



**JOINT PRESS RELEASE**

**Signing of Record of Discussion**

**“The Project for Water and Sanitation Improvement Preventing Covid-19”**

Siem Reap Water Supply Authority (SRWSA) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Cambodia Office would like to announce that the Record of Discussion signing for the “Project for Water and Sanitation Improvement Preventing Covid-19” under Japanese Grant Technical Assistance will be signed by H.E. KHUT Vuthiarith, Director General of SRWSA and Ms. KAMEI Haruko, Chief Representative of JICA Cambodia Office on October 11, 2021 (11:00 AM) at JICA Cambodia Office.

The Project aims at enhancing the Covid-19 prevention measure through expansion of safe and sustainable water supply services and improvement of practice of hand washing. To achieve these objectives, the Project will (i) provide necessary chemical materials such as chlorine and lime to ensure water quality to meet with the national drinking water quality standards. Moreover, the project also provide water meters, pipes and fittings as well as other equipment to SRWSA to expand the clean water to unsupplied areas in Sangkat Sla Kram and Sangkat Sala Kamraeuk, Siem Reap city. In addition to the provision of equipment and materials, the project also implement (ii) the awareness raising activities to the people in Siem Reap city about the importance of safe water and hand washing habit to prevent Covid-19.

This project is part of the emergency support from the Government of Japan in response the official request of the Royal Government of Cambodia. The project will be completed by the end of July 2022 and it is expected the population living in above project areas and the services area of the SRWSA (approx. 93,426 people) shall benefit. This support will also surely contribute to SRWSA in sustaining its water supply operation in the time that SRWSA is facing many difficulties due to Covid-19 pandemic.

It is important to note that in water and sanitation sector, JICA has long been one of the major development partners and has contributed in both hard and soft infrastructures. To date, many technical cooperation projects have been implemented with Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI) including provincial public waterworks, PPWSA and SRWSA. Moreover, many water supply facilities have been constructed in several provinces of Cambodia. In Siem Reap province in particular, JICA provided Grant Aid to build the water supply system in 2006 with the capacity of 8,000m<sup>3</sup>/day (installed 36 km of pipes) and currently JICA is financing SRWSA to expand water supply system through the construction of 60,000m<sup>3</sup>/ day (installed about 270 km of pipes).

This project is reflecting the commitment of the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Government of Japan in deepening and widening mutual cooperation especially in the time of difficulty.

**For further information, please contact:**

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