1. **What measures have been taken to implement the recommendations of the last report of the Secretary General on the issue of child, early and forced marriage (A/73/257)?**

Answer: In responding to the recommendations of the last report of the of the Secretary General on the issue of child, early and forced marriage (CEFM), the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) has seriously taken actions to address the issue of CEFM in the Country. For instance, the data collection, prevention, awareness raising, law enforcement and programme interventions are the main measures for addressing the issue of CEFM.

Recently the Ministry of Women’s Affairs of the RGC has the action plan to address such the issues for 6 indigenous groups in Rattanakiri province, where is the highest rate of child marriage and teenage pregnancy in Cambodia. To address these issues, the RCG collected primary data and analyzed existing data on child marriage and teenage pregnancy, which indicated a combination of determinants leading to high rates of child marriage and teenage pregnancy among the ethnic community groups.

This Action Plan is not MoWA action Plan, but MoWA in collaboration with UNICEF providing technical support to the Provincial Consultative Committee on Women and Children in Rattanakiri since 2016. There were some key achievements of the implementation of the Provincial Action Plan on the Prevention of Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancy in Rattanakiri 2017-2021:

* This Action Plan was official launched in 2018 and has been disseminated to the local authorities and stakeholders for all districts in Rattanakiri.
* Conducted the baseline survey before the implementation of this action plan and will conduct the ending survey while this action plan finish (end of 2021).
* Raising awareness among local authorities and communities about the reproductive rights and health for women and girls, including legal age for getting marriage at 18 years old for both sexes. If there is some couple got married before 18 (the Willingness Couples fewer than 18 of age can get married traditionally even the law did not allowed to.), the authority will not issue them the Marriage Certificate. (The Marriage Certificate or so called État-Civil will be offered to couple once they reach the age of 18).
* Recently, we just conducted the costing study for this Action Plan in order to be used by the Consultative Committee on Women and Children (CCWC) as an evidence for the CCWC use for budget planning and integration into the development of the provincial investment plan.
* Plan to conduct a study tour to neighboring countries which have similar issues to learn from their on how they address the issues of child marriage and teenage pregnancy. MOWA has just sent the request letter to the Ministry of Women’s Affairs of the government of India to assist for arranging / organizing the study for us to learn their experience related to child marriage and teenage pregnancy. This study tour will support by UNICEF in Cambodia.
* MoWA will provide support to the CCWC to conduct the Mid Term Review on the implementation of this action plan next year (2020).
1. **What types of measures are in place to end child, early and forced marriage, including laws and policies as well as national and subnational action plans and programmes? What measures have been taken to ensure adequate budget allocations for the implementation of these plans and programmes?**

Answer: There are numbers of types of measures are in place in Cambodia to end child, early and forced marriage, including laws, policies and action plan for national and subnational levels. Following are key measures for ending child, early and forced marriage, that are being enforced/implemented in Cambodia:

* **Constitutional provisions:**

The constitution of Cambodia recognizes the right of children as clearly articulated (Art.48).

* **Laws:**

**Law on Juvenile Justice**

**Civil Code**

Article 948: (Marriageable age: Men and Women who are minor cannot get married).

Article 958: (Marriage Annulment: without common intention of marriage between both parties caused by Confused, forced and other reasons).

Article 963: (Nullity of Marriage caused of scams or forced Marriage, can fail complain to the court for Nullity of Marriage).

* **National Policies**
* National Action Plan on Prevention of Violence Against Women III (NAPVAW III)
* Five-year Strategy Plan of Neary Rattanak V
* Action Plan on the Prevention of Violence Against Children 2017-2021
* The Positive Parenting Strategy 2017
* Action Plan to Prevent Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancy. The Action Plan consist of 5 key strategies such as:
* Strategy Area 1: Coordination and Cooperation
* Strategy Area 2: Data Collection, Monitoring and Evaluation
* Strategy Area 3: Primary Prevention (Sub-area 1: Awareness Raising, Sub-area 2: Education and Sub-area 3: Health)
* Strategy 4: Response (Sub-area 1: Economic Empowerment, Sub-area2: Health services and Sub-area 3: Social services).
1. **Please provide information on promising practices relating to the development and implementation of holistic, comprehensive and coordinated responses and strategies to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage.**

Answer: The Royal Government of Cambodia/Ministry of Women’s Affairs (MoWA) has established Action Plan to Prevent Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancy is part of the Government’s commitment to end child marriage and teenage pregnancy which focused on the indigenous community that has the highest rate of child marriage in Cambodia. This Plan is to contribute to the realization of the SDG target 16.1 (significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere). Further, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MOSVY) is now being implemented the Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence Against Children (2017-2021), the plan also contributes to the Government’s larger commitment to taking action to prevent and respond to all forms of Violence Against Children in the Country.

Following are the some programme interventions have been implementing and developing through responsible ministries or joint efforts in combating the issues of CEFM.

* Use Child Helpline Cambodia (Dial: 1280) which run by an NGOs in Cambodia to answer children’s inquiries and referral to appropriate services for selected communities
* We also have the National Police Hotline (1288) under control of Ministry of Interior
* Pilot-project on implementation of the Positive Parenting Toolkit-Level 1 (adopted in 2017). This toolkit aim to raising awareness and promote understanding of Positive Parenting and to change behavior, attitude and social activities to support positive parenting (it is implementing in 08 provinces).
* Train social service providers to provide awareness raising on basic positive parenting concepts for the general public, including gender equality.
* Developed Guideline on Basic Competency for Social Workforces in Cambodia (MOSVY)
* CARE International in Cambodia will conduct a study research about the reproductive rights and reproductive health of young people, including child marriage.
* MoWA in collaboration with UNICEF have planned to scale up the program on Child Marriage and Teenage pregnancy in Rattakiri province to some other provinces which have high rate of child marriage.

1. **What measures are in place to support already married girls and women affected by child, early and forced marriage, including targeted programmes aiming at addressing their specific needs and promoting gender equality in all aspects of marriage and its dissolution?**

Answer: The RGC through the Action Plan to Prevent Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancy is the multi-sector coordination and cooperation between Ministries/Institutions and NGOs by taking priority actions such as:

* Strengthening Cooperation and Facilitation between related partners and other stakeholders in order to enhance interventions and actions to address the issues of early child marriage effectively, efficiency and timely.
* Primary Prevention: Related partners need to conduct raising awareness for community, parents, guardians to positive attitude on 4 child right’s based through Positive Parenting Strategy and having a better understanding of benefit of girls’ education even in formal and non-formal education with supporting their enrolment in school.
* Empowering women and girls about their reproductive rights and reproductive health and encourage them to get health services at the health centre regularly during they have pregnancy and encourage them to deliver their baby at the health centre.
* MoWA in collaboration with some partners to provide the economic income programme for women in the communities.
* Response: Strengthening Social service provider’s capacity (Health, Mental Health, internal law… etc) to provide quality services effectively, efficiency and timely to response by addressing their need to boys or girls married or in case of forced married.
* Monitoring and Evaluation: to review on the effective of policy and action plan’s implementation and also to track-progress and lesson learn for future inputs/comments for better policy and action plan.
* Established and trained youth peer education groups to conduct awareness on sexual reproductive health and prevention of teenage pregnancy and prevention on sexual transmitted infection as STI/AIDs
* Implementing health education programing including use the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) life skills Book on vocational training, adolescent reproductive health, and peer education.
* Strengthening the exist mechanisms such as health’s education which is emphasized in Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport’s Curriculum. This program will help the youth students to be more understanding of their changes on their bodies, mental health and sexual relation that will able for them to understand the impact of early child marriage which lead to harmful of young mothers and babies’ health.
* The Ministry of Women’s Affairs has been convey its messages to parents, guardians and communities to educate their children about the process of growth, their changes on their bodies, mental health and sexual relation to:

 **Be aware and ready** about the process of growing up and changes of their bodies from adolescence to adulthood and do not too much worried, especially in the circumstance of having Period.

 **See sexual things in a positive and responsible way :** its mean that We are prepared to consider and respond to sexual feelings properly, Take care of yourself and have the ability to say NO if you don't want to have sexual relation.

 **Understand the value, Right, and mastery of our bodies** in deciding the healthy and safe behaviour on each person’s body.

 **Protect yourself from sexual harassment, abuse, violence, trafficking, young or unwanted pregnancies, abortions, sexually transmitted infections, HIV, and trauma**: more awareness raising about health’s relations, positive relationships, conflict resolution skills, sex (safe sex, such as condom use, contraception)

 **Have a bright future, successful in academic and future’s life**:

Adolescent should delay physical relations and be procrastinate on having a clear mind on all issues, especially as they come of age to work hard to achieve their life goals.

 **Provide dignity, respect for yourself and others, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity (LGBT):** the honest communication, showing a need for emotion and respect with a partner, can help build happiness in their relationship, in family and in society.

* Established an inter-ministries committee on implementation the Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence Against Children (2017-2021)
* Policy and Minimum Standards for Protection of the Rights of Victims of Human Trafficking
* Guideline and Procedures for Identification of Victims of Human Trafficking for Appropriate Services
1. **Please provide information on promising practices concerning measures that promote the meaningful participation of and active consultation with children and adolescents, including already married girls, on all issues affecting them and to raise awareness about their rights?**

Answer: The Measurements for promoting to response with CEFM:

* Continue to develop policies and the plans of action by focusing on promoting rights, the rights to education, non-discrimination and children protection.
* Strengthen the Marriage law enforcement and publicize wisely in the community.
* Continue to promote the Positive Parenting Strategies to all the communities nationwide.
* Continue to develop the plans of action on the Prevention of Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancy and disseminating nationwide.
* Continue to strengthen the service providers' capacity through laws enforcement, policies and relevant guidelines in order to provide the services to children effectively, efficiency and timely.
* Continue to strengthen the cooperation between relevant stakeholders and improve the mechanisms for surviving the girls who faced to impact from the marriage in young ages.
1. **What type of measures are taken to empower girls, including by removing barriers to education and promoting equal access to free and quality education and promoting technical and vocational training and skills development for women and girls?**

Answer: Ministry of Women’s Affairs through its Positive Parenting Strategy and Tool kits has mainstreaming gender by making parents understand of equal rights and equal opportunities for both Girls and Boys, especially promote the understanding of benefits from Girls’ education investment.

1. **What type of measures are taken promote women’s and girls’ access to health care, social services and childcare opportunities?**

Answer:

* Disseminate the Marriage Law, the 4 fundamental Children Rights and the Positive Parenting Strategies, and the benefits of teenage girls attend in Formal and Non-Formal education system and also support on the education registration in Community.
* Awareness raising on the impact of child marriage to the communities, especially in remote or indigenous areas.
* Continue to strengthen the service providers' capacity through laws, policies and relevant guidelines in order to provide the services to children effectively, efficiency and timely.
* Continue to strengthen the cooperation between relevant stakeholders and improve the mechanisms for surviving the girls who face to impact from the marriage in young ages.
* Continue to collaborate with all the relevant stakeholders in preparing the plans of action on the prevention of child marriage and teenage pregnancy, and disseminate nationwide.
1. **What progress has been made in formulating or reviewing policies, programmes or strategies to address discrimination and violence, including domestic violence, which may occur against women and girls subjected to child, early and forced marriage, including with a view of strengthening child protection systems?**

Answer: The implementation of programs and strategies to deal with the discrimination and violence against women and girls needs to be monitored and evaluated through:

* **Mechanisms**
* Women's and Children's Consultative Committees at sub-national level
* The responsive working group to violence against women and girls at national and sub-national levels
* Mid-term review on the National Action Plan on Violence Against Women
* The assessment of the situation and the needs of children who married in the young ages.
* Enforcement of law on Juvenile justice
1. **What measures are taken to hold perpetrators accountable, to ensure access to justice and accountability mechanisms, and to implement violence prevention and response activities, including at school and community level, as well as to provide adequate victim reparation and assistance measures?**

Answer: This question is under the authority of Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Justice. Ministry of Women’s Affairs is facilitating to find support services for victims.

1. **What progress is made to improve the collection and use of disaggregated quantitative, qualitative and comparable data on violence against women and girls and harmful practices in order to strengthen measures to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage?**

Answer: Conducted a preliminary study on child marriage and young mothers among 12-17 years old girls in Ratanakiri province aim for strengthening the strategies of their contribution to prevent and reduce child marriage.