

Meeting to establish the National Confederation of Rice Business Cooperatives November 12, 2010

FNN, in cooperation with CEDAC and with funding support from CCA, organized a meeting to establish the national confederation of rice business cooperatives on Friday, November 12, 2010. The meeting was held at the CEDAC head office in Phnom Penh. In total, 37 representatives from eight core cooperatives in four provinces participated, including Kampong Speu, Takeo, Kampot and Kampong Chhnang. The meeting achieved following objectives and outputs:

- Compiled data on rice business plans for 2010-2011, including the capital requirements for paddy procurement during the season 2010-2011
- Determined the need for the establishment of a national confederation of cooperative rice businesses
- Set up a national organizing committee who will prepare the by-laws and regulations of the cooperative
- Elected the interim committee responsible for coordinating the cooperative of rice businesses in 2010-2011; Mr. Nep Orng was elected as interim president of the confederation. The interim committee will meet again soon to discuss the MOU between the confederation and CEDAC. Together the confederation and CEDAC will work together to secure a loan for the procurement of paddy. The amount of paddy they plan to procure in 2010-2011 is 2,500 tons which means 600 million riel (around \$150,000 USD) additional capital is required. Currently there are 25 confederations of rice businesses under the umbrella of FNN, but only eight selected cooperatives were invited to be founding members of the National Confederation of Rice Business Cooperatives. Future plans for the cooperative include inviting more members to join as well as supporting the formation of new cooperatives. *Uploaded by NOY Kimhong*