



**Press Release**  
**Embassy of Japan**  
**in the Kingdom of Cambodia**

April 9, 2009

**Departure of Cambodian JENESYS Delegation**

A Cambodian delegation of 22 people, consisting of 20 high school students, 1 government official and 1 teacher, will depart Cambodia on April 13, 2009 for a stay of approximately 10 days in Japan. This is the seventh short stay group from Cambodia to join the JENESYS (Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths) Program.

During their visit to Japan, students will visit sites mainly related to social and cultural affairs, as well as local communities. They will participate in various exchange events with Japanese youths and citizens, including home-stays, school visits, and workshop.

Being different from the previous delegations, the seventh delegation will join the programme with other 9 ASEAN countries' delegations. 10 countries' participants will be divided into 10 groups and each group is a mixture of students from 10 countries. The students are expected to enhance friendship and mutual understanding about ASEAN 10 countries in Japan.

Last year, 160 youths visited Japan under the short stay programme of JENESYS Programme, one of the memorable events of the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Cambodia and Japan.

It was decided at the Mekong-Japan Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in January 2008 to designate the year 2009 as Mekong-Japan Exchange Year, in order to promote further exchanges between Mekong region countries (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam) and Japan.

As an event for Mekong-Japan Exchange Year, the Cambodian delegation will join with 4 other Mekong region country delegations (Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam) and 5 ASEAN country delegations.

The pre-departure orientation for the fourth Cambodian JENESYS delegation will take place on April 13, 2009 from 9:30 to 11:30 at the Sunway Hotel.

\* The JENESYS Programme is based on a plan announced by Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan at that time, at the Second East Asia Summit (EAS), held in January 2007. The plan is to implement a 35 billion yen youth exchange programme, inviting about 6,000 young people to Japan, mainly from the EAS member states (ASEAN countries, Australia, China, India, New Zealand and the Republic of Korea) every year for five years, with a view to establishing a basis for Asian solidarity by expanding youth exchange. The JENESYS Programme sees East Asian youths invited to Japan, Japanese youths sent to East Asia and other exchange activities. The programme is expected to deepen mutual understanding among young people who will assume important roles in the future in each East Asian country.

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