key players, and many marginalized groups are still left behind.

It is noticed that CSOs are prepared to participate in the implementation of SDGs agenda. However, they are challenged by the shrinking space hampering the CSOs to carry out their activities, especially for CSOs who work in sensitive areas such as human rights, advocacy, anti-corruption, and election. Furthermore, the members of CCC stress their particular concerns on some laws adopted with little reflection on the inputs from CSOs and the publics.

While being troubled with the decreased democratic space, CCC members and the whole civil society sector acknowledge their financial challenges since more than 80% of the funding source for Cambodian CSOs relies on the Official Development Assistance (ODA) and INGO funding while the sector still has limited capacity to diversify its income. The AGM appreciates and strongly believes in the application of multi-stakeholder partnership, human rights-based approach to development and responsible business conduct as means to promote the sustainable development in Cambodia.

The AGM also reflected on the harmonization and accountability of civil society organizations. In general, we notice the efforts promoting collaboration and accountability of the sector. However, we realize that CSOs tend to be more collaborative on the technical aspects and to strengthen accountability towards the donors. The public image and representativeness of CSOs to the government and public needs to be strengthened to ensure effective interaction in policy dialogue. The AGM appreciates many initiatives to promote accountability of the sector such as through the Governance and Professional Practice (GPP) certification

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សហប្រតិបត្តិការដើម្បីកម្ពុជា  
Cooperation Committee  
for Cambodia  
Comité de Coopération  
Pour le Cambodge

**ទស្សនវិស័យ:** ការអភិវឌ្ឍប្រកបដោយនិរន្តរភាពសម្រាប់ប្រទេសកម្ពុជា  
**Vision:** Sustainable Development for Cambodia

system. However, we also notice a lack of motivation and support from donors to their NGOs partners to participate in the system.

Taken these important challenges into account, the AGM supports the roles and interventions of CCC as stated in the Governance Hub Program (GHP 2017-2021) to enhance the effectiveness and impact of civil society organizations (CSOs) and to improve the enabling environment for CSOs. The GHP emphasizes the application of multi-stakeholder partnership towards sustainable development and strengthening the capacity of the sector for innovative responses to development challenges.

In order to effectively localize the SDGs into Cambodian context, the participants of the AGM discuss and unanimously provide the recommendations to the following stakeholders:

**Government:**

- Promote enabling environment and meaningful space for CSOs to participate in the policy development. Each ministry should ensure some space for engagement with CSOs.
- Reinforce all existing multi-stakeholder partnership modalities and create the new ones, if necessary, to confirm its commitment towards the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation.
- Promote the incentive scheme (especially on taxation) for private sector especially those who are a champion in responsible business conduct and corporate social responsibility.

**Development Partners/Donors:**

- Stand with civil society organizations to promote their enabling environment through technical, financial and inspirational support.
- Promote and support CSOs partners towards harmonization and good governance among the sector. The support on Governance and Professional Practice (GPP) certification system is strongly asked for.
- Provide more encouragement and relaxed conditions for local CSOs to participate in the bidding process.

**Private Sector:**

- Promote and meaningfully participate in the multi-stakeholder partnership, especially in the context of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Promote the championship and the application of Business and Human Rights throughout the business sector.

**Civil Society:**

- Promote coordination among and across sectors. CSOs coalitions should establish regular dialogues to address their common issues and to develop common strategies.
- Strengthen their awareness, capacity, and professionalism for innovative response to development challenges especially in the localization of SDGs.
- Promote the ownership and support to the local CSOs while clearly defining the agenda and collaboration between INGOs and LNGOs.

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