

FROM : Panasonic TAD/FAX

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Feb. 24 2001 09:58AM P1

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The World Bank

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

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THE WORLD BANK SUPPORTS LAND REFORM

February 22, 2001

H.E. Sam Rainsy
Member of Parliament
12, Street 240
Phnom Penh
Kingdom of Cambodia

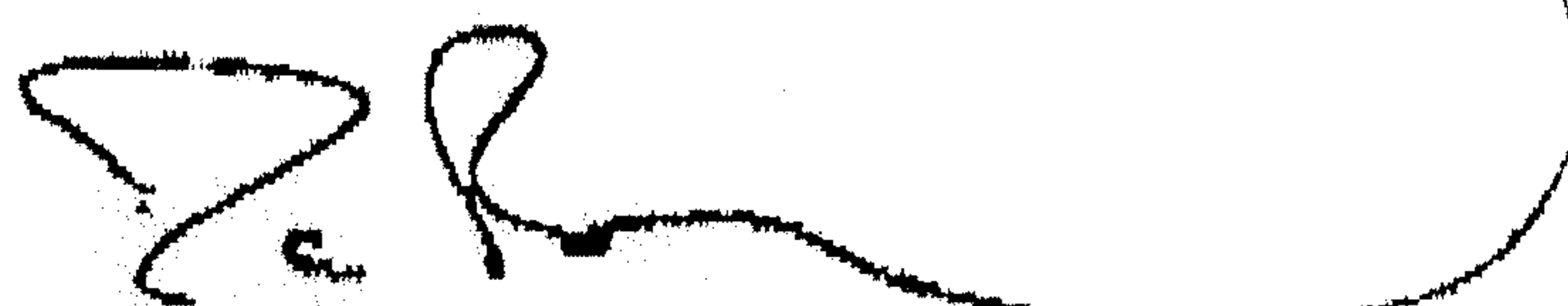
Excellency:

Mr. Wolfensohn has asked me to thank you for taking the initiative to forward us a letter from three representatives of the landless families in Cambodia.

The Bank's Country Assistance Strategy for Cambodia, which is focused on building the foundation for sustainable development and poverty reduction, has identified land reform as one of the key areas which require the government's urgent action. In recognizing this, and with the involvement of NGOs and civil society, we are supporting the Cambodian authorities in the preparation of a proposed land management and administration project, which is intended to improve the security of land tenure and to support the development of clear land policy and legal framework with regard to land administration, management and distribution. This work is at the initial stages, but we hope that the project can be ready for submission to our Executive Directors for their review during our Fiscal Year 2002. This project, along with other Bank supported programs, is designed to help address many of the causes of increased landlessness set out in your letter.

Please rest assured that our efforts, jointly with your Government, will continue to be focused on assisting the poor in Cambodia.

Sincerely,



Ian C. Porter
Acting Country Director, Cambodia
East Asia and Pacific Region