

PARLIAMENTARY INSTITUTE OF CAMBODIA

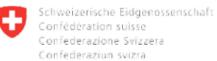
STRENGTHENING PARLIAMENTARY CAPACITY



# PIC PARLIAMENTARY **REVIEW**

#### Main Supporting Partners





Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

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### Introduction

### To The First Issue Of The PIC Parliamentary Review

This is the first edition of the PIC Parliamentary Review. This looks back over the whole of 2015 to give an overall pictures of the wide spectrum of activity Cambodian Parliamentarians are involved in. From now on the Review will be published twice a year and will focus on events that have taken place in the Cambodian Parliament during the previous six months.

This publication is produced by the Parliamentary Institute of Cambodia (PIC), which is an independent institute established in 2011 at the request of Cambodian Parliamentarians to assist in strengthening the capacity of both the Senate and the National Assembly. PIC supports Cambodia's Parliamentarians and parliamentary staff in gaining the skills and knowledge to fulfill their roles at the highest level of competence. PIC also supports Parliamentarians in organizing seminars, missions and other outreach activities.

Each edition of the PIC Parliamentary Review will include a calendar of events in which the Cambodian Parliament has been involved, and in which they have had support from PIC. From this list, a selection will be chosen for more in-depth stories. These will focus on issues of general interest that, as much as possible, demonstrate PIC's systematic approach to parliamentary support. This approach recognizes that, ideally, parliamentary events do not take place in isolation, but are part of a continuum: thus, a request for research to support the review and drafting of legislation should lead to expert hearings and public consultations. These, in turn, lead to revisions to legislation or guide the policies needed to implement that legislation. The subsequent parliamentary oversight activities can be expected to trigger a new round of research as problems become evident in new legislation, or in the way it is being implemented. Further amendments might be needed at this stage. PIC's capacity development assistance can be requested at any stage in this circular approach. In this way, PIC can respond to actual need as an integral element in ensuring that the continuous sequence of parliamentary activity runs smoothly, and with growing professionalism.



# Study Mission And Seminar Support The Debate About A Parliamentary Budget Office For Cambodia



Working lunch: Discussion about Swedish Parliament experience of the establishment of the PBO

(Photo by: Senate)

The Parliament of Cambodia has been examining the benefits and feasibility of establishing a Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) in Cambodia. The initiative is being led by the Commission on Economy, Finance, Banking and Auditing of the Senate, with the support of other members of the National Assembly and the Senate, as well as the World Bank and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). The PBO's function would be to support the legislative

body of Cambodia to prepare and oversee issues surrounding the national budget.

Specifically, the PBO would strengthen the oversight role of the Parliament, contribute to a more fact-based political debate surrounding the national budget, and develop policies and means for testing proposals. The PBO would also provide services in presenting the budget for Parliamentary Commissions and in answering

questions, explaining the functioning of the budget, and performing training for Commission staff in respect of the budget.

As they began their deliberations, the Cambodian Parliament requested the Parliamentary Institute of Cambodia to work with parliamentary researchers to conduct research to guide their debates and to assist in organizing presentations from international experts, and missions to learn about approaches to, and experience of, PBOs in other countries.

Among the experts consulted, on 22 April 2015, Dr. Gunna Fors and Dr. Robin Travis, both from the Research Service of the Swedish Parliament, were invited to talk about the importance of a PBO, different PBO models, and the comparative nature and functions of PBOs in other countries, as well as how a Cambodian variety might look and operate. A study mission followed conducted by a delegation from the Cambodian Parliament, led by the Commission on Economy, Finance, Banking and Auditing of the Senate, to Sweden, Finland and Vietnam. This took place from 6 to 16 May 2015 to enable the Parliamentarians to see how PBOs were operating in these three countries, with the following results:

#### The mission to Sweden

The Swedish PBO was founded in 1997 as part of the research services of the Swedish Parliament, affiliated under the Swedish National Assembly. It provides research and information services, focusing on economic and policy analysis, and aims to ensure that resources are appropriately distributed among government ministries. Its areas of focus are cost analysis, the compilation of statistics, and the provision of computerized sets of tables comparing the central government budget and alternative budget proposals from the minority parties. The Swedish PBO also works to enhance an understanding of the parliamentary budget and to strengthen the role of the Parliament in overseeing the budget, as well as to develop the capacity of staff members from the General Secretariat.

#### The mission to Finland

The Finnish PBO was established in 2011 and its services include costing, research and information, and consultation. It is responsible for preparing or providing documents covering three major areas. The first is assessments of (micro and macro level) effects of proposed policy changes on the economy. Typically, analyses include cost estimates (fiscal / budgetary effects), effects on individuals' disposable income, income distribution and income inequality. Other requests might relate to effects on employment, and so on. Typically, the results are compared with the proposals of the government. The second major area is economic reviews and summaries. These often summarize literature on some specific economic phenomena and can also relate to more extensive themes such as energy production or the social security system. The third is statistics and the retrieval of other information.

In affiliation with Parliament the Finnish PBO also operates an independent audit body, the National Audit Office of Finland (NAO), which is Finland's Supreme Audit Institution. This was created to audit the state's finances, monitor fiscal policy, and oversee election and political funding. Some NAO reports are submitted to Parliament to be scrutinized by the Audit Committee and some are also debated in Plenary. The NAO works on four types of auditing: financial, compliance, performance, and fiscal policy.

#### The mission to Vietnam

In Vietnam, the Department of Finance and Budget is affiliated under the General Secretariat for administrative aspects and under the Commission on Finance and Budget for technical aspects. This department has functions similar to those of the Swedish and Finnish PBOs, and the staff are highly qualified. In addition, there are two institutions outside the Vietnamese Parliament - the Economic Research Center and the Information Center - that provide information for the Commission on Finance and Budget to help in preparing and overseeing the national budget.



(Photo by: Senate)

On 29 June 2015 the Commission on Economy, Finance, Banking and Auditing of the Senate organized a seminar to disseminate results from the study mission to the three countries. Presentations covered the roles, functions and models of the PBOs in the National Assemblies of Sweden, Finland and Vietnam, as well as the

relationship between the PBO and National Audit Office of Finland.

The initiative enjoys wide interest from the Cambodia Parliament, as well as support from international donors and experts, and positive debate is expected to continue.

### Forum in Mondulkiri

brings a wide range of stakeholders together to strengthen the capacity of commune/sangkat councils, inform citizens and address national and local issues



(Photo by: Senate)

On 12 August 2015, Senator Group Region 8 organized a forum in the Conference Hall of Mondulkiri Provincial Hall on the topic of Capacity Strengthening and Development of Local Commune/ Sangkat Councils. H.E. Yang Sem, Deputy Head of the Senator Group Region 8, presided over the event, which was attended by 150 participants representing a wide range of stakeholders. These included representatives from: the provincial councils; the commune/sangkat councils; relevant ministries and line departments; and the General Secretariat of the Senate. Local inhabitants were also among the participants.

The aim was to increase understanding about the challenges faced by commune/sangkat councils in Mondulkiri and to respond to the issues they raised, as well as to disseminate information about national policies through presentations from relevant ministries. These presentations covered law relating to the election of members of the National

Assembly, law on the organization and functioning of the National Election Committee, and the roles and responsibilities of the communes/sangkats in land registration. The Senator Group Region 8 also used this occasion as an opportunity to seek solutions to problems surrounding the remaining communal land registration, and an acceleration in building infrastructure, which had previously been promised. After H.E. Eng Bunheang, Governor of the Mondulkiri Provincial Council, gave a general summary of issues and security matters relating to the area, H.E. Yang Sem gave a presentation about the implementation of the Royal Government of Cambodia's rectangular strategy, and the decentralization reform at the commune/sangkat council level.

The forum also provided a platform for general discussion and for speakers from governmental institutions to address questions from citizens. The issues discussed included the neutrality of the National Election Committee (NEC), problems about

election registration, and land conflicts relating to economic land concessions, state land, and civilians. There were also requests from the citizens and commune/sangkat council members for government officials to expedite the land and communal land registration process, to issue personal land titles for indigenous communities, and to reduce the tax rate relating to the costs involved in transferring the ownership of land titles.

In response to the first issue, Mr. Som Sorida from the National Election Committee stated that all NEC staff are neutral, and outlined solutions to election registration problems.

Addressing land issues, H.E. Seak Vanna, Under-Secretary of State from the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, explained that the tax rate relating to the costs involved in transferring land title ownership was not set by officials in charge of registration: instead, it was in line with the law on financial management which applies a four percent rate on every transfer. However, according to the Financial Law 2013, any transfer of ownership of property between relatives is allowed a deduction from the price before calculating liability to Registration Tax. The amount allowed to be deducted from the price of the property is 200,000,000 (two hundred million) KHR in the case of a property transfer in the form of a succession (i.e. when the property is passed on through inheritance) and 100,000,000 (one hundred million) KHR in a property transfer in the form of a donation (i.e. when the property is donated to a relative).

Addressing queries relating to land titles, he reported that the indigenous communities who

had not been recognized as legal entities by the Ministry of Interior could not register land. Even those who had been recognized as legal entities had to wait for development partners because the process required more money, time, and labor than they had access to. This was the challenge, he reported. Indigenous families seeking private ownership needed to supply clear evidence that they did not belong to any community, or if they did, that they now wished to detach themselves from a communal agreement. Summarizing, H.E. Seak Vanna said that, in the land registration procedure, it was difficult to avoid complications because substantial documents, reviewed by the land owner and other stakeholders, were needed before registration could be completed.

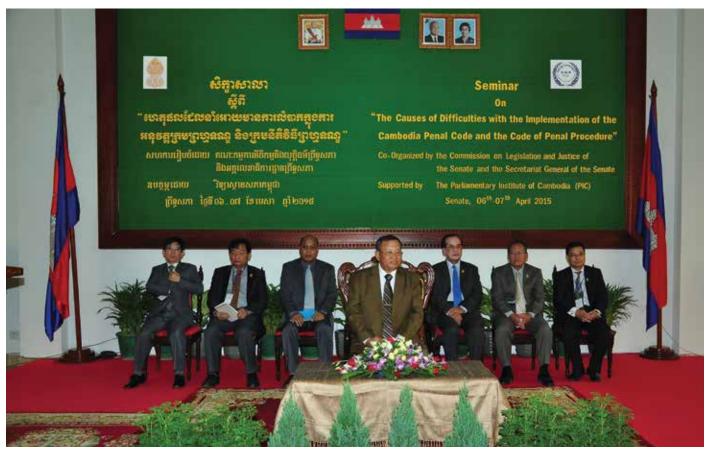
H.E Svay Sameang, Deputy Governor of Mondulkiri, raised the topic of land conflicts, stressing the need for community chiefs to be better informed about the legal context, and about their roles and responsibilities in respect of land ownership. This was important in clarifying some of the misunderstandings.

This was the third forum supported by PIC since January 2015. Of the other two, one focused on methods of using the citizen report card system and score cards for planning. This took place from 14 to 16 January and was led by Senator Group Region 4. The other forum focused on strengthening the capacity of, and good governance in, local development. That was held from 27 to 28 May and was initiated by Senator Group Region 4 and Senate Commission 10. The overall aim of these forums is to enable the Cambodian Parliament to fulfill its representation function.



(Photo by: Senate)

## Challenges in the Implementation of the Criminal and Criminal Procedure Codes of Cambodia



(Photo by: Senate)

On 6 and 7 April 2015, the Commission on Legislation and Justice of the Senate of Cambodia, supported by the Parliamentary Institute of Cambodia (PIC), organized a seminar at the Senate on the Challenges in the Implementation of the Criminal and Criminal Procedure Codes of Cambodia.

The seminar was chaired by Samdech Say Chhum, President of the Senate, and attended by members of the Senate and the National Assembly, and staff from the court, prosecution and prosecution general, the Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia, judicial police, non-governmental organizations and the Secretariat General of the Senate.

H.E. Ouk Bounchheoeun, head of the Commission on Legislation and Justice at the Senate, stated that the aim of this seminar was to share information, exchange ideas and experiences, understand how the criminal and criminal procedure codes were being implemented - and the associated challenges - and to find solutions to problems that had emerged. As Samdech Say Chhum

added, "In principle, the Parliament is responsible for making law, but the people implementing those laws have an even more crucial role, and they can encounter both positive and negative aspects of the law during its implementation."

The seminar comprised two presentations and two roundtable discussions. Mr. Francois-Louis Coste, a lawyer and former judge from France, gave a presentation on the progression of the criminal and criminal procedure codes in France and his personal experiences in this sphere. He said that the criminal code in France had been revised many times to keep up with the evolution of crime and of the social context. H.E. Hy Sophea, Secretary of State from the Ministry of Justice, spoke about the progression of the criminal and criminal procedure codes and the legal framework relating to the court system in Cambodia. In 2014, the new legislation relating to the court system had included one law on the organization and functioning of the court, another on the status of judges and

prosecutors, and a third on the organization and functioning of the supreme council of magistracy that supports the independence of judicial power. "The law is not enough in itself," he said. "Judges and prosecutors must ensure their independence in respect of the law and fulfill their duties with conscience and in accordance with codes of ethics to avoid any influence. The independence of the court's power also needs the support of society as a whole."

A roundtable discussion, moderated by H.E. Ouk Bounchhoeun, followed. Among the issues raised, Mr. Mong Mony Sorphea, a judge from the Phnom Penh Municipal Court, pointed out that there is still a gap in the criminal code adopted in 2010 that creates difficulties in verdicts relating to young people who had not yet reached the age of majority (specifically from the age of 14 onwards). "The problem is that after the children are found guilty, where should we take them? We still don't have any juvenile detention centers for them. This is important and we are currently drafting a law to allow for the creation of such a center in which young people would be rehabilitated and given general knowledge and technical skills." Addressing another gap in legal provisions, he added that: "With respect to cyber-crime, we currently lack a law to enable us to impose a sentence on the criminals involved."

H.E. Ouk Savuth, the Prosecutor General attached to the Court of Appeal, outlined challenges relating to the progress of the two codes in respect of prosecution. "These new codes allow prosecutors to act more effectively, but there are still problems that hinder their implementation in that the judicial police need to properly investigate a case before it is put to a judge to

avoid a violation of individuals' privacy and damage to the reputation of the institutions they are working for," he said.

Among other areas of concern that came under discussion was the right to have a lawyer. As Mr. Mong Mony Sorphea explained, an accused should have a lawyer right from the start of the criminal proceedings against him or her, and he requested a national meeting between judges and prosecutors nationwide from the provincial level to the supreme level, along with other people involved in the implementation of laws to discuss this. H.E. Koeut Rith, Secretary of State from the Ministry of Justice, said, however, that the state faced problems in finding lawyers to represent the poor because they had no money to pay legal fees.

Other discussion topics revolved around provisional detention, extradition, procedural affairs between judges, prosecutors, lawyers and police, and the loopholes in both codes. Whether or not, in cases where suspects are not arrested, they should be able to ask their lawyers to join in the investigative – and questioning – process conducted by the judicial police was a further grey area: the code does not clarify this.

This seminar was conducted in response to a request from the Commission on Legislation and Justice of the Senate of Cambodia after the completion of research on the topic. Commenting on the event, Mr. Dararith Kim-Yeat, Executive Director of PIC, said, "The identification of the challenges in implementing these two codes is the basis for resolving problems and promoting law enforcement in order to support social order and promote real justice for civilians."



# The Study Mission of the Cambodian Parliamentary Delegation to the Swiss Parliament



(Photo by: the Swiss Parliament)

From 13 to 17 September 2015 a Cambodian parliamentary delegation, led by the chair of the Commission on Health, Social Work, Youth, Rehabilitation, Veterans, Labor, Vocational Training and Women's Affairs, conducted a study mission to Switzerland to learn more about "Swiss Consensus Democracy and Decentralization". The delegation's aims were to find out about the Swiss parliamentary system and functions, the work of the committees, the support services for Parliamentarians, the function and work of local government, and to hold discussions with their Swiss counterparts about the historical and political context in Switzerland that contributes to that country's unique form of consensus democracy.

The delegation was composed of representatives from the Cambodian People's Party and the Cambodian National Rescue Party and accompanied by the General Secretary and the Head of the Technical and Service Department of the National Assembly, and staff from the Parliamentary Institute of Cambodia (PIC).

The study mission focused mainly on the working procedures of the Permanent Committees and the oversight role of the Committees in fulfilling their functions. The members of the delegation were particularly interested in the rules and mechanisms that promote political compromise and consensus in the Swiss system, electoral mechanisms and legislative procedures, the Swiss decentralization process and other practices. In addition, they looked at the roles and functions of the Federal Council, which comprises seven Cabinet Ministers – elected by Parliamentarians – and acts as the collective head of state.

Switzerland is a federal system in that its states are largely independent, although it has a central government - the Confederation - that oversees country-wide issues. The Federal Parliament in Switzerland is divided into two "houses": the National Council, representing the whole population of Switzerland (with members elected through proportional representation), and the Council of States whose members specifically represent the citizens in each

Canton, and who are elected on a first-past-the-post basis. Both Councils have the power to amend the Constitution and current laws, to request the Federal Government (the Confederation) to provide reports and information, and to propose laws. Citizens are also able to propose laws or policies if they can collect the support of 100 000 people within 18 months, or to request amendments to the Constitution by gathering the signatures of 50 000 people within 100 days.

The Swiss practice three types of political system: federal democracy, coordination democracy, and direct democracy. Federal democracy is the mechanism guiding the management of the entire Swiss federal government (Confederation), while coordination democracy is the mechanism coordinating the National Council (National Assembly) and Council of States (Senate) in adopting laws, policies, and other issues. Direct democracy is the mechanism that gives citizens a direct role in decision-making through referenda.

The members of the Federal Council (the Executive) come from the five main political parties, and have equal rights. Every decision needs to be a consensus. The Federal Council has responsibility for national policy, international relations, the national economy, and national telecommunications. The President of the Federal Council has a one-year mandate, although the role is largely ceremonial.

During the study mission, delegates attended presentations and discussions with Swiss parliamentary committees including the legislative committee, the social security committee and the control committee, as well as specialists from the Swiss parliamentary services. They also visited the Canton of Vaud to learn about how local government operates in Switzerland and met representatives from the national political parties.

This study mission was part of a project by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) to strengthen local governance and build the capacity of the the Parliament of Cambodia. The Swiss Parliament and its service departments are supporting this project by sharing their experience and know-how. Through this study mission, facilitated by the Parliamentary Institute of Cambodia (PIC), the Cambodian delegation was able to gather and to share examples of best practice in the Swiss system with parliamentarian collegues.

## Legislation dealt with by the Cambodian Parliament

- Law on the organization and functioning of the National Election Committee adopted on 23 March 2015
- Law on the election of the members of the National Assembly adopted on 23 March 2015
- Law on tobacco control adopted on 23 March 2015
- Law on the amendments of article 23 of the law on the statute of the members of the National Assembly adopted on 30 April 2015
- Amendments to articles 4, 5, 26, 27, 28, 42, and 74 of the law on electricity in Cambodia 2003 and the amendments to the law on electricity in Cambodia 2007 adopted on 30 April 2015
- Law on disaster management adopted on 30 June 2015
- Law on the settlement of the state's general budget for management in 2013 adopted on 17 July 2015
- Rent control law adopted on 17 July 2015
- Law on associations and non-governmental organizations adopted on 17 July 2015
- Law on the adoption of the Cambodia-Belarus trade and economic cooperation agreement adopted on 22 October 2015

- Law on the adoption of the Cambodia-Belarus investment promotion and protection agreement adopted on 13 November 2015
- Law on the adoption of the Cambodia-Russian Federation investment promotion and protection agreement adopted on 13 November 2015
- Law on the election of Commune/Sangkat councils adopted on 13 November 2015
- Law on the amendment of article 21 of the law on the statute of Senate members adopted on 13 November 2015
- Law on financial management for 2016 adopted on 17 December 2015
- Law on telecommunication adopted on 17 December 2015
- Statistics Law adopted on 14 December 2015
- Law on the adoption of the World Trade Organization's protocol in respect of an amendment to the Marrakesh agreement. Adopted on 25 December 2015
- Law on the agreement of the establishment of the ASEAN center for biodiversity adopted on 25 December 2015

# Research papers produced as part of PIC's capacity development program for parliamentary researchers

- The 2015 Cambodian land traffic law: causes, consequences of traffic accidents and punishments: a member of the National Assembly
- Determinants of primary and secondary education quality in Cambodia: National Assembly Commission 7
- Factors influencing dropouts at lower secondary and upper secondary school in Cambodia: National Assembly Commission 7
- PBO: model and process in Sweden, Finland, and Vietnam: Senate Commission 2
- Decentralization at sub-national level in Cambodia: investment planning, challenges, and policy options: Senate Commission 4
- Technical, vocational education and training (TVET) and improvement of veterans' wellbeing: Senate Commission 8
- Causes and difficulties in the implementation of civil codes Senate Commission 6
- Youth and democracy: legal rights and limitations on demonstrations in Cambodia: a member of the National Assembly
- The role of the opposition in the Parliament: a member of the Senate
- Study of the Republic of Korea's migrant worker and business investor migration programs: Senate Commission 5
- The Republic of Korea's advertising regulations: Senate Commission 5
- The Republic of Korea's code of press ethics: Senate Commission 5
- Comparison of Cambodia's and the Republic of Korea's migration policies:
   Senate Commission 5
- The French Parliament and political system: Senate Commission 10

- Sexual and reproductive health and the rights of women: a member of the National Assembly
- The effects of alcohol consumption on social wellbeing: the Women Senator Group
- The case of HIV/AIDS infection in Sangke district, Battambang province: Senate Commission 8
- Diaspora of ethnic minorities and religious composition in modern Cambodian society: National Assembly Commission 7
- Challenges related to land issues and customs service in the provinces of Kampong Cham, Tbong Khmum and Kratie: National Assembly Commission 10
- Regulation of Social Media: the case of South Korea: Senate Commission 5
- Sexual exploitation and trafficking in Cambodia: a member of Senate Commission 8
- Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW): a member of the National Assembly
- Dispute resolution outside the judicial system at the national and sub-national levels: Senate Commission 6
- Implementation of D&D policy and gender: Senator Group Region 2
- Implementation of D&D policy and gender: Senator Group Region 8
- Waste management challenges in Cambodia: a member of the National Assembly
- The role of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the settlement of international disputes: General Secretariat of the Senate
- Decentralization and deconcentration policies in the Republic of Korea:
   Senate Commission 10
- Strengthening the parliamentary representation function in Cambodia: Spokesperson Secretariat of the Senate
- Causes of poverty and its implications in rural Cambodia: Senator Group Region 6
- Role of rural roads in improving rural livelihoods: National Assembly Commission 3
- Indigenous people: political rights, culture, education and health care: Senate Commission 1
- Community land registration and economic land concessions in Mondulkiri province: Senator Group Region 8
- The moral and economic imperative for fairer, smarter, and more humane migration: General Secretariat of the Senate
- The Swiss Parliament and political system: Senate Commission 10
- Procedures relating to the construction of religious sites In Cambodia: National Assembly Commission 7
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- Swiss consensus/compromise democracy and its applicability in Cambodia: National Assembly Commission 8
- Anti-corruption practices from selected Asian economies: China, Hong Kong, Korea and Singapore: National Assembly Commission 10
- Updates on the Korean Parliament, ICT, migration policy and gender issues:
   Senate Commission 5

- Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms: the General Secretariat of the Senate
- Ensuring lasting protection against destruction and deterioration for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of humanity: General Secretariat of the Senate
- Updates on child labor in Takeo, Kampot and Kep: National Assembly Commission 8
- An overview of the potential partnership between Cambodia and the EU:
   a member of the Senate
- Measures and challenges in fighting corruption in Cambodia: National Assembly Commission 10
- Land dispute resolution outside the judicial system in Cambodia and the Philippines: Senate Commission 1
- Terrorism: the need to enhance global cooperation against the threat to democracy and individual rights: General Secretariat of the Senate
- Public health in Cambodia: Kampong Chhnang and Pursat provinces: Senate Commission 8
- Parliamentary contribution to the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference: the General Secretariat of the Senate
- Pensions for veterans and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities:
   National Assembly Commission 8
- Capacity strengthening of Commune/Sangkat councils and governance in local development: Senator Group Region 5
- Implementation and oversight in respect of the budget for sub-national administration in the D&D context: Senate Commission 2
- Trade union law in Malaysia and France: National Assembly Commission 6

### Parliamentary activities supported by PIC

- Training in methods of using the citizen report card system and score cards for planning. 14-16 January 2015: Senator Group Region 4
- Mission to understand the spread of HIV/AIDS in Rakar commune. 5-7 January 2015: Senate Commission 8
- Mission to investigate land conflict issues in Kratie. 19-21 January 2015: National Assembly Commission 1
- Mission to support the oversight of seaport management and land disputes in coastal areas. 25-27 January 2015: National Assembly Commission 10
- Mission to assess progress and difficulties in the health service delivery to citizens in remote areas. 8-12 February 2015 in the pronvinces of Banteay Meanchey and Siem Reap: National Assembly Commission 8
- Mission in respect of irregularities in religious practices in Bokor Mountain Resort.
   11-14 February 2015: National Assembly Commission 7
- Mission to support the oversight of the management of the special economic zones in Svay Rieng province. 15-16 February 2015: National Assembly Commission 3
- Conference on geo-politics in Southeast Asia and Parliamentary Diplomacy. 17
   February 2015: National Assembly Commission 5

- Mission to examine complaints related to transparency in the management of the branch of the customs and excise general department, and land disputes between citizens and the local authorities, in the provinces of Kratie, Tbong Khmum and Kampong Cham. 25-27 February 2015: the National Assembly Commission 10
- Follow-up seminar on the Senate, and improvements in the implementation of decentralization and deconcentration (D&D) policy. 26-28 February 2015: Senator Group Region 2
- Data collection mission. 5 March to 30 June 2015: Senator Group Region 1
- Workshop to disseminate information about achievements in respect of Cambodian Millennium Development Goal 3: promotion of gender equity and the empowerment of women. 3 March 2015: Women Senator Group
- Mission to examine Lower Sesan II hydro-electricity development area in Stung Treng province. 26-29 March 2015: National Assembly Commission 3
- Mission to follow up the progress of information collection: implementation of decentralization and deconcentration (D&D) at the local level. 21-25 April 2015: Senator Group Region 8
- Mission to collect practical information regarding land disputes, Poipet checkpoint complaints and overseeing budget management and transparency issues in the Apsara Authority. 22-25 March 2015 in the provinces of Siem Reap and Banteay Meanchey: National Assembly Commission 10
- Workshop on the System, Services and Parliamentary Work of the Federal Assembly of Switzerland. 26 March 2015: Senate Commission 2
- International meeting of the Association of Secretaries General of Parliament. 27
   March to 2 April 2015 in Vietnam attended by the Secretary General of the Senate
- Workshop to disseminate information about the negative impacts of alcohol use. 1
   April 2015: Women Senator Group
- Workshop on the challenges in the implementation of the Criminal and Criminal Procedure Codes of Cambodia. 6-7 April 2015: Senate Commission 6
- Seminar on Models and Functions of the Parliamentary Budget Office. 22 April 2015:
   Senate Commission 2
- Study mission to Sweden, Finland, and Vietnam in respect of PBO models and experiences. 6-16 May 2015: Senate Commission 2
- Mission to examine human rights practices and handling citizens' complaints at the sub-national level. 18-24 May 2015 in the provinces of Kampong Thom Siem Reap and Oddar Meanchey. Senate Commission 1
- Mission to study public health, technical and vocational training, and improvements in the health of veterans. 18-23 May 2015 in the provinces of Stung Treng, Preah Vihear and Oddar Meanchey: Senate Commission 8
- Seminar on understanding Anti-Corruption Law and its implementation. 26 May 2015.
   Commissions 10 of both the National Assembly and the Senate
- Forum on strengthening the capacity of, and good governance in, local development. 27-28 May 2015 in Siem Reap province: Senator Group Region 4 and Senate Commission 10
- Study mission to France to understand the role of political parties in the French Parliament. 15-20 June 2015: National Assembly Commission 6
- Seminar on PBO follow-up. 29 June 2015: Senate Commission 2
- Forum on the contribution to poverty reduction at local level in Prey Veng province. 30 July 2015: Senator Group Region 6
- Mission to understand the effectiveness of law implementation on health, social affairs, veterans, youth, rehabilitation, labor, vocational training, and women's affairs in Kampong Cham and Kampong Thom provinces. 27-31 July 2015: National Assembly Commission 8

- Mission to investigate human rights practices and complaints in Kampong Chhnang, Battambang, and Banteay Meanchey provinces. 3-7 August 2015: Senate Commission 1
- Forum on capacity strengthening and local development of Commune/Sangkat councils in Mondulkiri province. 12 August 2015: Senator Group Region 8
- Mission to understand the improvements and challenging issues in the rural development sector in Kampong Thom, Preah Vihear and Stung Treng provinces. 25-27 August 2015: National Assembly Commission 3
- Study mission to exchange experiences in South Korea. 24-28 August 2015: Senate Commission 5
- Study mission to Switzerland on Swiss consensus democracy in the Parliament and decentralization. 13-18 September 2015: National Assembly Commission 8
- Mission to understand the ecotourism and overall situation in Kampong Speu, Preah Sihanouk, and Koh Kong provinces. 15-18 September 2015: National Assembly Commission 7
- Mission to investigate human rights practices and complaints in Kampong Speu, Kampot, and Preah Sihanouk provinces. 21-24 September 2015: Senate Commission 1
- Mission to understand the law enforcement and political agenda related to anticorruption and collecting information about people's complaints in Koh Kong province.
   22-24 September 2015: National Assembly Commission 10
- Mission to monitor and study the implementation of the law under the jurisdiction of the National Assembly Commission 3 in Banteay Meanchey, Pailin, and Battambang provinces. 27-30 September 2015
- Mission to monitor and study the implementation of the law under the jurisdiction of the National Assembly Commission 8 in Takeo, Kampot, and Kep provinces. 28 September-1 October 2015
- Forum on capacity strengthening and local development and governance of Commune/ Sangkat councils in Takeo province. 7 October 2015: Senator Group Region 5
- Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments meeting (ASGP) in Switzerland. 15-22 October 2015: Secretary General of the Senate
- Mission on enforcement and oversight of the sub-national budget in the context of D&D in Ratanakiri province. 17-20 November 2015: Senate Commission 2
- Forum on promotion of public service delivery and strengthening the capacity of Commune/Sangkat functions in local development with gender equality in Kandal province. 20 November 2015: Senator Group Region 3
- Mission to monitor and study the implementation of the law under the jurisdiction of the Senate Commission 8 in Kampong Chhnang and Pursat provinces. 30 November-3 December 2015
- Study mission to the Parliament of the Republic of Indonesia. 30 November-4 December 2015: General Secretariat of the Senate
- Study mission to understand the rights of indigenous people in New Zealand. 30 November-4 December 2015: Senate Commission 1
- Mission to monitor and study the implementation of the law under the jurisdiction of the Senate Commission 6 in Kampong Thom and Siem Reap provinces. 30 November-5 December 2015
- Workshop on the contribution of the media to parliamentary democracy.
   4 December 2015: Spokesperson Secretariat of the Senate
- Mission to investigate human rights practices and complaints in Ratanakiri, Stung Treng and Preah Vihear provinces. 3-7 August 2015: Senate Commission 1



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Email: admin@pic.org.kh
Website: www.pic.org.kh







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