

## **DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING NO. 1/2023**

### **ITEM 1: WELCOME REMARKS**

1. H. E. Mr. Wang Hao, Vice Governor of Yunnan Province and MI Council Chairperson (the Chair), opened the Council Meeting 1/2023 on July 28, 2023, at 9:00 AM at the Foreign Affairs Office of Yunnan Province in Kunming, P. R. China. He welcomed and acknowledged the presence of all GMS government representatives, MI Steering Committee members, representatives of MI coordinating agencies, MI Secretariat, and other delegates observing the proceedings.

### **ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

2. The Chair asked for comments, concerns, or points of clarification from the members regarding the meeting's agenda. **There being none, the members adopted the agenda of the Council Meeting 1/2023.**

### **ITEM 3: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS**

3. Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn, MI Executive Director, announced several important points for the attention of the Council including the schedule for group photo and meeting adjournment as well as lunch arrangements. He also informed the Council that there will be a handover ceremony of MI Council chairmanship after the meeting. Lastly, he conveyed that the draft minutes of Council Meeting 1/2023 would be circulated to the members by August 31, 2023.

### **ITEM 4: ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2/2022 AND ACTION PROGRESS ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM GOVERNING BOARD MEETING 2/2022**

4. Mr. Suriyan informed the Council that the minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to the council ahead of time and no comments were received. He also reported the progress on recommendations from the Governing Board Meeting 2/2022.
5. The Chair sought comments, concerns, or points of clarification from members regarding the two documents. **There being none, the members adopted the minutes of the Council Meeting 2/2022 and noted the action progress on recommendations from the Governing Board meeting.**

### **ITEM 5: HIGHLIGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE STEERING COMMITTEE ON MATTERS FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

#### **5.1 Activity Report of 1H, 2023**

6. Dr. Narongchai delivered a brief overview of the activity report, noting that the MI Steering Committee convened a month earlier, allowing ample time for thorough deliberation on matters and the resolution of issues. This proactive approach facilitated the creation of a comprehensive report for the Council and aimed to streamline discussions during the Council Meeting.
7. Dr. Narongchai gave an update on MI's performance which he said has exceeded targets. He highlighted MI's new web-based Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) system as one of the ways MI utilizes digital technology in its operations. He mentioned that partnerships and collaboration with partners and stakeholders remained on track, while HR initiatives adhered to the plan, including the engagement of GMS nationals within the MI Secretariat. He also shared that MI's net income presented a positive outlook.

8. He said that a notable concern emerged from the SC regarding the operations of Collaborating Agencies (CAs), urging the need for enhanced clarity and efficacy in MI's collaboration with CAs. He emphasized that CAs play a crucial role in MI's expansion, mentioning that MI targets to hold events and activities in member countries where CAs may be tapped and engaged. During SC's discussion, it was mentioned that CAs should not be permanent, but must be engaged as project partners. He clarified that this does not yet require the decision of the Council. However, the Council must be aware of the importance of this matter.
9. Dr. Narongchai mentioned that the Mekong Forum marked a significant milestone as the first to be held outside Thailand.
10. He reported that MI works in alignment with the strategic plan although some adjustments are deemed necessary due to evolving international dynamics. The adjusted plan, set for approval in December, seeks to accommodate these changes.
11. Mr. Suriyan was subsequently invited to present Item 5 in more detail. The following are the highlights of his presentation:
12. **Program Activities.** MI's new web-based MEL system tracks activity progress in line with the Strategic Plan 2021-2025 and the Annual Work Plan 2023. Forty-two percent (42%) of the planned activities were implemented by programs and operations as of 30 June 2023. During the first half of the year, 20 projects were implemented by the MI program departments, reaching 939 direct participants. Among the implemented projects, eleven were long-term projects, five were short-term projects, and four were one-off activities.
13. MI started to implement its activities at the beginning of the year by implementing most of the carry-forward projects from 2022 in Q1. Due to the improved COVID-19 situation, MI activities have gradually shifted to onsite events while some remained online and hybrid.
14. Progress has been made in various focus areas including food safety, rice production, sustainable and smart agricultural supply chains, sustainable and smart tourism, cross-border trade, trade negotiation, cross-border paperless trade, water-energy-food nexus, and climate resilience, among others.
15. **Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL).** MI developed and rolled out a new web-based MEL system to regularly track activity progress. Also, the MI's MEL Policy, Strategy, and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) were revised and a workshop was organized for MI staff.
16. **Partnership and Resource Mobilization.** MI continued to enhance existing partnerships, notably by forging closer partnerships with the ASEAN Secretariat as a technical and knowledge partner as well as Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (LMC) by participating in the LMC Week in Yunnan 2023. MI also reconnected with the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. In addition, MI formalized MOUs with several partners, namely Khon Kaen University International College (KKUIC), Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA), Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), and Prince of Songkla University (PSU).
17. **Human Resources.** As of June 2023, MI employs 51 staff of 13 nationalities; among them 39% were male and 61% were female. Currently, the staff represents all six GMS countries.
18. **Finance.** MI developed a system to track and report expenses incurred by each department/unit against the approved budget, in its effort to control expenses within the approved budget. Cash flow forecasting, monitoring, and control mechanisms were also applied.

19. MI's financial performance from January to June 2023 recorded earnings of USD 156,001. As of May 31, 2023, MI's total revenue was USD 1,370,036 with the total expense amounted to USD 1,233,037. MI recorded net earnings of USD 136,999 as of May 31, 2023, and earned USD 169,467 excluding the non-cash expenses.
20. MI's current total assets amounted to USD 11,259,609 while the cash and cash equivalent amounted to USD 9,896,257. MI's other current assets were USD 296,907 with the net value of fixed assets amounting to USD 1,066,445.
21. MI's total liabilities were USD 9,194,875, including unearned revenue from GMS countries' contributions of USD 291,419. The total equity was USD 2,064,735, which shows an increase of 6.2% compared to December 31, 2022.

## 5.2 Results of the Mekong Forum 2023

22. Mr. Suriyan expounded on the results of the Mekong Forum 2023 which was conducted a day before the Council meeting. He presented the details of the forum and reported that around 300 participants attended the event. He reported the top actionable points agreed upon and gathered from the three thematic breakout sessions of the forum, including the following:
  23. **Breakout Session A - Agricultural Productivity and Market Access.** (1) Improve access to agricultural education and training for farmers, with a focus on modern farming techniques, sustainable practices, and entrepreneurship skills; (2) Utilize learning networks as innovation hubs that convene stakeholders from across sectors to co-create solutions to shared agricultural challenges; (3) Foster innovative partnerships between government agencies, private sector businesses, international organizations, and technology providers; (4) Advocate for pro-agriculture policies that favor sustainable farming practices, reduce trade barriers, subsidize agricultural innovation, and provide farmers with incentives and access to affordable credit; and (5) Encourage venture capitalists and government-backed funds to invest in youth-led, local agri-tech startups.
  24. **Breakout Session B - Trade and Logistics.** (1) Foster SEZ and investment nodes on the main railway lines as a way of attracting investment in transit countries to maximize the benefit of new transport linkages; (2) Build programmatic synergies with Mekong regional cooperation mechanisms, especially in transport and logistics connectivity and industry and trade development; and (3) Foster people to people connectivity with a headline tourist connection that becomes a brand ("trans-Lancang Mekong" similar to "trans-Siberia" ) that can also benefit communities around heritage and cultural destinations en route.
  25. **Breakout Session C - Clean Energy and Climate Resilience.** (1) Provide operational support to GMS/LM energy cooperation - Conduct research on gaps and promote public-private partnerships on energy transition, energy efficiency improvement, and GHG emission reduction; (2) Promote capacity building and technology transfer - Enhance technical expertise and skills related to energy transition. Facilitate technology transfer and cooperation in research and development of renewable energy technologies within the region; (3) Promote financial access - Explore mechanisms for providing financial and technical support to countries or regions within the cooperation framework. This can include facilitating access to climate finance, establishing regional funding mechanisms, and leveraging international partnerships and initiatives; (4) Engage stakeholders and enhance public participation - Foster active engagement of stakeholders and encourage public participation in the decision-making process. This could lead to greater support and effective implementation of energy efficiency and clean energy initiatives.

## 5.3 Update on the implementation plan of Mid-term Review (MTR) of MI Strategic Plan 2021-2025

26. Mr. Suriyan presented the updates on the implementation plan of the Mid-term Review of MI Strategic Plan 2021-2025. The following are the highlights of his presentation:
27. An external consultant was contracted to support the MTR process, which will take place from August to October 2023. As a kick-off activity, there will be an in-house workshop among the MI Secretariat. After which, a series of data collection will be conducted using different channels or modalities including an online survey, Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), and Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) with key stakeholders.
28. Key stakeholders to be consulted include: MI Council Members; MI Steering Committee Members; MI CA Members; Donors/ Development Partners (INGO, Governments, Business); Collaborating/Implementing Partners (Public and Private Sectors and Institutions); Project participants/alumni; and MI Secretariat (Project Leads, Senior Staff)
29. The findings will be reviewed by the SC members before being presented to the Development Partners' Meeting in December 2023 and subsequently submitted to the Council for final approval.

#### **Discussions and Comments on Item 5**

30. The Chair extended his congratulations and appreciation to the Mekong Forum 2023 Organizing Committee from the MI Secretariat and the Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of Yunnan Province for successfully co-organizing the event. He also thanked the Council and Steering Committee Members and development partners for their contributions to make the event worthwhile and a success. He was also grateful and honored that P. R. China had the opportunity to co-host MI's flagship event.
31. **With no further comments and questions from the Council, the Chair acknowledged the Activity Report 1H 2023 and the updates on the implementation plan of the MTR of MI Strategic Plan 2021-2025.**

#### ***Group Photo and Refreshment/ Break***

### **ITEM 6: HIGHLIGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE STEERING COMMITTEE ON MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION**

#### **Item 6.1 Endorsement of the Revised Activity Plan of 2H, 2023**

32. Mr. Suriyan presented updates on the Revised Activity Plan of 2H, 2023. Below are the highlights of his presentation:
33. Key revisions to the earlier plan were presented, particularly with regard to securing additional funding for 12 projects, bringing the total from 17 to 29. These projects will focus on key regional thematic areas, including food safety, sustainable food systems, climate-smart agriculture, market access, post-harvest management, and various topics related to the agricultural and commercialization development (ADC) theme. Additionally, the trade and investment facilitation (TIF) theme will encompass sustainable and smart tourism, MSME competitiveness, cross-border digital services and e-platforms, and capacity building. The sustainable energy and environment (SEE) theme will focus on the food-energy-water nexus, green economy, energy, climate-smart technologies for agriculture and trade events, sustainable smart tourism, and regional framework synergy.

34. Regarding HR, the recruitment plan has been revised to include a total of 9 positions, comprising 7 permanent positions and 2 temporary positions. The recruitment process for the remaining period of 2023 will involve the following openings: Director (1), Manager (1), Coordinator (2), Officer (2), and Assistants (3).
35. The meeting emphasized the importance of recruiting GMS nationals and giving due consideration to countries that are underrepresented within the GMS region. This approach aims to promote inclusivity and diversity within the organization and ensures that the workforce reflects the varied backgrounds and perspectives of GMS member countries.
36. **The Chair sought comments from the Council. There being none, the Council adopted and approved the Revised Activity Plan of 2H, 2023.**

#### **Item 6.2 Endorsement of Budget Revision 2023**

37. Mr. Suriyan presented updates on the Budget Revision 2023. Below are the highlights of the presentation:
38. The total revenue for the period is projected to reach USD3,922,053, indicating an 8% increase compared to the original annual budget. On the other hand, the total expenses, including non-cash expenses, amounted to USD3,726,521.
39. A total of USD 2,609,240 worth of Opportunity Funds were submitted. Out of this amount, MI was able to secure USD 960,501, accounting for approximately 37% of the total submitted funds. Furthermore, when considering the projected Opportunity Funds, which amounted to USD 700,827, MI was able to secure a total of USD 960,501. This achievement represents an impressive 137% of the originally planned funds.
40. **The Chair sought comments from the Council. There being none, the Council adopted and approved the Budget Revision 2023.**

#### **Item 6.3 Endorsement of Audited Financial Report 2023**

41. Mr. Suriyan reported that based on the Audited Financial Report for the year 2022 conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers (Lao), no material audit findings were reported for MI's Financial Statement for the same year. MI closed 2022 with total revenue of USD 3,283,856, a total expense of USD 3,017,831, and total earnings of USD 266,025.
42. **The Chair sought comments from the Council. There being none, the Council adopted and approved the Audited Financial Report 2023.**

#### **Item 6.4 Endorsement of the results of Executive Director Performance Evaluation 2022, and End of Term Performance Evaluation and Term of Office**

43. To maintain the confidentiality of deliberations within the Council, members of the MI Secretariat and other meeting attendees were excused from the discussion.
44. **The meeting endorsed the Results of the Executive Director Performance Evaluation 2022, and End of Term Performance Evaluation and Term of Office.** The Executive Director was highly evaluated. As a result, the Council agreed to renew the Executive Director's contract for a second term, which will commence on September 1, 2023, and continue until August 31, 2026.

45. MI Secretariat will prepare the Offer Letter and the Employment Contract. These documents will be presented for the incoming Council Chairman's signature, formalizing the Executive Director's continuation of his role.

**ITEM 7: RECOMMENDATIONS AND COMMITMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**

46. The Chair invited the Council Members to share their recommendations and commitments based on the deliberations. To ensure efficiency in reporting, Dr. Naronchai advised the Council to focus and highlight the important points and submit the full report to the MI Secretariat.
47. **H.E. Mr. Chea Chantum, MI Council Member, Cambodia**
48. Mr. Chea Chantum congratulated the Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China, particularly Vice Governor Wang Hao for his leadership as Chairman of the MI Council. Mr. Chantum also highlighted the success of the Mekong Forum 2023, cohosted by the Yunnan Province and MI.
49. Mr. Chantum extended his congratulations for the accomplishments made under the leadership of Mr. Suriyan as MI Executive Director. He also commended the senior officials, officers, and staff of MI for their efforts and active involvement in various activities. He took pride in MI's recognition as an Asian Prize Recipient and stressed the importance of elevating its role in capacity building for human development.
50. Mr. Chantum acknowledged the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic in Cambodia, affecting both economic and social recovery efforts. Despite this, he emphasized the country's commitment to recovery, with a projected GDP growth of approximately 5% after a decline in 2020. Noteworthy achievements included the successful hosting of the ASEAN Summit, the ASEAN Para Games, and a recently held national election, promising a new government to facilitate peace and development.
51. Mr. Chantum highlighted the importance of human resource development in Cambodia's development priorities, considering it a fundamental pillar among key areas such as road, electricity, and water. He emphasized the significance of MI's role in addressing regional disparities in digitalization and innovation, particularly in countries like Cambodia, Myanmar, and Lao PDR, which lag behind in these aspects. He identified decentralization as a crucial aspect of achieving balanced development.
52. Concluding his remarks, Mr. Chantum expressed his commitment to collaborating with MI. He thanked the Chairman and expressed intentions to share detailed information about his report through the MI secretariat.
53. **Mr. Khamphinh Philakone on behalf of Mr. Kingphokeo Phommahaxay, MI Council Member, Lao PDR**
54. Mr. Khamphinh Philakone conveyed gratitude and respect to the Chair, Co-chair, and Council Members. He extended thanks to the Yunnan Province for excellently organizing the meeting and extending hospitality to Lao PDR's delegation and other member countries. He also extended his congratulations to MI for its achievements in the past six months.
55. Referencing the presentation on the implementation plan's midterm review for 2021-2025, Mr. Khamphinh acknowledged the progress made despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. He expressed high regard for MI's consistent contributions to project and program implementation, aligning with the strategic plan. He expressed his hopes that MI continues to support and cooperate with the Lao PDR in many areas of development in the future.

56. Mr. Khamphinh looked forward to collaborative discussions between development partners and the Lao PDR government regarding cooperation projects and deployments. In conclusion, he assured continued support and cooperation of Lao PDR with MI.
- 57. Ms. Moh Moh Naing on behalf of Dr. Marlar Myo Nyunt, Council Member, Myanmar**
58. Ms. Moh Moh Naing expressed gratitude to the Yunnan Province for their exceptional preparations for the Mekong Forum and the warm reception of the GMS countries.
59. Ms. Moh Moh emphasized Myanmar's request for the fair and inclusive participation of GMS member countries in all MI programs. Comparing GMS with other regional bodies such as ASEAN and the United Nations, the speaker underscored Myanmar's commitment to being a responsible member of the international and regional community. The forthcoming 26th GMS Ministerial Conference in Myanmar was mentioned, noting that some international organizations and countries had imposed sanctions due to political reasons. As a result, Myanmar sought equal involvement in international and regional programs, especially within the GMS, and called for the prioritization of GMS countries in MI's recruitment plans.
60. Ms. Moh Moh articulated Myanmar's need to strengthen both public and private sectors through capacity building. Challenges related to a generation gap within the government and capacity deficiencies across sectors were highlighted. Myanmar's engagement with MI's Secretariat was discussed, detailing how ministries had submitted capacity-building program proposals, and the private sector had proposed a research program with a specific budget. This program involved collaboration between the Myanmar Sugarcane Association, the Department of Agriculture (DOA), and Thailand's Kasetsart University—a venture encompassing public-private partnership and bilateral cooperation. Ms. Moh Moh urged consideration and prioritization of Myanmar's proposals.
61. Lastly, Ms. Moh Moh noted that Dr. Aung Moe Chae, the Deputy Director General of FERD, is assigned as the country representative of Myanmar to the MI Steering Committee.
- 62. Mrs. Arunee Hiam on behalf of Mrs. Ureerat Chareontoh, Council Member, Thailand**
63. Mrs. Arunee Hiam, representing Mrs. Ureerat Chareontoh, Director General of the Thailand International Cooperation Agency, conveyed gratitude to Vice Governor Wang Hao for his warm hospitality. Acknowledgment was also extended to Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee, Chair of the MI Steering Committee, for guiding the committee meeting and shaping significant agreements and recommendations for the MI Council.
64. Mrs. Arunee commended the effective administration and management of core projects under Executive Director Suriyan's leadership, supporting his reappointment for a second term. While recognizing MI's current success, Mrs. Arunee highlighted the midpoint of MI's 2021-2025 strategic plan and looked forward to the midterm review to assess the plan's alignment with present circumstances.
65. Emphasizing collaboration among MI Member countries and development partners, Mrs. Arunee expressed Thailand's commitment to fostering shared prosperity. She concluded by congratulating the newly appointed Council Chair and expressing anticipation for future cooperation.
- 66. Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee, Business Representative, MI Steering Committee Chair**
67. Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee conveyed how the private sector perceives the GMS and its current state. He reiterated what he mentioned during the Mekong Forum 2023 that there are a lot of uncertainties in the global

landscape arising from geopolitical factors and international conflicts. These uncertainties have the potential to impact business activities and collaborations.

68. From the standpoint of the private sector, Dr. Narongchai underscored that MI has been proactive in organizing activities that foster even stronger business cooperation. These initiatives are geared towards safeguarding the established partnerships and business relationships developed over the past years from the adverse effects of emerging international geoeconomic and geopolitical dynamics.

**69. Dr. Jean-Pierre A. Verbiest, Council Honorary Advisor**

70. Dr. Jean Pierre A. Verbiest expressed gratitude for the successful Mekong Forum 2023 and Council Meeting, extending appreciation to the government of Yunnan Province and Chairman Wang Hao for their hospitality. He aligned with previous remarks about the importance of identifying CAs for MI project implementation and emphasized the balance between flexibility and maintaining quality to uphold MI's organizational reputation.

71. Dr. Jean advocated for seeking new partnerships, seeing them as an avenue for sharing knowledge and learning from diverse experiences that can be applied in the region. Dr. Jean commended MI's web-based MEL system. Reflecting on MI's financial achievements, Dr. Jean, who has been a part of MI's board for nearly two decades, recognized MI's strong performance in the first half of the year.

72. In conclusion, Dr. Jean congratulated MI on these achievements and extended a warm welcome to the new Chairman.

**73. Mr. Suriyan on behalf of Mr. Nguyen Viet Ha, Council Member, Vietnam**

74. Mr. Suriyan acknowledged the absence of the Council Member from Vietnam but mentioned that her statement has been submitted for consideration. Mr. Suriyan presented a concise summary of the statement.

75. The statement outlines Vietnam's improved socioeconomic condition in the past six months compared to the previous year. It further highlights six overarching national development policies aimed at fostering socioeconomic growth within the country and enhancing regional cooperation and integration in the GMS.

76. The statement also identified key priority areas where MI's work plan and activities could offer significant support. These priority areas encompass agriculture productivity improvement, service sector improvement, labor employability, disaster preparedness and response, environmental protection, and forest fire prevention. The Council Member emphasized that these issues necessitate collaborative efforts on a regional scale, suggesting that MI align its activities with Viet Nam's outlined priorities.

**77. H.E Mr. Wang Hao, Council Chairman, P. R. China**

78. H.E. Mr. Wang Hao acknowledged the country reports from Council Members. He thanked all the members for their support and dedication to the work of MI. He expressed his confidence that the incoming Council Chair and the SC Chair will ensure that MI's activities are implemented. He reminded Council members that there should be implementation progress reported during the next Council Meeting.



**ITEM 8: APPOINTMENTS**

79. Dr. Narongchai clarified that the appointment should be termed as “Country Representative to the Steering Committee” instead of “Steering Committee Member.”
80. The following officials were appointed as Steering Committee Members for a two-year term (August 5, 2023, to August 4, 2023):
81. **P. R. China**  
**Mr. Ke Yousheng**  
Permanent Representative of China to UNESCAP  
Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in Thailand
82. **Cambodia**  
**Mr. Hang Suvidya**  
Deputy Secretary General  
Secretariat for Population and Development  
Ministry of Planning
83. **Myanmar**  
**Dr. Aung Moe Chai**  
Deputy Director General  
Foreign Economic Relations Department  
Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations
84. **Lao PDR**  
**Mr. Khamphinh Philakone**  
Deputy Director General  
Department of Economic Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
85. **Thailand**  
**Mrs. Arunee Hiam**  
Deputy Director General  
Thailand International Cooperation Agency  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
86. **Vietnam**  
**Mr. Nguyen Viet Ha**  
Official  
Foreign Economic Relations Department  
Ministry of Planning and Investment

**ITEM 9: DATE AND VENUE OF GOVERNING BOARD MEETING NO. 2/2023**

87. Mr. Suriyan informed the Council that the MI Secretariat informally consulted with Cambodia, which is likely to host the next Governing Board Meeting. The MI Secretariat will inform the Council about the specific arrangements of the next meeting once the date has been confirmed.

88. Mr. Chea Chantum of Cambodia conveyed his country's willingness to host the meeting in Cambodia. He proposed to schedule the meeting for the second week of December in Phnom Penh or another location in Cambodia.

**ITEM 10: OTHER MATTERS**

89. No other matters were raised and discussed during the meeting.

***Adjournment***

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.**

**ANNEX 1. List of Attendees**

<b>Council Members</b>	
Chairman and Representative of P.R. China	H. E. Mr. Wang Hao Vice Governor of Yunnan Province
Royal Government of Cambodia	H.E. Mr. Chea Chantum Secretary-General General Secretariat for Population and Development Ministry of Planning Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Government of Lao PDR	<i>(On behalf of Mr. Kingphokeo Phommahaxay)</i> Mr. Khamphinh Philakone Deputy Director General Department of Economic Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs Vientiane, Lao PDR
Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar	<i>(On behalf of Dr. Marlar Myo Nyunt)</i> Ms. Moh Moh Naing Director Foreign Economic Relations Department Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Royal Thai Government	<i>(On behalf of Mrs. Ureerat Chareontoh)</i> Mrs. Arunee Hiam Director Development Promotion and Coordination Division Thailand International Cooperation Agency Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bangkok, Thailand
Business Representative	Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee Chairman MFC Asset Management Plc. Bangkok, Thailand
Honorary Advisor	Dr. Jean-Pierre A. Verbiest Associate-Banking and Finance, West Indochina Senior Consultant, Asian Economies
Mekong Institute (non-voting member)	Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn Executive Director Mekong Institute
<b>Steering Committee Members</b>	
Steering Committee Member for Cambodia	Mr. Hang Suvidhya Deputy Secretary General Secretariat for Population and Development Ministry of Planning

	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
<b>Yunnan Province Foreign Affairs Office (YFAO)</b>	
Mr. Chen Rongjie Deputy Director-General, YFAO	
Mr. Wang Chuanming Deputy Director of Southeast Asia Affairs Division, YFAO	
<b>Mekong Institute</b>	
Maria Theresa S. Medialdia Director Agricultural Development and Commercialization Department	
Mr. Madhurjya k. Dutta Director Trade and Investment Facilitation Department	
Mr. Rithy Buth Director Finance and Operations Department	
<b>Meeting Secretariat</b>	
Mr. Halimur Rahman MEL Specialist Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Department	
Ms. Pornwilai Pumira Partnership and Resource Mobilization Manager	
Ms. Jian Wang Program Manager Sustainable Energy and Environment Department	
Ms. Natchaya Potiwat General Service Supervisor	
Ms. Anna Leigh Anillo Communications Coordinator Communications and Knowledge Management Unit	
Mr. Narathip Dahan Senior IT Support Officer	
Ms. Thitiporn Rattanatraisri Communications Assistant Communications and Knowledge Management Unit	
Anan Ussanawarong Project Operations Support Assistant	

