

October 2020 Monthly Meeting
Held Under High Presidency of Senior Minister His Excellency Ieng Mouly

Senior Minister His Excellency Ieng Mouly, Chair of the National AIDS Authority, presided over the Authority's October 2020 monthly meeting at the NAA Headquarters on the morning of Monday, November 2, 2020. In attendance at the meeting were Excellencies, Lok Chumteavs, ladies, and gentlemen, who are vice chairs, advisers, secretary general, director of cabinet, deputy director of cabinet, secretaries general, directors and deputy directors of departments, and heads and deputy heads of offices in a total number of 45 attendees (including five women). The purpose of the meeting was to review the results of work activities undertaken by the NAA top management and officials.

Starting the meeting, His Excellency the Senior Minister welcomed all the public servants for their attendance and informed them of the items on the agenda as follows:

I) Presentation, given by Secretary General HE Chhim Khindareth, on the summary report on the results of the work activities undertaken by the top management and Secretariat General in October.

II) Presentation on the results on the training in the preparation of the action plan and budget integration for responding to HIV and AIDS into the commune and sangkat development plan and investment program in the eight districts of Kampong Speu Province.

A. Purpose of training:

- To provide communes and sangkats with sufficient capacity and possibility of taking part in ending AIDS in Cambodia by 2025.
- To enable the communes and sangkats to be cognizant of the epidemic situation as well as the objective of HIV response and intervention.
- To have commune/sangkat leaders start to devise action plans for the HIV and AIDS response to be included in the commune/sangkat investment program and development plan in order to have support package budget.

B. Presentation:

1. HE Tea Phalla: Oudong District

- Composition of participants: District governor, district administration officials, health officials, officials of the nine health centers, and councilors of the 15 communes.
- Geographical situation: In the 15 communes, there are 92 people living with HIV (PLHIV), 87 people with Viral Load Suppression, and 28 persons having received ID-Poor cards and equity funds.

- Methods and outcomes: AIDS-fighting program and budgets have been integrated into the commune/sangkat development action plan. Advice was given to discussion groups at communes, and finally, each commune has prepared action plan to fight AIDS that encompasses a number of tasks, including: 1) health center support committee meetings, 2) missing patient tracking, 3) training course opening, 4) public forum organization, and 5) chronic patient assistance.

2. Lok Chumteav Sim Kheng Kham: Chbar Mon District

- Composition of participants: 25 attendees.
- Geographical situation: five sangkats.
- Action plan and budget: Advice was given on the expenditures, budget chapters, and code numbers for 2020.
- Methods and outcomes: Advice was given to strengthen municipal and sangkat AIDS Committees and develop plans to respond to the spread of AIDS in the commune/sangkat development plan and investment program by pointing out strong and weak points based on the guidance book on the implementation of commune/sangkat services (red book), and on the expenditures, budget chapters, and code numbers for 2020. A Telegram team called Chba Mon Municipal Working Group against AIDS has been set up to facilitate the communications to respond to HIV and AIDS.
- It was requested that the working group composition be kept as it was now.

3. HE Sim Kimsen: Aoral District

- Composition of participants: 21 attendees consisting of the director and deputy director of the district administration; head and deputy head of the commune support, legislation, and procurement office and of the district council office; deputy head of the health center; commune chiefs and deputy chiefs; commune councilors; Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC), and commune clerks, and assistants.
- Geographical situation: five communes with 30,857 population, 6,532 families, 53 people living with HIV (PLHIV), 26 people with Viral Load Suppression, and 52 people having received ID-Poor cards and equity funds
- Methods and outcomes: Teaching was given about how to draw up and present plans to training officials to help offer reviews and advice and make adjustment; to provide protection, prevention, and intervention methods and education on the prevention at the community and subnational levels; to undertake HIV test, care; and treatment; and about local health services functions, and antiretroviral therapy.

4. HE Teng Kunthy: Kong Pisey District

- Composition of participants: 55 attendees (deputy district governor, deputy police inspector, subdivision military, district office, commune chiefs, councilors, first and second deputy district clerks, assistants of the Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC), focal persons, and health officials.)
- Geographical situation: 13 communes with 144,977 population, 31,727 families, 11 health centers, one referral hospital dispensing ARV, 37 people living with HIV, and 37 people having received ID-Poor cards.
- Methods and outcomes: The response to HIV and AIDS is included in the commune/sangkat development and investment plans (CDP/CIP) as social and health services package. The sizes of the action plan and budget for social, health, and AIDS services should be about 10% of the commune budget, which must be examined and approved by the commune council (according to madam district governor's guidance). The commune/sangkat level has to know how to carry out AIDS work, be familiar with target groups, acquire experiences to develop action plans to fight AIDS, and prepare action plans and budgets to respond to HIV and AIDS in the 13 communes.

5. HE Ros Seilavath: Samraong Tong District

- Composition of participants: 31 attendees (deputy district governor, district office, commune chiefs, commune councilors, focal persons, and health officials).
- Geographical situation: 15 communes with a density of 204 people per square kilometer, 37,036 families, 418 people living with HIV, 337 people with Viral Load Suppression, and 418 people having received ID-Poor cards.
- Methods and outcomes: Communes/sangkats are advised of the necessity of preparing plans to respond to HIV and AIDS in the commune/sangkat development plan and investment program in order to achieve the 95-95-95 targets by 2025 according to the decentralization principle, gain sustainability in the fast-track response to AIDS in compliance with Sor Chor Nor 213, guidebook on the provision of social services, and the sub-decree on the transfer of health services provision to the subnational level. As a result, the commune discussion group has created a package of commune action plan to be incorporated in the commune investment program and development plan for 2022.

6. HE Chea Por: Phnom Sruoch District

- Composition of participants: District governor, district office, commune chiefs, commune clerks, assistants of the Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC), focal persons, and health officials in a total number of 45 persons.
- Geographical situation: 12 communes, 244 People living with HIV, 142 people with Viral Load Suppression, 83 people having received ID-Poor cards and equity funds, and 98 people living with HIV in Treng Troyoeng commune. This is the higher number because the locality has lots of drug users.

- Methods and outcomes: communes/sangkats have action packages with budget support for participation in the response to the spread of HIV in their respective localities. The district will update the district and commune AIDS Committees, issue a decision to have every commune to search for more accurate data on people living with HIV, and then start implementing the budget plan, contained in the commune development plan, to respond to HIV and AIDS.

7. HE Hor Bunleng: Thpong District

- Composition of participants: 21 attendees consisting of the district governor, offices around the district, health officials, and council members of the seven communes.
- Geographical situation: Seven communes, 84 villages, 64,263 population, 16,150 families, 26 people living with HIV and 26 people having received ID-Poor cards and equity funds.
- Methods and outcomes: All the seven communes plan to integrate the response to HIV/AIDS into the commune development plan and require different budgets, ranging from 10 million riels, for each commune. Meeting was held to organize and prepare workshops, technical officials showed slides, and discussion groups were split.

8. HE Chhim Khindareth: Basedth District

- Composition of participants: 74 attendees consisting of the district governor, council chair, police inspector, subdivision military, district office, commune chiefs, first and second deputy commune chiefs, clerks, assistants of the Commune Committee for Women and Children focal persons, and health officials.
- Geographical situation: 15 communes, 127 people living with HIV, and 127 having received ID-Poor cards and equity funds.
- Methods and outcomes: communes/sangkats have action packages with budget support for participation in the response to the spread of HIV in their localities. The AIDS committees in the district and communes have been updated, and creation decisions issued.

C. Outcomes

- The district governors expressed welcome and determination to take part in supporting the National AIDS Authority's initiative in implementing the Royal Government's Notification with high efficaciousness.
- Respond to technical questions raised by the participants and coordinate the group discussion process.

- The participants sought understanding of the updated AIDS situation, national objectives, and response.
- The participants from communes/sangkats have set up and pledged to set up action plan packages for HIV response to be incorporated in the commune/sangkat investment program and development plan in 2021 and 2022.

D. Conclusion

- The training session proceeded smoothly according to the agenda and concluded with success.
- There were sufficient documents provided to the participants.
- The participants clearly understood the reasons and obligations of districts and communes to participate in ending AIDS.
- The participants clearly understood the methods to integrate and incorporate AIDS.

III) Conversation of His Excellency the Senior Minister

Next, the meeting proceeded to the third agenda with His Excellency the Senior Minister making conversation and offering recommendations on the following key points:

- 1) Compliment all the top managers and public servants for their hard works in carrying out their tasks of coordinating the organization of the training courses on the preparation of action plans and budgets for responding to HIV and AIDS and integrating them into the commune/sangkat development plan and investment program.
- 2) Organize the NAA working group as technical adviser to coordinate, guide, monitor, and evaluate the response to HIV and AIDS at the district and commune/sangkat levels.
- 3) Guidance should be provided on financial procedure and technical conditions for undertaking management role and services provision.
- 4) Gather reports to ascertain whether they are comprehensive and sent in on time and work activities reports are creative.
- 5) Concerning activities, how many meetings have they held with provincial, district, and commune committees? All the vice chairs and the secretary general shall update AIDS situation; that is, invite the Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC).
- 6) As regards civil society organizations and stakeholders, do they have sufficient composition and ever held meetings?

- 7) Encouragement should be offered by monitoring and evaluating all of the activities undertaken at varied ministries to see whether they have carried out works in compliance with guidance by presenting scores, awards, and medals to those who have done good job.

At the end, His Excellency the Senior Minister inspired and advised all the officials to carry on with their efforts by focusing on their job performance improvement. In addition, they shall consider the result above all, look for new infections, and prevent the spread of HIV. If suspected, they should be advised to undergo blood test, undergo drug therapy, and use condoms to prevent the spread of AIDS. Discrimination against people living with HIV has to be reduced. All of us have to be resolved to carry on successfully with our tasks.

The meeting concluded at 11.45 am in an extremely delightful and intimate atmosphere.

Phnom Penh, November 2, 2020
Meeting Minutes Taker
Director of Cabinet

Sighted and agreed:
Senior Minister, NAA Chair