

PRESS RELEASE**សេចក្តីរៀបរយព័ត៌មាន**March 2nd, 1999**FOOD AID FOR THE AFFLICTED IN CAMBODIA
through WFP
by the Government of Japan**

The Government of Japan extends through the World Food Program (WFP) food aid totaling 637 million yen (approximately equivalent to US\$ 5,300,000) for the afflicted in Cambodia because of civil war. The Note to this effect was exchanged on March 1 (Monday) in Rome between Mr. Hiromoto Seki, Japanese Ambassador to Italy, and Ms. Catherine Bertini, Executive Director of the WFP.

In Cambodia, rehabilitation and improvement of the agricultural infrastructure are proceeding under the new administration inaugurated last November. The country, however, is not yet able to produce enough food to support its people, and especially food shortage is constant in rural areas.

The Government of Japan has decided to provide rice through the WFP for the afflicted in Cambodia from a humanitarian point of view, taking account of the severity of the food shortage.