



DAC NEWSLETTER

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General Information of the DAC Secretariat

By Ouk Sisovann & Ngy San



Ceremony to present award at MOSALVY 27/05/03

Government Award for Ms. Helen Pitt: The Government of Cambodia through MOSALVY decided to award its highest medal, the SAHAKMETREI Grade THIBDIN to Ms. Helen Pitt, former DAC Executive Director and Advisor. It is an acknowledgement of her outstanding contribution and efforts in assisting people with disabilities in Cambodia. The ceremony was organised on 27 May

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HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL

The Disability Action Council (DAC) funded by USAID/LWVF through HI-B to support core funding from 1998 to 2005.

News from DAC Affiliated Members

By Mrs. Punya Droz

The Nutrition Center (NC): A government-operated orphanage under DOSALVY. Currently there is a major financial constraint at the NC. MOSALVY provided short-term intervention with two tons of rice and included 41 private Carers under the MOSALVY budget. What is the future of these children after

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Khmer Sign Language Committee

(By Mrs. Punya Droz and Fr. Charles Dittmeier)

Committee Activities in the Past Six Months: The committee, composed of members from DAC, DDP, Krousar Thmey, and MOEYS, met three times. The Terms of Reference for the Committee and its Plan of Action up to April 2004 was adopted.

The Sign Language Research Team has completed recording 338 signs with illustrations. Another thousand cards need the pictures added. (NGOs who are interested in

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Physical Rehab Committee (PRC)

By Oung Tivea

The NGOs and International Organisations were asked to provide information on running costs by submitting completed budget forms to MOSALVY by May 2003. MOSALVY stated that Rehab centres could ask DOSALVY to use its social budget line 31 to get additional funds on top of the KHR 1000/patient/days, which normally the Ministry should pay.

HI-B has made the decision to withdraw their support from Sisophon and Kompong Thom centers. They will

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Disability Database Working Group (DDWG)

By Men Sinoeun

The Pilot Survey Second Phase took the month of January 2003 to properly complete the project, instead of December 2002. The following activities occurred in the first semester of 2003.

What happened to the final report? A general meeting for the DAC affiliated NGOs, relevant ministries and potential donors were organized on Monday 06th January 2003 to disseminate the final results of the survey and perspective of the project.

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Disability Awareness Raising Working Group

(By Mr. Pen Mony)

Since early 2003 with the initiative and ideas from the Vocational Training Job Placement and Income generation Committee, the National Center of Disabled Persons with cooperation from the Disability Action Council produced a monthly article for publishing in the *Reaksmeay Kampuchea* newspaper. This semester, there were 6 articles on disability published on a monthly basis: January-Introduction on DAC and NCDP, February-Inclusive Education for children with disability, March- Successful case study by WVI/BTB, April-Service for disabled persons and successes by CWARS, May-Invisible disability (deaf issue) by DAC committee, and June-Alternative Care for orphaned/abandoned children with disabilities combined with the Rabbit School for children with intellectual impairment as well as the Nutrition Center. Highlighting the financial constraints they are facing. This was written by DAC.

NCDP/IRS project has agreed with DAC to continue to support the publishing of the newspaper articles for the next 6 months (July-Dec. 2003).

The Working Group conducted five meetings within this semester. The main discussion was the terms of reference, target group and type of activities for the media. Information and experience related to awareness raisings have been shared and discussed. The idea regarding the TV-spot has been discussed and a script has been drafted. On idea of the script is to focusing on the Rights of Disabled Children to education.

and TOR finalized and implemented.

- ◆ OD Consultancy report with recommendations, phase 1 produced.

- ◆ Feedback and comments from DAC-Secretariat on the Consultancy report provided.

- ◆ DAC interim Steering Group (SG) established and carrying out its mandate.

DAC interim Steering Group (SG): Consists of the following members: Mr. Keo Soeun (MOSALVY), Mr. Son Song Hak (People with Disability Representative), Ms. Kathleen Biggs (CT), Mr. Laurent Chapuis (NCDP/ARC), Ms. Ellen Minotti (SSC), Ms. Edith van Wijngaarden (HI-B), Mr. Khuon Pheng (CMAA), and Mr. Warwick Fleming (Freelance). The Steering Group is mandated to:

- 1) Provide interim oversight to the Executive body until a new Governing Board (GB) assumes this responsibility.

- 2) Act as an interim Nominating Committee in order to convene a properly constituted GB.

- 3) Guide the OD Consultancy. The Consultant will report directly to the SG.

- 4) Provide progress updates to the DAC Advisory Committee.



Four Representatives of the DAC Steering Group 27/06/2003.

From left to right: Mr. Warwick Fleming, Ms. Kathleen Biggs, Mr. Laurent Chapuis, and Mr. Khuon Pheng

Five Official members of the new DAC governing board: As a result of the efforts of the Steering Group, the new DAC governing board has 5 members out of 9. Two representatives from local NGOs: Mr. Bun Mao (ABC), Mr. Ngin Saoroth (CDILO); Two representatives from international NGOs: Ms. Mary Scott (CT), Ms. Edith van Wijngaarden (HI-B); and one representative, Mr. Kuon Pheng (CMAA). Four representatives from Ministries and the business sector remain to be identified.

DAC-Secretariat 3-monthly Action Plan (01 May-30 July 2003): This was developed and implemented based on recommendations and

approval of the SG. It is suggested that the 9-monthly Action Plan of the DAC-Secretariat be developed to form the Year-II Action Plan based on the second 3-Year Planning Framework. For implementation after the completion of the above OD restructure.

The Government's approval of 8 priority areas of National Plan of Action for the Disability Sector: The Minister of MOSALVY in principle has approved the priority areas (part of the Biwako Millennium Framework) prioritised by the DAC Semi-Annual Meeting. This enables the DAC-Secretariat to coordinate with DAC Committees and Working Groups to review and apply DAC Strategic Directions for the Disability and Rehabilitation Sector (SDDR). This will eventually become a National Plan of Action for the Disability Sector, which then can be effectively implemented, monitored and reported.

Representatives from DAC Committees and affiliated organizations attending events abroad:

- ◆ 1 representative from Women with Disabilities Committee attended the 2nd Regional Leadership Training Program on Women with Disabilities, 21-25 April 2003, Nonthaburi, Thailand.

- ◆ 2 mine victim survivors from NCDP and KCDI attended the Inter Sessional State Parties (of Ottawa Convention to Ban Anti Personal Mines and Stockpiles Destruction) Meeting supported by Raising Voice of Land Mine Survivors, 06-20 May 2003, Geneva, Switzerland.

- ◆ 4 representatives: 2 from VI and CCMH and 2 from MOSALVY attended the CBR Training Course, 03-12 June 2003 at Asia-Pacific Development Centre on Disability- APCD in Bangkok, Thailand.

- ◆ 4 applications: 2 from MOSALVY and 2 from ADD and NCDP have been submitted to APCD for selection to attend the Web-based Networking Training Workshop, 21 July – 01 August 2003, APCD, Bangkok, Thailand.

DAC-Secretariat staff situation updates:

- ◆ Mr. Ya Navuth, National Coordinator for Victim Assistance has been recruited by the DAC-Secretariat for 9 months, starting from 01 January to September 2003 under funding received from HI.

- ◆ Mr. Philip Coggan, Regional Coordinator for Victim Assistance has moved from HI to assist in the area of

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2003 by MOSALVY. HE. Ith Sam Heng, Minister of the MOSALVY presented the certificate, medal and Sub-decree to Ms. Pitt. Participants included the DAC Steering group, MOSALVY Senior staff and DAC staff.

DAC Organizational Development (OD): USAID and HI-B approved the requested funds for the DAC-Secretariat, to engage an OD Consultant. Support and assistance was provided to the Consultant to carry out the first phase from, 2-15 February 2003. Key findings produced:

- ◆ Consultant's scope of work

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News from affiliated ...

this short-term intervention? This is a big concern among all stakeholders, especially for the welfare of these children. Since the children are orphans, they are the responsibility of the Royal Government of Cambodia, through MOSALVY. We hope the government will pay more attention to the well being of these children with special needs who are the most vulnerable group. Children from the Nutrition Center were able to access the therapy sessions at Cambodia Trust and received assistive devices from Veterans International; also mental health care from Children Center for Mental Health in Ta-Kmao town.

Domestic water supply and sanitation access and use by physically disabled people: The DAC coordinated a multi-sectoral meeting on domestic water supply and water sanitation for people with disabilities on 21 May 2003. There were more than 32 stakeholders participating in this meeting including UN bodies, Government-ministries, NGOs, and IOs. Ms. Hazel Jones led the meeting. She is the Assistant Programme Manager of Water Engineering and Development Centre, Loughborough University in UK.

The purpose of this preparatory visit was to identify whether or not Cambodia would be a suitable location for an in-depth collection of data on good practice related to disabled people's access and use of



An active discussion group 21/05/2003 at DAC

water and sanitation. The researcher spent 3.5 days in Phnom Penh, and made contact with a wide range of people from NGOs, government and disabled people's organisations. During the meeting participants suggested examples of good practices example Ordinary pulley rope wells, Bamboo lever action wells, Spring water (in hill area), Treadle operated pumps and accessible

wells for wheelchair users.

Ms. Jones plans to return for a 2 weeks fieldwork from August 4-15, 2003. The DAC will coordinate this. The aim of this visit is to identify good practices in water use and accessibility for people with disabilities. The team hopes to visit Kg. Spue, Svay Reang, Ratanakiri, Kg. Som, and Kandal.

Women with Disability Committee

By Korm Chanthan

There were two major actions taken by the WwD Committee within the first semester: Developing the concept for next year plan and promoting the participation of women with disabilities in special events.

1. Developing the concept for next year plan: Along with the Annual Report 2002, the committee organized a workshop to review its work in order to develop the concept for next year (2003-2004).

The workshop presented a range of activities that will be considered to be included in the next year plan of WwD Committee:

- ◆ Setting up the schedule for committee's members to transfer their knowledge to their own target group.
- ◆ Continuing with the capacity building for committee's members.
- ◆ Promoting the participation of women with disabilities in income generation activity.
- ◆ Strengthening and extend networks inside and outside the country.

(The report of the above workshop available from DAC Secretariat).

2. Promoting the participation of women with disabilities in special events: What have women with disabilities achieved during the International Women's Day 8 March? Since January 2003, the

representatives of the Committee have been involved in a development awareness campaign and plan for 93rd International Women's Day 8 March, with the Ministry of Women's and Veteran's Affairs. They also are members of the Sub-committee for Gender Forum to produce comments concerning Discrimination Against Women. This was presented at the International Women's Day 8 March.

The women with disabilities were presented at the International Women's Day. It was supported and organized by the following agencies:

- ◆ Gender Forum of NGOs Forum in Battambang province;
- ◆ The committee of Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and Women for Prosperity (WFP) organization in Kep City.

There are numbers of disabled, and non-disabled women including members of WwD Committee who were leaders in organizing International Women's Day 8 March in Kampong Speu. It was supported by Action on Disability and Development (ADD) and other agencies.

Cambodia Trust also supported disabled women to participate the International Women's Day 8 March

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General Information

victim assistance under the DAC umbrella for 9 months starting from 01 January to September 2003.

◆ Mr. Chay Phally, Technical Coordinator for Vocational Training, Job Placement and Income Generation resigned, effectively from 10 March 2003.

◆ Ms. Rachel Smith, Volunteer Technical Support Worker for Alternative Care finished her term with DAC on 17 May 2003.

◆ Mr. Men Sinoeun, Technical Coordinator for Disability Database Development resigned, effectively from 04 July 2003.

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Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities Support Program

By Dave Jones & Kong Vichetra

Progress has been made in this area. The Deputy Director General of Directorate of General Education along with Director of Primary Education, Special Education Office, other key staff members of relevant departments of the Ministry of Education Youth and Sports (MOEYS) and all members of the Provincial Implementation Team (PIT) from 5 provinces visited the Inclusive Education Program in Svay Rieng. The visits took place from 17 to 18 February 2003 and from 23 to 26 February 2003, funded by UNESCO.

In Siem Reap province, on 26th – 29th May 2003 DAC in partnership with MOEYS was organised a National Workshop on “Helping Vulnerable Children.” Participants were staff members of relevant departments of the MOEYS, deputy directors and special needs officers from 24 provinces and NGOs representatives. In the Opening and Closing Ceremony was presided over by H.E Nou Muth, Under-Secretary of State of MOEYS.



National workshop on Helping Vulnerable Children
26-29/05/2003 in Siem Reap

Following a meeting with Mr. Chorn Chheangly, Director of Primary Education, project team is busy working on a proposal to develop a national policy to cover all aspects of Special Educational Needs (SEN) in Cambodia. This will need to fit in with

the Education For ALL plan, which is currently being considered by MOEYS. Issues related to development of education for children with disabilities have been raised within MOEYS, Educational Law and EFA and also ESSP.



Pilot site visited at Kg. Thom 13/05/2003

The IE Program Co-ordinator presented program activities to delegates of the Cambodian Mine Action Authority (CMAA) and Krousar Thmey at a workshop on “Social Integration of Visually Challenged, Speech and Hearing Impaired Children through Education.” He also presented this at Child’s Welfare Group meeting. The group was interested in the teaching materials that the program produced.

Training course on Math and Literacy Educational Resource was provided to teachers of grade 1 and 2 who teach children with special needs in the old and new school clusters in Svay Rieng. The trainers from Chhouk Educational Resource in Kompot province provided this

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Women with disability ...

in Kampong Chhnang and Sihanoukville. It was organized by the Provincial Department of Women’s and Veteran’s Affairs.

The WwD Committee have also been leaders with a numbers of disabled women who came from 9 provinces to participate in the International Women’s Day in Phnom Penh (Chak Tomouk Theater). It was organized by the Ministry of Women’s and Veteran’s Affairs.

The Committee would like to express its deep thanks to the Ministry of Women’s and Veteran’s Affairs, Provincial Departments and NGOs. They strongly supported disabled women to participate in the International Women’s Day in order to promote and represent of women with disabilities at national and international level. It is a good opportunity for disabled women to show their needs through the remarks and their abilities through short dramas and handicraft exhibitions.

Related to the committee membership, we also welcomed two new members who represented Digital Divide Data organization (DDD), a Self-Help Group based in Sihanoukville.

training. Teachers were impressed and interested in new teaching materials and methodologies. They will use these materials. After the training each school was provided with a set of teaching materials for their use.

Disability Awareness information was shared with the old and new school clusters in Svay Rieng. Awareness raising and training materials to NGO partners implementing Inclusive Education pilots and other interested NGOs were distributed.

Table: Number of Children with Disabilities attending schools in Inclusive Education Pilots and Teachers trained on “Children with Special Needs in the Classroom”, 2001-2002

Nº	Province and NGOs	Cluster’s name	Location	Number of Schools	Trained teachers	ChwDs/ Female
1	Svay Rieng DAC-MOEYS	Kcheay Kg.Chak	Svay Teap District Rumduol District	9 8	34/5 36/5	103/27 107/30
2	Prey Veng-VI	Serey Santheay	Baphnom District	5	36/17	38/23
3	Battembang-OEB	Chulkiri	Kamreang District	5	21/2	26/8
4	Kg.Thom- HI	Tuol Kbel	Kg.Svay District	13	40/9	93/16
5	Kg. Speu-NCDP	7 Makara	Phnom Sruoch district	7	30/7	112/38
6	Preah Sihanouk-CT	Phsarleu	Khan Mitapheap	4	35/17	55/16
Total				51	250/62	534/158

The Cambodian Disability Law

(By Mr. Ngy San)

Why is it important to get the Cambodian Disability Law adopted?

Cambodian people with disabilities are the most vulnerable groups in society who require support and legal protection. The majority of people with disabilities live in low-income communities; their basic human rights to health, food, water and shelter are in daily struggle. The only way people with disabilities will ever access these basic needs, and thus gain an acceptable quality of life, is through mainstream services and programmes. The exclusion of people with disabilities has an impact on their families and communities, in both human and economic terms. The development and implementation of the Disability Law will enable people with disabilities to enjoy equal rights, opportunities, and full participation and quality of life as others in society.

In Cambodia many efforts and achievements have been made so far but in comparison to other countries further action need to be taken. The Cambodian Disabled People's Organisation (CDPO) initiated the development of a Draft Cambodian Disability Law in 1995. The draft has been discussed and revised by key stakeholders including government, NGOs, and people with disabilities. However, further comments and input

will be useful for effective future implementation of the law. DAC strongly support adoption and enforcement of the Disability Law.

The Cambodian Disability Law plays an essential role in rehabilitation and development of Cambodia after years of destruction by war and genocide. The law will help Cambodia to gain a good reputation in the International arena; assist the Government in implementation of policy guidelines as well as provide benefits and opportunity to people with disabilities to participate in the national development, to promote well being for themselves, their families, and communities.

Getting the law passed will contribute to the development of the rules of law and law enforcement and promote the socio-economic development plan of the Royal Government of Cambodia. It also contributes to the poverty reduction with promoting the participation of all sectors towards integration of people with disabilities into socio-economic and political activities democratically. The passage of the law will also help to shift public attention from providing charity to people with disabilities to protecting their rights. This shift has brought dignity to the lives of people with disabilities. With existence of the

Disability Law more opportunity will be given to people with disabilities. Examples include the opportunity to education, training and job placement. The Cambodian Disability Law will ensure that society has responsibility in making adjustments for people with disabilities.

What are the problems in adopting the draft Cambodian Disability Law?

Not much effort has been made to promote awareness of the draft Cambodian Disability Law. However, the Cambodian Disabled People's Organisation (CDPO) and other NGOs including the Disability Action Council (DAC) have simplified contents of the draft law to make it easier for people to understand by distributing copies of the Draft Legislation, and organising workshops with participation of all actors especially people with disabilities.

It has been observed that there is slow progress in getting the law enacted due to lack of political will, excessive bureaucracy of the government, lack of awareness among people with disabilities about the draft law, and lack of strong advocacy among disability groups to influence decision and policy makers.

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Disability Database ...

Availability and accessibility to the data

◆ The final report is available at the DAC Secretariat library in both Khmer and English.

◆ A CD-Room of the Disability Data System is also available for relevant stakeholders and is on sale to other interested users in the cost of US\$5.00 each. The computerized Disability Data System is accessible by advance users and other individuals during working hours at the DAC Secretariat, Phnom Penh and DOSALVY, Kampong Speu province.

◆ Two staff of ministry of the Social Affairs, Labor, Vocational Training, Youth and Rehabilitation (MOSALVY) attended a computerized database management course.

How is this project involved with the Household Socio-Economic

Survey (HSES) 2003, MOP/NIS?

◆ With the Technical Coordination of the DAC Secretariat, comments and suggestions from DDWG were incorporated into the questionnaires of HSES 2003.

◆ MOP/NIS had selected Kandal province and Phnom Penh capital for testing survey questionnaires. This started in the first week of June 2003. It will take one month. The DAC Secretariat Technical Coordinator took part in the field questionnaires testing

◆ DAC will further follow up to ensure the disability section is analyzed.

Support: American Red Cross has committed to fund the Disability Database Technical Coordinator and some administrative cost for the year 2003 to follow up on the disability database project. To develop a strategy for replication of the survey model to other provinces in Cambodia and maximize the collected data in

collaboration with MOSALVY.

Strategic development: DDWG and Small Working Group meetings were conducted to review the strategic component of DDWG and to develop strategy for replication the model of the pilot survey in Kampong Speu province to other provinces in Cambodia. This needs further discussion.

Re-enforce types of disabilities:

The Technical Coordinator of DAC Secretariat has been coordinating the development of an Inter-Ministries Circulation on Type, Definition and Example of Disabilities, (MOSALVY and Ministry of Health (MOH)). The Inter-Ministries Circulation will be co-signed by Minister of MOSALVY and Senior Minister and Minister of MOH. It will eventually be implemented within the disability and rehabilitation sector and relevant ministries.

Alternative Care Project

By *Punya Droz*



Mrs. Helen Pitt socially with students at Rabbit School 19 June 2003

Srey Den at Rabbit School

Group Homes: Hagar manages the first Group Home that currently cares for five children with disabilities; recently the Group Home moved to a new house with a larger room and yard near by the old house in Toul Kork. They plan to use this new home as a respite day care, which welcomes other children with disabilities in that community. This service provides opportunity for parents to perform their daily business as well as one way to integrate orphaned/abandoned children with disabilities into the community. Hagar always thinks about the well being of these children as a priority.

A Singaporean Organization called X-PACT-Society manages the second Group Home and care for five additional children. Recently Srey Den, one child among the five received medical surgery in Singapore to remove a growth flesh from her forehead. She has now returned to school with a healthy beautiful look on her face. This confirms that X-PACT is a good parent to these children. The 10 children from the 2 homes formerly lived in the Nutrition Center.

The Rabbit School: Until now there are about 40 students studying. The majority of children are from the Nutrition Center and the two group homes. Three of the children study in the public school at grade one. The school has six teachers, which three are general education teachers, two teachers for therapy activities, and one teacher supervisor. The teachers prepare teaching plans to fit each child's ability including the play therapy schedule. The children access many services offered by NGO's in Phnom Penh. It is hoped that the Rabbit School can become a teacher-training center for public school teachers in the future.

The teachers continue to receive

training from special education advisors based at DAC on teaching materials and assessments of individual training. The supervisor of the Rabbit School is trained and then he trains the other teachers. Ms. Rachel Smith from DAC trained in the areas of behavioral management in the classroom and therapy practices. She has recently finished her job with DAC. Acknowledgment to Ms. Smith for her fruitful work helped intellectual disabilities children in Cambodia. We wish her healthy and successful life.

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Khmer sign ...*

these cards may contact the Deaf Development Program.)

Coming Up: Proposals are being discussed for a Deaf Education Workshop and the establishment of a Deaf Education Committee. Both are planned before the end of the year.

The Sign Language Research Team of the Deaf Development Program is organizing a consultation meeting with deaf representatives from the provinces and from Krousar Thmey to discuss signs to be adopted. Plans are being made for the International Day of Deaf Persons in September.

Activities of Committee Member Organizations:

DDP, in cooperation with MOEYS in the provinces, has established 3 deaf classrooms in government schools in Svay Rieng, Poi Pet, and Kampong Speu. DDP is compiling a database of information on the deaf people of Cambodia and their needs. In June data collection trips were made to Svay Rieng and Kampong Speu.

Krousar Thmey has now established 15 deaf classes in

The Children with Disability Committee

By *Dave Jones & Kong Vichetra*

The Committee members continue to meet on a monthly basis to share important concerns and raise issues related to children with disabilities. The Committee members were active to contribute their ideas in a review to revise the Plan of Action, which were approved in the meeting in June.

Mr. Dave Jones, Special Educational Needs Advisor presented the effect of disability on children with Cerebral Palsy (CP). The condition, cause of disability, the way to support children with CP and the Prevention of Disability were topics discussed. The aim was to show what we can do in Cambodia to advise parents, teachers, and the community to be aware how to prevent disability and how to help those who have a disabling condition. This was discussed in the meetings. Members were interested and asked questions. Requests to DAC were made to translate the materials and give copies to all members. Thanks to Mr. Hun Touch from the Rabbit School who gave his efforts to steer the committee as a former chairperson. Congratulation to Mr. Khim Sarin who has been elected as new chairperson.

government schools, and they plan to add another 5 classes in Kampong Cham. Krousar Thmey has submitted the social studies textbook

for grade one to the printing house and it will soon be ready for use. The last textbook for grade one is in process and will also soon be ready to print. Krousar Thmey has established a group of deaf student leaders to serve as an advisory group for sign language that has not yet been developed by the Research Team at DDP. The signs from this advisory group will be brought to the deaf consultation meeting to be organized by the Research Team.

The MOEYS representative from the Cambodian Sign Language Committee raised issues about deaf education at the recent National Workshop on Helping Vulnerable Children.

Some Committee members participated in the Children's International Day at Northbridge International Community on May 03, 2003 to raise awareness about deafness. They displayed photos of activities and sign language materials.

Vocational Training, Job Placement, and Income Generation (VT/JP/IC) Committee

By Oung Tivea

Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting system: An initial draft concept for MER and MIS development was initiated and introduced to the VTC's committee; the final draft will be presented in August 2003 for approval and action.

Standard Training Curriculum Development: Due to financial constraints to employ a consultant for a research study for drafting the standard training curriculum, it was decided by the VTC committee to establish a Working Group. Their tasks are to explore ways on how to develop a standard curriculum and certificate. The Working Group is

composed of 10 Volunteers who are the representatives from Vocational Training Centers. The Working Group conducted two meetings on 22nd May and 10th June 03 that resulted in:-

- ◆ TOR of the Working Group being developed

- ◆ Action Plan to propose the development of Standard Training Curriculum

- ◆ A number of course that could be incorporated into Standard Training Curriculum were explored

- ◆ Forms and outlines for documentation on Standard Curriculum Development were studied.

VTC Sector Action Plan: Three VTC planning sessions were conducted to review the VTC sector plan. The goal and objectives were reviewed but still needs to be completed. The result will be to see the validity and necessity of its objectives. There was no major change in this sector plan. The revised action plan is in progress, hopefully, by the end of August the whole sector plan will have been reviewed.

Job opportunity: According to the news quoted from NCDP-IRS, there were 103 people referred, 43 were successfully placed in employment (figure from January to May 2003).

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Physical rehab ...

withdraw from Sisophon by the end of 2003 and from Kompong Thom by mid 2004. Patients being seen at Sisophon will be directed to ICRC in Battambang. Funding will be re-directed to the centers at Siem Reap and Takeo.

The National Statistics for 2002 not yet finalized. Edith will take over for now but discussion of who will take over the role in the long term, will be decided later.

PT Sub-committee

PT standards were approved by PRC. The chair of PRC will forward the document to the Department of Rehabilitation, (MOSALVY). The PRC members voiced their appreciation and congratulations to the PT sub-committee on the completion of this task.

The Association of Physiotherapy in Cambodia (AKC) is currently not active due to lack of funding and no longer has an office within TSMC. This will be put on the agenda and further

discussed.

TSMC reported that although the numbers of PT students are increasing, the number of places offering them internship and jobs is decreasing and it is getting harder to place them.

Wheelchair Sub committee

The wheelchair standards in English were adopted. The document will be sent to the PRC chair in order to have it translated in Khmer by the DAC Secretariat and submit to MOSALVY.

PRC will ask MOSALVY what should be the next step for getting national recognition for wheelchair standards. Three issues concerning its future role to be discussed: A document clearly indicating the competency levels and areas of concern for each wheelchair distribution center in Cambodia. To determine the training needs of the various centers. Determine who should be responsible for further evaluation.

P/O Sub-committee

The P&O Standards of Practice was finalized. It is a very short

document with a number of references to other documents such as the PT Standards and various training manuals from CSPO and other workshops.

The 3rd year P&O students began to follow-up every Friday the fitting of the sport prostheses (OTTO BOCK system) of the national volleyball team.

Continuous Education

PRC has set the continuous education program for 2003. Following topics proposed by the PT and P/O Sub committees were selected for 2003 (See table below):

Handi-Sport

There needs to be a better co-ordination between NGOs in charge of Handi-sport and physical rehabilitation centres.

VI-C has been in contact with a German University about Handi-sports and using sport and recreational activities as part of rehabilitation program (Sport for life). The German University will send two people to work with the VI staff at the beginning of 2004. They will be spending time in the provinces as well as in Phnom Penh.

Topic	Participants	Responsible	Date
1 Functional upper limb Prosthetics	P/O and PT	CT/CSPO (Mary)	Undecided
2 Management of Club Feet	P/O and PT	P/O and PT	Waiting for the date from the team, it should be in the last quarter of the year. Participants will ask to pay US\$50.00
3 Treatment of Neurological Conditions	PT	PT Sub-committee (Janette & Tana)	First two weeks of September.
4 KAFO vs. KO Prescription	P/O and Bench workers	HIB	Undecided

Mine Victims Assistance

(By Mr. Navuth Ya)

Handicap International initiated the Victim Assistance Project with assistance from the French, German, Norwegian and Swiss Governments. The Victim Assistance Project is aimed at enhancing the ability of government and other actors in the countries of Southeast Asia (Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam) in order to identify, plan and meet the needs of landmine/UXO victims and similarly disabled people.

In Cambodia, after the successful completion of Regional Conference on Victim Assistance in Bangkok on November 6-8, 2001 and National Workshop on Victim Assistance on September 5-6, 2001 at the National Institute of Public Health, Phnom Penh, The Disability Action Council initiated implementation of this project with funding support from Handicap International. In order to successfully implement this project, DAC has employed National Coordinator for Victim Assistance to work with a Regional Coordinator who has been assigned by Handicap International so as to address the needs of landmine/UXO victims and people with disabilities. The purpose of this project is to develop a National Plan of Action for Victim Assistance to be presented at the fifth meeting of State Parties to Ottawa Convention (Bangkok, September 2003). During the last six (6) months, the Victim Assistance Project has completed the following:

◆ **Two meetings on victim assistance organized:** Comments and feedback received to update the draft a national plan of action for victim assistance.

◆ **Site Visits:** Important information dealing with victim assistance components gathered from key players and relevant stakeholders to develop draft national plan of action for victim assistance.

◆ **Partnership with key stakeholders:** Assisted CMAA in the facilitation of National Workshop on Mines/UXO Risk Reduction Strategies and provided training on kinds of disability to CMAA's staff as well as attended Phnom Penh, Regional Seminar on "Building a Cooperative Future for Mine Action in Southeast Asia" invited by CMAA.

The Workshop on the National Plan for Victim Assistance will be held on 01 August 2003 at the National Institute of Public Health, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The objective of this workshop is to finalize and adopt the draft national plan for victim assistance; and identify projects requiring financial assistance in 2004.

Medical / Rehab Services

By Liz Cross

The beginning of the New Year brought many challenges for our group and the possibilities of new initiatives and developments. Following on from the visit of Prof Chris Lavy the decision was made by the Physical Rehabilitation Committee to recommend that priority be given to training in new methods of treating Clubfoot. This training will hope to commence later on this year.

Good collaboration with the Preventative Medicine Department continues. Our group was also pleased to welcome Mr. Kho Huoth who is Chief of Bureau of the Physical Rehab in the Dept of Rehabilitation.

Mr. Kho Huoth will bring experience of many years in the field. We have had very good collaboration with medical teams from overseas as well as cooperation with the Government Hospitals and Doctors who work in them. Collaboration between the NGO programmes and these hospitals resulted in clients being able to access medical treatment that was necessary to prevent further debilitating conditions or restore use of a limb.

SARS placed constraints on some of the planned activities due to travel restrictions of some of the teams from overseas but it is hoped they will return late in the year.

CWARS this year was able to refer patients for Hare Lip/Cleft Palate operations, which was a great event for their clients. The patient's ages ranged from 1 to 65 years old proving that the service can include all ages!!! The funding was provided by the Medical Rehab project of DAC from Christoffel Blinden Mission International.

In Cambodia the incidence of Hare Lip and Cleft Palate is high mainly due to the lack of possibilities previously for surgery. Now however with good training and experienced Khmer Doctors these issues can be addressed. It makes such a difference to people lives too.



Before operation



After operation



Photos courtesy of The Cambodian Society of Oral Surgery and CWARS

Community Work with Disabled People and Community Based Worker Training

(By Mr. Pen Mony)

There were six CWD meetings and four CBWT meetings from January to June. The main topic of discussion of CWD meeting was to revise the plan and discuss issues related to the information and referral services for disabled persons at the community level. Also idea related to standards of CBR in Cambodia. The CWD Committee has linked with IRS project of NCDP. The sector plan has been revised and implemented. The Concept paper of standards of CBR in Cambodia has been discussed.

Two extra-ordinary meetings were held for discussion on CBR training in Thailand. The Committee has assigned 5 candidates; 4 were selected to be participants Mr. Ull Meng Hour (VI), Mr. Khoun Kuy Sang and Mr. Kou Hout (MOSALVY) and Miss. Sok Dearozet (CCMH). A presentation was given in a meeting of CWD on Friday 27 June 2003. They are also invited by CBWT working group to make a presentation at the next meeting.