Cambodia’s Statement at 47th JAG

- I would like to congratulate you, Mme Chair, on your election as Chair of the 47th JAG and express my appreciation to Amb Francisco Pirez Gordillo, 46th JAG Chair, for steering our 46th JAG last year.

- My delegation commends ITC for excellent work it has done in 2012 as highlighted by Executive Director Praticia Francis. Cambodia notes with high appreciation that a large part of ITC service delivery has been devoted to LDCs, the poorest members of this organization. I am confident that this trend will continue in 2013.

- ITC has been an active partner of Cambodia. ITC has assisted Cambodia on silk sector development. It was actively involved from the beginning of the project up to date. Silk is an important sector in Cambodia as it is involved with considerable employment of women in the rural area. With the support and assistance from ITC, this sector has grown steadily both the production and export of its products to the world market including the EU market. In order to make this sector a sustainable growth, ITC has now been working closely with the Royal Government of Cambodia to set up a Silk Board with the aim to enhance the development of this sector in a long term basis. Cambodia is grateful of the ITC support in this important sector.

- Cambodia thanks ITC for organizing a workshop on market research and analysis held last year in Phnom Penh. The workshop was indeed every useful for participants from various institutions. Cambodia needs more training on this subject in the form of on job training at ITC for the period of 3 months so that Cambodian officials can better equipped with such an important expertise and to serve trade-related ministries in an effective way.
• Cambodia welcomes the NTMs survey being undertaken by ITC in Cambodia. The Royal Government of Cambodia expects that the recommendations from the report of the survey can be used as an important reference in tackling the NTMs problem for the benefits of our business community.

• Cambodia will continue to work closely with ITC to explore other possible projects in the future. Cambodia takes this opportunity to thank all development partners for the financial support provided to ITC to carry its mandates and to Cambodia in particular and stress that the continued supports are needed on a sustainable basis.

• Finally, my delegation expresses our deep thanks and gratitude to Mme Patricia Francis, ITC Executive Director, for her able leadership and tireless efforts for the last 7 years under which ITC has made a lots of progress as a more effective and efficient institution. I wish her all the best for her future endeavor.

With best regards,
KE Sovann
Cambodia Mission
Geneva