

## **ADB looks to more helps for Cambodia's ECOSOCC**

PHNOM PENH, Feb. 22 (PQRU) – The Asian Development Bank (ADB) said on Monday, February 22, 2010; during a meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Sok An; it would look to further cooperation with the Cambodia's Economic, Social, and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) given the institution has been playing a key role in providing information for investors and diplomats.

Mr. Kelly Bird, Senior Economist with ADB's Southeast Asia Department said that the Bank's cooperation is very important aims to support the country's growth in garment and tourism. The Bank also came up with the idea of Regular Impact Assessment (RIA) along with the legal bases should be taken by the ECOSOCC.

“The ADB is willing to help the capacity building of ECOSOCC staff as well as to set up the institution's infrastructure including database,” Mr. Bird told Dr. Sok An.

In response, the Deputy Prime Minister who is also Minister in charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers, said that ECOSOCC, which is a key institution, supports the government in term of information and works with the nine related ministries, but it so far has received little support from the international donors.

“We are very open and we also want to see more assistance from the development partners,” Dr. Sok An told the delegations.

Putu Kamayana, ADB's Country Director for Cambodia, who accompanied Mr. Bird, said “we certainly will take that into our considerations,” and that “we pledge our commitment and working with your colleagues.”

(Press and Quick Reaction Unit)