

AIP Foundation donates equipment to support road safety efforts by the Traffic Police of Cambodia

21 November – Phnom Penh

On November 21st, the Asia Injury Prevention (AIP) Foundation donated road safety equipment to representatives of the National Police of Cambodia as part of the Cambodia Helmet Vaccine Initiative (CHVI). The donation was made to support the increased enforcement of the national helmet law as part of the government of Cambodia's commitment to meeting the goals of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety.

The plan for the donation was outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by AIP Foundation and the General Commissariat of National Police of Cambodia in 2011. In this MoU, both parties agreed to work together towards the goal of reducing fatalities and head injuries among motorcycle passengers, including children.

AIP Foundation's donation included a total of 1,000 helmets to police along with vital road safety equipment such as traffic cones and fences, radios, strobe lights, rechargeable lamps and reflective vests. Next year, representatives of the Cambodian Police will embark on a study tour of Vietnam and Malaysia where they will gain the knowledge and skills necessary to enforce the motorcycle passenger, including child, helmet law, which is awaiting government approval.

"Research findings have shown that drivers and adult passengers rate the traffic police as their most respected source of road safety information," said Greig Craft, AIP Foundation's President and Founder. "This shows the great potential for appropriate and enforceable road traffic laws as well as knowledgeable and proactive police officers' abilities to increase road safety."

Along with this donation, AIP Foundation President and Founder Greig Craft and Chief Executive Officer Mirjam Sidik visited Phnom Penh to meet with H.E Lt. General Chan Kim Seng, Director of the Central Department of Public Order, General Commissariat of the National Police and H.E Hun Many, Parliamentarian and President of the Union of Youth Federation to discuss the recommendations of the joint statement "Motorcycle passengers, including children, must wear helmets."

More than 100 stakeholders from the private sector, civil society, and international community have endorsed the joint statement urging the government to pass comprehensive helmet legislation. Earlier this month, CHVI's work to endorse the joint statement was highlighted in the UN Secretary General's report *Improving road safety* as an example of how non-profit organizations and governments around the world are working together to increase road safety.



“The passage of the new law mandating child and adult passenger helmet use will greatly reduce road fatalities and serious head injuries,” said Lt. General Chan Kim Seng. “While the law is still under review, Cambodia continues suffering the devastating consequences from road traffic crashes every day.”

About the Asia Injury Prevention Foundation

The Asia Injury Prevention Foundation (AIP Foundation) is a U.S. registered 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that uses public-private partnerships, public awareness education, and school-based programs to reduce the rate of traffic injuries and fatalities in developing countries. AIP Foundation has offices in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Phnom Penh, Cambodia; Bangkok, Thailand; and Chengdu, China in addition to offices in Africa. In 2001, AIP Foundation built its non-profit helmet assembly plant, V-SPEC, which manufactures Protec brand tropical helmets. These helmets offer an environmentally appropriate, safe and affordable option for motorcycle and bicycle users.

In 2009, AIP Foundation, in collaboration with the FIA Foundation and the World Bank, launched the Global Helmet Vaccine Initiative (GHVI), an international coalition with the objective of “putting a helmet on every head in the Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-2020).”

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