

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
PHNOM PENH

27 December 2000

PRESS RELEASE**AUSTRALIAN CONTRIBUTION TO CMAC**

The Australian Government today announced a contribution of **A\$ 2 million** (approximately \$US1.1 million) to the UNDP CMAC Trust Fund. These funds will be made available to the UNDP as soon as possible and brings Australia's total contribution to CMAC for this year to \$A 2.5 million.

In a letter to UNDP, the CMAC Trust Fund Managers, and the Royal Government of Cambodia, Australia's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia, HE Louise Hand indicated that Australia considered "the successful National Symposium on Mine Action held on 16 November as a first step in reinvigorating the partnership and dialogue between donors and the Royal Government of Cambodia". Australia hopes that all parties would now be able to focus once again on the task of demining.

The Ambassador also noted the US\$ 5 million commitment that donors and the Royal Government had made to CMAC. She hoped that the timing of Australia's contribution would help to provide CMAC with the financial security and confidence required to re-establish vitally needed demining operations in 2001.

For more information please contact:

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