



Meeting Information

The Fourth Focal Point Meeting of AFSIS Project and the Meeting of Directors-General of Agricultural Statistics and Information in ASEAN + 3 Countries in Siem Reap, Cambodia, 21 – 24 February, 2006

1. Background and Objectives

The Focal Point Meeting (FPM) is the decision-making mechanism of the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) Project. The meeting will be held at least once a year to discuss, review and decide on the following matters:

- a) Work plans of the Project.
- b) Project activities at the regional and national levels.
- c) Other important matters relevant to the implementation of the Project.

The Meeting of Directors-General of Agricultural Statistics and Information in ASEAN + 3 Countries was first organized in Japan by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on 27-31 January 2003. The Meeting was conducted in such a way that top executives of organizations involved in agricultural statistics and the representative of the ASEAN Secretariat discussed the effective means of AFSIS Project implementation, as well as the roles of agricultural statistics and information in relation to regional food security and poverty alleviation within the framework of ASEAN + 3. After the absence of the Meeting in 2004, it was agreed among JICA and member countries that the meeting should be held annually by reallocating funds from the AFSIS Project for organizing. Therefore, the second Meeting was organized by the AFSIS Project back to back with the third FPM in January 2005 in Yangon, Myanmar. In this year, the meeting is set back to back with the fourth FPM to provide top executives of organizations involved in agricultural statistics and information in ASEAN + 3 countries with the opportunity to:

- a) Find ways and means to achieve methodologies needed to improve current situation.
- b) Explore recent problems and implementation guidelines of AFSIS Project.
- c) Consider future plan for project implementation.

2. Participants of the Meetings

The FPM will be attended by representatives nominated as Project's Focal Points from each of member countries including representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) Japan, JICA, FAO and East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve (EAERR) Pilot Project.

The Meeting of Directors-General of Agricultural Statistics and Information in ASEAN + 3 Countries will be attended by Directors-General responsible for Agricultural Statistics and Information in ASEAN + 3 Countries including Focal Points of the AFSIS Project and representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat, MAFF Japan, JICA, FAO and EAERR Pilot Project.

3. Date and Venue

The fourth FPM will be held on 21 February 2006 and the Meeting of Directors-General of Agricultural Statistics and Information in ASEAN + 3 Countries will be held during 22-24 February 2006 at Prince' D Angkor Hotel, Siem Reap, Cambodia.

4. Traveling Costs

The project will provide the participants from ASEAN countries with air-tickets, terminal expenses, and daily subsistence allowance (DSA) including accommodation (except for Brunei and Singapore, such costs will be provided through the ASEAN Secretariat). The participants will be advised to receive their round trip air-tickets in advance. As for the terminal expenses, the reimbursement shall be made upon the submission of receipt, while DSA will be paid in cash during the meeting.

5. Accommodation

A group booking for all participants will be arranged at Prince D' Angkor Hotel, Siem Reap, Cambodia. All participants are requested to inform the Project of their arrival and departure schedule in due course.

6. Arrival at the Airport

Participants who buy their own tickets are requested to inform the Project staff with their flight numbers and arrival dates. The Project will arrange transportation from Siem Reap Airport to the hotel for all participants.

7. About the Host City



Cambodia lies in the heart of South-East Asia bordering Vietnam to the east, Laos to the north and Thailand in the west. The temples of Angkor is the main reason for visiting Cambodia. The base for exploring the temples of Angkor is the provincial capital, Siem Reap. Angkor Wat is known as the Eighth Wonder of the World, this was the imperial centre of Cambodia from the 9th to the 14th centuries at the high point of the ancient Khmer empire. The buildings are set in acres of jungle land and after Phnom Penh became Cambodia's capital, sank into oblivion for a number of centuries.

8. Getting a visa

Visas are required to enter Cambodia. This can be obtained from Cambodian Embassy or upon arrival at Siem Reap Airport for USD 20 and 1 passport sized photo per person. For details, please contact Cambodian Embassy in your country.

9. Currency

There is usually no need to exchange large amount of American dollars for the local **riel**; most merchants will give you as fair an exchange rate as the money changers.

10. Contact Persons

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11. Registration Form

All participants are requested to complete the attached registration form and return it to the project by fax or e-mail as soon as possible.