

Royal Government of Cambodia

National Action Plan

To

Prevent Violence Against Women

2014-2018

Approved by the Council Minister in the Plenary Session
On 5 December 2014

Prepared by Ministry of Women's Affairs





KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

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Table of Contents

1 BACK	(GROUND	1
1.1	Policy	1
1.	1.1 National Framework	1
1.	1.2 International Framework	2
1.2	Situation	2
1.	2.1 Domestic Violence	4
1.	2.2 Rape and Sexual Violence	5
1.	2.3 Trafficking in Persons	5
1.	2.4 Violence against Women with Increased Risk	6
1.3	Priority Issues	7
2 ST	TRATEGIES	7
2.1	Strategy 1: Primary Prevention	8
2.2	Strategy 2: Legal Protection and Multi-sectoral Services	9
2.3	Strategy 3: Formulating and Implementing Policies and Laws	9
2.4	Strategy 4: Capacity Building	10
2.5	Strategy 5: Review, Monitoring and Evaluation	10
3 AC	CTION PLAN	10
3.1	Brief Description on the Scope of the Plan	10
3.2	Implementation Matrix	11
4 LA	AW AND REGULATION DRAFTING SCHEDULE	34
5 EXPE	NDITURES	36
6 REVIE	EW, MONITORING AND EVALUATION	36
7 CONC	CLUSIONS	37
O DEEIN	NITIONIC	20

PRIME MINISTER OF THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA TO ENDORSE THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 2014-2018

The Royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia considers eliminating violence against women as one of the main priorities of all state, private and civil society actors to prevent and eliminate violence against women and to provide protection to victims in a timely and effective manner to achieve the Cambodian Millennium Development Goals.

To achieve this objective, the Royal Government has been strictly implementing Rectangular Strategies, Phase I, II and III, National Strategic Development Plans, Legal and Judicial Reforms, sectoral policies and programs, especially the Village Commune Safety Policy with its third criteria of "no prostitution, no trafficking of women and children and no domestic violence".

Additionally, the Royal Government has set out directions and provided guidance to Ministry of Women's Affairs, relevant institutions and national and international development partners to put in place programs focused on the following key strategies:

- Promoting public awareness and sensitizing the public on laws;
- Developing and improving social, health and legal services;
- Developing and improving relevant policies and laws.

In principle, this National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women is the mandate of competent state ministries and institutions; however, for Cambodia, this National Action Plan also requires cooperation and support from local and international communities as well as

engagement from state institutions, civil society, development partners and all citizens.

The Royal Government is strongly committed to working with all partners to prevent violence

and protect survivors of all forms of violence against women and girls. This effort to prioritize

laws and policies has had a strong positive impact reducing violence against women. It is

believed that the National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women 2014-2018, a

fundamental document setting clear strategies and approaches, will help reduce all forms of

violence against women so that women and girls have their rights respected and can actively

and equally contribute to the development of the country.

On behalf of the Royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia and myself, I wish to

acknowledge national and international organizations for both financial and technical support

for the formulation of this National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women 2014-2018

and appeal to all state institutions, development partners, civil society and stakeholders to

continue your contributions to the successful implementation of this National Action Plan so

that women and all Cambodians alike can live in harmony and with dignity.

Phnom Penh, 23 December 2014

Prime Minister

Samdech Akkak Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN

Unofficial Translation

MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS

The National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women prioritizes the strategic area of legal protection for women and girls to ensure their equal access to legal protection by mainstreaming women's rights into the formulation and implementation of laws and by promoting effective service delivery to survivors of violence against women. This National Action Plan demonstrates the Royal Government's efforts under the wise leadership of Samdech Akkak Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, to support national and international policies including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Cambodian Millennium Development Goals (CMDG), Rectangular Strategy Phase III of the Royal Government, National Strategic Development Plan and Neary Ratanak IV, the Strategic Plan of Ministry of Women's Affairs. This National Action Plan advocates for and requires strong cooperation among ministries, institutions, civil society, development partners and the private sector to ensure timely interventions including social and legal service provisions, which are a joint undertakings of these stakeholders to contribute to reducing violence against women in a fair and effective manner.

Implementation of the four strategies of the National Action Plan to Prevent Violence on Women 2009-2012 provided significant success including progress in changing attitudes as now, the majority of men and women perceive violence against women as unacceptable and intolerable and there is an increased awareness of the Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence and the Protection of Victims.

Other successes are improved social services, health services and legal services including access to training, accreditation of 132 MOWA's officials as judicial police agents and a feasibility study on the establishment of One-Stop Service Center for survivors of violence against women and girls completed in 2011 with technical support from United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Unofficial Translation

Building on the experiences in implementing National Action Plan to Prevent Violence on Women 2009-2012, National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women 2014-2018 serves as a follow-up mechanism in line with Neary Ratanak IV, which continues to supporting the strategic area of legal protection for women and girls. Ministry of Women's Affairs has established a Technical Working Group on Gender Committee on Gender-based Violence (TWGG-GBV) that led the formulation of this National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women 2014-2018 with participation from relevant ministries, institutions and civil society. In reviewing the implementation of the first National Action Plan 2009-2012, gaps, barriers and challenges were identified including access to services that meet international standards and a lack of coordination and cooperation in providing response and services to survivors resulting in violence against women and girls not being fully eliminated based on the all indicators.

With support from United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT-Australian Aid), German Technical Cooperation (GIZ), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), officials of the Legal Protection Department, Ministry of Women's Affairs, organized national and sub-national consultations with courts, prosecutors, relevant provincial departments, local authorities, military polices and civil societies to collect feedback and input which were key to drafting the National Action Plan to address the needs of all survivors.

I would like to highly commend and acknowledge the efforts of all members of the TWGG-GBV under the leadership of H.E. Sy Define and its members including H.E. Khieu Serey Vuthea, Ms. Sakhoeurn Savadv. Ms. Keth Mardv and Mr. Trak Sokundara for their important roles in

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