Responding to COVID-19 in the Kingdom of Cambodia

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18 June 2020
Country context: Kingdom of Cambodia

- Population (2019): **16.5 million**
  - 76% <40 years old; 4.5% >65 years old
  - Majority (77%) live in rural areas

- GDP per capita, US$ (2018): **1510** (Lower-middle-income country)

- Total health expenditure per capita, US$ (2016): **79.6**

- 3 international airports, ground crossings with Viet Nam, Thailand and Lao PDR, **1 seaport**
Epidemiology

Confirmed cases of COVID-19 by date of positive test and acquisition status, 18 June 2020 (N=129)

- 129 confirmed cases
- 91 cases imported from 11 countries
- Confirmed cases in 12 provinces and in Phnom Penh
- 5 main clusters contained

How has Cambodia managed to contain the outbreak so far?

Presented by Dr. Or Vandine, Secretary of State and Spokeswoman, MoH Cambodia
1. Strong leadership and coordination

• A whole-of-government, whole-of-society response has been activated, led by Samdech Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister, with the public health response led by H.E. Prof. Mam Bunheng, Minister of Health
  - National Committee to Combat COVID-19, chaired by Samdech Prime Minister
  - Inter-Ministerial Committee to Combat COVID-19, chaired by Minister of Health
  - Provincial COVID-19 Committees, chaired by Provincial Governors

• Government developed and mobilized funding for the National Master Plan for COVID-19

• Ministry of Health convened Technical Working Groups to guide and support implementation
2. Past investments have built a functional public health system

- **Multi-source surveillance for COVID-19** including event-based surveillance (with hotline) and expanded ILI/SARI surveillance
- **Mobilization of 2910 Rapid Response Team (RRT) members** to find cases, trace contacts and collect detailed information on movement
- **Laboratory capacity** for testing and detection of SARS-CoV-2 at Institute Pasteur Cambodia and National Institute of Public Health, including testing of ILI/ SARI → more than 28,000 tests conducted
3. Risk communication and community engagement

Messages disseminated through TV, radio and social media

- Timely and regular press releases, press conferences and media briefings
- Material developed specifically for drivers and garment factory workers
- Risk communication and community engagement monitoring and supervision plan
- Community engagement strategy being rolled out includes surveillance and response elements
4. Global solidarity and international cooperation

- Samdech Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister decided to accept Westerdam cruise ship on humanitarian grounds and led the National Committee with national resource mobilization to combat Covid-19

- Close technical cooperation with WHO, US-CDC and Institute Pasteur Cambodia for surveillance, detection, and rapid response

- Financial and technical support from a number of bilateral and multilateral partners coordinated with support from WHO

- Regular attendance of WPRO Health Ministers and National IHR Focal Points meetings to share experiences and lessons
Still preparing for the future: remaining vigilant for possible community transmission

Negotiating challenges as opportunities for the future

GLOBAL SITUATION

UNCERTAINTY ON VIRUS

STRENGTHENING HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
Thank you very much for your attention in responding to Covid-19 to save the lives of our people around the globe!