

Annex_1:



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Statute of Farmer and Nature Net

Preamble

Whereas:

- Rural people are poor and have no food security for all year round
- Farmers are lack of experience and technique in ecological agriculture;
- Farmers are lack of necessary capital to develop their family economic and rural community;
- Farmers are lack of communication for selling their ecological agriculture products;
- Local natural resources and environment is depleted and degraded;
- It is lack of cooperation and solidarity between farmer and farmer, farmer and other villagers;
- It is lack of legal representative who act as the key partner to relevant organizations and institutions as well as local authority for community development;
- It is lack of cooperation and solidarity amongst farmer associations; and between farmer associations and institutions and other organizations;
- It is lack of communication and information from one area to another (i.e. information on agriculture techniques, innovative, sale of agricultural products etc.)

With the support at the beginning from CEDAC (Centre d'Etude et de Développement Agricole Cambodgien), we, the farmers and members of the Farmer Associations, who promote the ecological agriculture development, natural resources management, and social equality and sustainability development in various provinces, have mutually agreed to form a Farmer and Nature Net with the aim of improving above-mentioned living conditions and situations. The Farmer and Nature Net is characterized and regulated as bellows:

Chapter 1 Identity

Article 1: : The official name of the Net is:
"Farmer and Nature Net" (FNN).

Article 2: The Farmer and Nature Net headquarter is temporarily located in CEDAC 's office, house No.39, Street 528, Sangkat Beoung Kok I , Khan Toul Kork , Phnom Penh .

Article 3: Logo and Meanings:

- Three pieces of green leaves (symbolized natural environment)

- Golden paddy panicle flanking with decoration of ribbon and three pieces of green leaves on center (symbolized the economic)
- Two palms holding beneath (symbolized the support and cooperation in the society).
- On the ribbon center, abbreviation is written ***Bor Kor Thor*** (FNN)
- The writing beneath the palms reads “ Farmer and Nature Net”

Chapter 2 Compulsory Principles

- Article 4:** Farmer and Nature Net is:
- The net of FA at village level (independent) that the decision making power is with the members.
 - A voluntary and independent farmer organization governed by farmers;
 - Not involve in politics and non political parties
 - A network will cooperates with all institutions, units or national and international associations aiming to serve the farmers’ interests.

Chapter 3 Goals, Objectives and Mission

- Article 5:** The goal of the Farmer and Nature Net is to “promote family economic of farmer and of rural community equity and sustainability.

- Article 6:** The objective of the Farmer and Nature Net is to link the local Farmer Associations in various provinces in Cambodia and with overseas in order to:

1. Unite as one force to protect farmer’s rights and interests and to be a warmness and hopefulness for the farmer
2. Serve as a warmness and hope for Farmer Associations;
3. Promote the ecological agriculture movement in the whole country;
4. Promote the rural society of cooperation and good solidarity between farmer and farmer and other stakeholders;
5. Support the Associations in developing agriculture and managing local natural resources; and
6. assure the cooperation between Associations and Organizations and relevant institutions inside and outside the country.

- Article 7:** Main activities of the Farmer and Nature Net are as follows:
- To participate in the meetings of the Net, and of relevant institutions;
 - To communicate with relevant institutions and various companies;
 - To disseminate the work progress of associations and of the Net;
 - To organize regular meetings and assembly;
 - To coordinate for the learning and exchange of experiences between one association to another;
 - To conduct training for Net’s members, in particular, for the association leaderships;
 - To coordinate and facilitate in organizing workshops;
 - To develop and facilitate exhibitions and campaigns; and
 - To manage and collect information on the progress of associations.

Mission:

FNN is high committed to strengthening the farmer organization through promoting innovation on ecological agriculture, community business market, saving-credit, and increase social cooperation.

Chapter 4
Management, Leaderships and coordination of the Net

Article 8: FNN is managed and led by the central committee, which is elected by the assembly. The composition of the central committee can be from 13 to 27.

- Chairman: 1
- Vice chairman: 2
- Treasurer: 1
- Members: 9-23
- The election of chairman and vice chairman have to follow 50% plus 1
- FNN must have an executive secretary or director and an advisors to assist their works
- Central committee must establish sub committee according to reality. The management, lead and activities of the committee and sub committee are written in the internal regulation.

Article 9: The meeting of Central Committee

The central committee must organize at least 6 meetings per year which mainly focus on:

- summarizing and assessing the monthly activities
- identifying objective and setting plan
- strengthening capacity of sharing and exchanging the new experience
- settling the problems
- making other decisions

Association representatives have right to be an observer in the meeting of FNN. Every meeting has to produce minutes and members have the right to receive them.

The meeting can be held unless there is 50 plus 1 of the central committee members participate and any decision must be supported by two-third (75%) and up of the central committee.

Article 10: Role and responsibility of the Central Committee:

1. draft the statute and internal regulation, and explain it in details;
2. set and implement strategic plan of the Net;
3. protect the rights and interests of the members;
4. disseminate information which is important for the member
5. invite relevant stakeholders to the assembly
6. prepare annual budget
7. seek additional budget to support FNN activities which have been approved by the assembly

8. help to solve the problems and strengthen local association
9. coordinate to form and give an additional support to the association
10. facilitate and cooperate with other groups that are under FNN umbrella

Article 11: Right and benefit of the central committee

1. receive the capacity building as required
2. receive the allowance for mission and participation other meeting
3. use the various means of the FNN during the mission
4. right to collect and distribute emergency cash
5. joint approval on staff recruitment for FNN as required
6. raise proposals or projects
7. resign from any position

Article 12: Mandate

- The Central Committee has a mandate of 3 years, and is elected according to 50 percent plus 1
- The mandate of the former Central Committee shall end once the new central Committee replace; and
- A candidate can stand for the position of the Chairman of central Committee for two terms only. S/he can stand for the candidate again after one year stay out of the net.

Article 13: Criteria for chairman's candidate of the central committee- must be local farmer and has the following::

- Has good moral and industrious;
- Has appropriate knowledge;
- Has leadership capacity;
- Has good demonstration farm
- Has experiences and techniques on ecological agriculture practice;
- Is popular;
- be commitment and accountability
- Is honest and non partisan;
- Is the member of the association which is the member of the Net;
- Be literacy (be able to read and write)
- Must not be an activist of any political party.
- Must not be involved in corruption and crimes

Article 14: Duties and responsibility of FNN Chairman

1. manage general operation;
2. call for the central committee's member for the meeting
3. communicate and request to the Royal Government of Cambodia and to various organizations to assist in problem solving;
4. strengthen the membership's of the Net;
5. prepare and present work plans;
6. represent the FNN participate in meeting of relevant institutions; and
7. handover to the member of the central committee according to the hierachy

- **Role and responsibility of the 1st and 2nd vice Chairman: *Chairman Assistant***

- **1st vice chairman:**

1. represent of Chairman while s/he absence
 2. solve internal problems of the associations;
 3. organize meeting schedule
 4. coordinate with the local authorities;
- **2nd vice chairman:**
 1. be responsible for protocol of trainings, workshops, and meetings;
 2. strengthen the farmer associations; and
 3. promote an ecological agriculture techniques.
 - **Treasurer**
 1. prepare and monitor the income and expense statement
 2. monitor the management of budget and materials of the Net that have been approved by Central Committee; and
 3. report to Central Committee and members of FNN on income and expenses
 4. cooperate with auditor for auditing the income and expenses
 - **Members**
 1. take accountability on the lead and management of the sub committee
 2. provide comments;
 3. participate in meetings and congress
 4. participate in planning;
 5. participate in evaluation;
 6. assist in strengthening of capacity for the members of the FNN; and
 7. disseminate information, general knowledge and ecological agriculture techniques.

Advisors:

There should be 5 to 7 advisors be selected from the former of FNN leader and other institutions that involved with development.

Criteria of FNN's Advisor:

1. be senior and has lots of experience;
2. be moral in good life;
3. be a person not involve in corruption, crimes and political party;
4. be active, patient and courageous
5. be always initiate new idea in agriculture development.

▪ **Roles and Duties of Advisor**

1. provide advice;
2. direct the FNN;
3. participate in all meetings of the central committee;
4. assist communication and act as spokesperson;
5. provide necessary and important information; and
6. provide idea in preparation of work plans.
7. has no right in any decision making of the Net

▪ **Roles and Duties of Executive Secretary or director**

1. facilitate and manage general operation;

2. record and report;
3. communicate with organizations and other institutions for the interests of the Net;
4. provide information to stakeholders in order they take part in the meetings and General Assembly;
5. be responsible for filing
6. disseminate necessary information; and
7. prepare budget proposal.
8. recruit or add more staff as required
9. has no right in any decision making of the Net

Article 15: The central committee accompany with special committee to coordinate FNN's works to be effectively and transparency. Those committees are as follows:

1. Monitoring and watch committees: consist of 3-5 persons: chairman, deputy and member who must be elected by the assembly according to 50 plus 1 and has 3-year term.
2. Conflict solving committee: chairman, deputy and member who must be elected by assembly according to 50 plus 1 and has 3-year term.

Chapter 5

Memberships and Rights

Article 16: Members of the Net are farmer associations that practice or promote the ecological agriculture.

- Criteria of the associations which are the members of the Net shall:
 - have official statute internal regulation of association;
 - have management committee comes from the election
 - voluntarily participate in the Net;
 - associations must share experiences to others;
 - must apply for membership
 - be supported by its members;
 - contribution to support the Net; and
 - be recognized by the local authorities

Article 17: Roles and Duties of the FNN's Member:

- Regularly contribute to support the FNN
- High spirit of solidarity to help other members
- respect and abide the statute and internal regulations of the Net;
- help to solve the problem which happen in the Net;
- participate regularly in meetings, workshops and trainings;
- involve in trial and dissemination of various techniques;
- promote ecological agriculture at local level;
- collaborates and support to the advocacy of the Net

Article 18: Rights and Interest Accessibilities

- participate in decision making that related to the interest of the net
- forward proposal
- advise and direct
- be the candidate in the election and participate in the election;

- represent the member to participate in the trainings or workshops;
- participate in providing comments and making decision especially in the General Assembly;
- Receive documents, information and reports;
- receive support when the association is in crisis.

Article 19: resignation from the membership “FNN”

Must inform in advance in writing 2 weeks before (15days) clearly indicated reason for leaving to the central committee.

Article 20: Termination from the membership:

The member act opposite to the statute and regulation

Chapter 6

Fund

Article 21: The FNN fund is received from:

- the FNN’s members
- charity
- NGOs and other institutions
- the income of service providing

Article 22: FNN will not receive budget from any political parties and companies which promote chemical agriculture and exploit the forest and environment.

Article 23: the use of budget

The Net uses its budget for its common interests such as:

- Workshops;
- Trainings;
- Support the poorer members;
- Study tours;
- Mission of Central Committee’s members;
- Other expenses as described separately in the budget of the Net

Article 24: the central committee has no right to spend the budget from what the assembly has approved. Every year the net must prepare budget for the assembly to approve. The receiving budget from any sources must be agreed by the assembly.

Chapter 7

Assembly

Article 25: assembly is the top organization of the FNN

Assembly can represent FA that is the member or represent the group or represent the net at the local level. Limitation the number of assembly as well as quota of the province, district or commune will be written in a separate internal regulation of the assembly.

Article 26: the assembly must lead by a chairman and 2 vice chairmen. The chairman and the vice-chairmen are elected by assembly members according to 50 plus 1 for the fixed term of one year. The chairman can recruit secretary to assist her/him as required.

Article 27: There are two types of assembly: general and extraordinary assembly

1. **General Assembly:** generally, held at the end of the year and the participants are the member of central Committee, FNN and other stakeholders who are invited by the Net. The Assembly shall be convened unless there is at least 100 members participate.
2. **Extraordinary Assembly:** held in special occasion according to the requirement of one third of the members of FNN member or 100% of assembly members.

Article 28: Roles and duties of the assembly

1. directs and comments the FNN committee
2. approve on the budget; and
3. activity plan of the Net
4. implement and monitor the performance of the Net
5. decide on the main policies which is involve in the activities of the Net
6. do the amendment the statute if necessary
7. represent the FA to present their need
8. elect the member of FNN committee
9. decide on the main policies of the Net

Chapter 8

The Evolution of the Farmer and Nature Net

Article 29: The Net can be expanded, minimized or terminated depends on real circumstances.

Article 30: Termination of the Net:

- It Shall be agreed by two third (75 percent) of the members
- Property of the Net shall be sold to pay off the debts before the termination of the net and the rest shall be given to associations or institutions that have vision, goals similar to the FNN.

Article 31: Amendment of the Statute and Internal Regulations.

- one-third of the Central Committee or 10% of the FNN members has the right to propose for amendment of the statute
- Any article or words can be adjusted unless there are two-third of Assembly members agreed.

Chapter 9

Final Provision

Article 32: Any point that has not been prescribed in this statute shall be stated in the internal regulation of the Net. The statute has been taken into effect since the date of the signature of the assembly and FNN committee chairman.

Phnom Penh, 21 May 2005

Name and signature

Name and signature

Name and signature As witness

President of CEDAC

Chairman of the FNN Committee

Chairman of the Assembly