

Press release.

Norwegian Peoples Aid (NPA) form new funding partnership.

On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 11.00am at the NPA and the Cambodian School of Prosthetics and Orthotics will sign an Memorandum of Understanding on a new partnership in the assistance to disabled people in Cambodia.

The CSPO is an organisation dedicated to the training of Cambodian Prosthetists/Orthotists (Artificial limb and brace fitters) who will form the backbone of a National Rehabilitation service. The CSPO is supported by the Major NGOs in the sector, it's founders Cambodia Trust, AFSC, and it's board members, American Red Cross, Handicap International, Veterans International and the ICRC. The school trains students from all over Cambodia on it's three year program. So far the program has graduated 18 students and has a further 45 in training.

The new funds from NPA represent their first foray into this field with previous work focused on resettlement of Internally Displaced People, returnees and landless poor on demined land in Banteay Meanchea province.

NPA's involvement began in 1992-93 during the UN peace keeping era. They provided financial and technical assistance to the some 350,000 returnees from the Thai Cambodian Border. In cooperation with UNHCR and with funds from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, NPA began it's operation with a demining project in Banteay Moanchey province and later in Battambang. They also provide technical support for a program in Kampot. The focus of their programs continues to be community development on demined land, in cooperation with CMAC. Currently the NPA budget in Cambodia is 1.5million USD.

The deal will include support for the school in the form of a grant to maintain one expatriate trainers post for a period of up to three years.

Further details from NPA at 210888 or (CSPO) 368241

Signing at CSPO. Cambodia Trust. Calmette Hospital 11.00am  
25<sup>th</sup> November