



AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
PHNUM PENH

## MEDIA RELEASE

23 August 2004

### **Australia to provide US\$2.1 million to Catalyse Governance Reform in Cambodia**

Australian Ambassador Lisa Filipetto today confirmed Australia's commitment to support Cambodia's reform efforts through the new Cambodia Australia Technical Assistance Facility (CATAF). Ambassador Filipetto signed an agreement relating to the CATAF program with HE Ngo Hongly, Secretary General of the Council for Administrative Reform, at a ceremony attended by Deputy Prime Minister Sok An.

The CATAF program has a budget of approximately US\$2.1 million over 3 years, and will deliver targeted technical assistance to support key governance reforms and enhance the enabling environment for the private sector. The program is designed to be flexible and responsive, meeting needs identified by government within a short timeframe. CATAF aims to provide high quality advice and support to facilitate reform processes led by government, with activities closely coordinated with other donor efforts.

Initial priority areas for CATAF are expected to include:

- Assisting Cambodia benefit from WTO accession and enhanced trade and investment;
- Strengthening service delivery to promote private sector growth;
- Supporting the public financial management reform program;
- Facilitating legal and judicial reform, particularly in areas which will enhance the environment for private sector development; and
- support for the Cambodian Knowledge Centre and research on capacity development priorities.

For more information please contact:

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