

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
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Speech

By

H.E Senior Minister CHAM Prasidh
Minister of Ministry of Industry & Handicraft of the Kingdom of Cambodia
At the
Opening Ceremony of the 31st Asia Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP)
Mid-year Meeting 2015 and National Awareness Symposium on Metrology
Phnom Penh - 22-26 June 2015

- APMP Chairman Dr. Peter Fisk,
- Excellencies,
- Distinguished Participants
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure and honour to be here to open the **31st Asia Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP) Mid-year Meeting 2015** and the **National Awareness Symposium on Metrology** jointly organized by the **Ministry of Industry & Handicraft** of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the **Asia Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP)**. This symposium and other related activities are held from 22 to 26 June, 2015, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. I would also like to congratulate the **National Metrology Center (NMC)** for hosting these events, which themes are the first of their kind in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we all know that nearly every aspect of modern life relies on measurements, which provide us with a way of describing the state of our environment and the objects within it, and provide us also with a common language on which commodities traders, manufacturers, regulators and consumers agree. Hence, measurement science is something of vital importance to us all.

The intricate and mostly invisible network of services, suppliers and communications upon which we all depend, relies on metrology for its efficient and reliable operation. In this context, I would like to highlight that many physical and chemical

measurements have an immediate impact on the quality of the world in which we live. Without metrology our world would be very different.

Metrology is of fundamental importance in industry and trade - not only from the point of view of the consumer but also for those involved in manufacturing. Both groups must have confidence in the accuracy and reliability of the measurements upon which they depend. Therefore, every small investment in metrology will naturally result in a large return to the investor, whether the investor is a private company, a government entity or an international organization. This makes investing in metrology a sound strategy for future prosperity.

As we all see the necessity and importance of metrology to our daily life, a metrology-themed symposium will be organized today to raise awareness about metrology for the Cambodians, especially executives and decision makers from government agencies, universities and industries. I learn that the symposium will adopt the theme of this year here in Cambodia is National Awareness Symposium which will be focused on Cambodian measurement system: priorities and challenges, the relevance to Cambodia of effective participation in international and regional measurement activities, ASEAN Economic Community, roles of metrology infrastructure and some lessons learned from NIMT, reducing Technical Barriers to Trade: how the national measurement system can address needs of Cambodian industry, and how APMP's technical expertise can support NMC in addressing national needs.

More recently, as rapid technological development and industrial growth have placed increased demands on metrological services, and there is growing recognition of the importance of metrology to international trade through conformance testing and quality systems, the emphasis in reliable measurement science has shifted towards gaining international recognition and credibility for all people.

Therefore, I think this is a very useful and important symposium for Cambodia since Cambodia's NMC joined as a new full member of APMP. In this sense, I firmly believe that Cambodia will see the advantages in hosting events that will be promoting the importance of metrology to the general public and the way metrology can be a tool to support the acceleration of our economic growth: through reducing technical barriers to trade, through fairer trade transactions.

Moreover, through metrology, we will promote Cambodian innovation and industrial competitiveness and improve our quality of life.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I hope that the measurement system in Cambodia will facilitate science and technology development even though metrology capacities and infrastructures of NMC are limited and still at a level lower than other National Metrology Institutions (NMIs) in the Asia Pacific Region.

Bearing in mind the noble objectives and mission of APMP, I do believe that all developed NMIs will provide technical assistance, and share expertise to less developed

NMIs such as NMC, to make sure that their metrology capabilities and infrastructures are at the same level, and especially to achieve the objectives of APMP

I would also like to thank all APMP members for the hard work and dedication they have continuously contributed to advancing measurement science. I would like to take this opportunity to express my high appreciation for your kind presence on this auspicious occasion.

Finally, let me encourage the meeting to further promote high-level interaction and fruitful exchange of ideas, insights and perspectives and to expose the benefits of metrology to all stakeholders through the implementation and realization of APMP Master Plan.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Ministry of Industry & Handicraft, I would like to thank you all for your valuable participation in this event. Let me now declare the Symposium open and wish you all a fruitful discussion with concrete outcomes. I also wish you all the best of health, happiness and success in your noble endeavors.

Thank you for your attention!