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PRESS RELEASE

The 54th Meeting of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (UNAIDS PCB), which was attended for the third time by the Cambodian delegation led by H.E. Senior Minister Ieng Mouly, Chairman of the National AIDS Authority, in Geneva, Switzerland concluded on the afternoon of June 27, 2024.

In this session, the Cambodian delegation made four interventions outlining the progress of the HIV/AIDS response, which Cambodia has already achieved two goals out of the three 95-95-95 goals: 86-99-98. To achieve the remaining 95 goal, the Royal Government launched the National Policy for Ending AIDS and the Sustainability of HIV Program for 2023-2028 on March 15, 2024. The policy calls for the search for nearly 10,000 suspected HIV-positive people so that they can be tested for HIV and receive prompt care and treatment. At the same time, the policy encourages young men who have sex with men (MSM) to seek testing and receive health and social protection benefits. The National Policy paves the way for social protection programs to be modified to attract key populations for testing and access to health care.

Currently, Cambodia is expanding testing services through differentiated innovative testing approaches including HIV self-testing and Tele PrEP, Peer Driven Intervention (PDI+), Community-led HIV Testing and Mobile Van. Oral PrEP program has been rolled out in 15 provinces across 28 health facilities and 13 Community-led PrEP. Regarding discrimination and stigma, Cambodia is committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination and stigma against PLHIV, as well as against Key Population, as discrimination and stigma are the main barriers to HIV/AIDS response.

Finally, on the Sustainability of HIV Program, the Cambodian delegation reminded the meeting that Cambodia embarked on developing a Transition Readiness Assessment in 2017, followed by the creation of the Cambodia HIV Sustainability Roadmap in 2018. In working towards the sustainability of HIV/AIDS, Cambodia has the political will to develop a national policy that accepts representatives of PLHIV and vulnerable communities to participate in all mechanisms of HIV response at all levels, national and sub-national levels. The Cambodian delegation called on Development Partners such as the Global Fund, PEPFAR or UNAIDS to strengthen the National HIV Response Country System in order to ultimately achieve total victory over HIV/AIDS.

On the participation of the Cambodian delegation, Ms. Patricia Ongpin, UNAIDS Country Director for Cambodia, Laos and Malaysia, made the following comments, "Cambodia's interventions and active participation is greatly appreciated. You have not only showcased your hard work on the global stage and advocated for continued commitment from other members/donors, but you have been acknowledged for your achievements."

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June 27, 2024 National AIDS Authority