



Foundation for International Development/Relief

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PRESS RELEASE

Inauguration Ceremony of the New Surgical Ward of National Pediatric Hospital

November 25, 2003 at 7:00

at National Pediatric Hospital, #100, Russian Federation Blvd., Phnom Penh

(Editors are invited for reporting and photo coverage)

National Pediatric Hospital has established a new surgical ward and will hold a ceremony to celebrate its inauguration, which will be presided by Her Majesty Queen **NORODOM MONINEATH SIHANOUK**. The Prime Minister **Samdech HUN SEN** will also be present at the ceremony as well as ministers of the Royal Government.

The ceremony will invite HE Dr. Hong Sun Huot, Minister of Health; Mr. Katsuhiko Shinohara, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of Embassy of Japan; Mr. Nobuhiro Iijima, Chairman of FIDR; and many other guests. The number of attendants is estimated around 1,000 in total.

The new surgical ward is a two-story building, which accommodates inpatients as many as 55 at a time; it is expected to be of great help for dealing with the growing number of surgical cases among infantile Cambodians. The ward is also equipped with a seminar room that will be useful to educate Cambodian medical practitioners and students.

The new ward is a donation through the Grant Assistance Program for Japanese NGOs by Embassy of Japan. Foundation for International Development/Relief (FIDR), Japanese non-governmental aid organization, was awarded the grant of 162,985 US dollars on 14 March 2003, and carried out the construction project from 14 April to 5 November. The total costs of the construction and installations were 210,000 US dollars. - This project would be one of featuring achievements of the cooperation between Japan and Cambodia at grass-roots level.

Along with the construction of the new ward, FIDR has renovated the old surgical ward which has two operation theaters. The renovation has made it possible to provide on-the-job training to wider number of medical students as well as local doctors. The renovation of the old ward cost 25,000 US dollars. With the new ward and the renovated operation ward, National Pediatric Hospital truly meets the international standard of surgical treatment for children, and it will function as the leading center of pediatric surgery in the Kingdom.

For more information, please contact Mr. Naoyuki Koyama (tel: 012-818141).