

**"For Eradication of Polio from Cambodia"
The Handing Over Ceremony of Polio Vaccine and Cold Chain Equipment
January 11, 1996**

The Government of Japan launched a polio eradication programme in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF in 1995. For this programme, the handing over of 4.6 million doses of polio-vaccine, 1,000 vaccine carriers, 100 kerosene refrigerators and 85 motorcycles to the Ministry of Health will be held on January 11, 1996 at 04:00 P.M. at the National Centre for Hygiene and Epidemiology (CNHE) (Moha Vithei Kim Il Song, formerly Institut Pasteur).

The Government of Japan's contribution to the eradication of polio in the Kingdom of Cambodia is as follows:

**1. Provision of the polio vaccine for National Immunization Days 1996
(approximately equivalent to US\$ 0.5 million)**

The Government of Japan is providing 4.6 million doses of polio vaccines which is sufficient to immunize an estimated 1,700,000 Cambodian children under the age of five for the National Immunization Days 1996 scheduled for 11th February and 11th March.

**2. Provision of cold chain equipment
(approximately equivalent to US\$ 1 million)**

Under the Exchange of Notes signed between the Ambassador of Japan, H.E. Mr. Yukio IMAGAWA and H.E. Mr. UNG HUOT, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, dated 12th June 1995, the Government of Japan will provide each of 176 districts of Cambodia with cold chain equipment such as refrigerators, cold boxes, vehicles, etc., to enable the storage and transportation of vaccines in all 176 districts. Through this assistance, every province of Cambodia will be able to keep a 4-month supply of vaccines, which will enable the smooth implementation of the NIDs and routine vaccination.

**3. Provision of vaccines for routine vaccinations
(approximately equivalent to US\$ 1.7 million)**

Since 1992, the Government of Japan, in collaboration with UNICEF, has provided the vaccines for routine vaccinations for the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI), such as polio, measles, tuberculosis, etc. The Japanese vaccines, during these years, covered about 50-70% of the vaccines needed for Cambodia's EPI.

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Editors are invited for reporting and photo coverage.