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PFM Newsletter No.1 May 2012

Dear colleagues,

As promised during the EFI course on Public Financial Management (PFM) held from 13-17 February, 2012, we are now initiating a quarterly PFM Newsletter.

The purpose of the Newsletter is two fold. One is to keep in touch on PFM issues so that we can create a forum for the exchange of ideas and to learn from each other. It is for this reason that this Newsletter is copied to all of you. It is also for this reason that several officials from the Ministry of Economy and Finance have also been copied on the email. I hope that this will provide you with an opportunity to contact each other and facilitate communication between people who have a thirst for knowledge so that together we can bring about some improvement in the PFM framework of Cambodia.

The second purpose of this Newsletter is to bring to you papers on various areas of PFM that may be of interest. These are enclosed both in English and Khmer so that, over a period of time, we can also develop a library of literature on PFM in Khmer. In this issue we enclose two papers- the first on cash management and the other on gender budgeting in the Pacific and a short note on a recent regional conference on Government Finance Statistics (GFS) where Cambodia was represented.

Cash management is an important area of Government work and the first paper is a Technical Note on this topic from the IMF which explains the main objectives of cash management, good practices, the main features of short term cash planning and it's main challenges in countries of the developing world.

As you are aware, gender and child budgeting is coming into importance these days. The implementation of these concepts however presents quite a few challenges in developing countries and this paper on gender budgeting in the Pacific examines these challenges. Although the paper was written for Pacific Island countries, the problems and challenges remain the same for most developing countries- the improvement of basic PFM- before these concepts can be gainfully deployed and the paper may therefore be of interest to you.

Lastly, the IMF conducted a workshop on GFS at Bangkok in March 2012 and where Cambodia was represented. I am enclosing a press note for your information.

I trust you would find this Newsletter and the enclosed papers of some interest and that these would generate some useful discussion amongst PFM practitioners like you in Cambodia. If you have any questions please feel free also to ask me either by email or on phone as indicated in the letter head.

(Suhas Joshi)
cc. HE DPM K. Chhon, HE Moniroth, HE Vissoth, Dr. Sok Saravuth

Thanking you

(Seng Sreng)

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