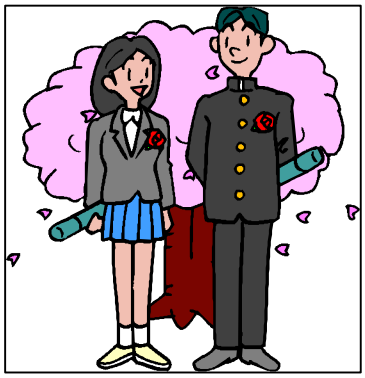
Asian Breeze (15)

(亜細亜の風)

15 April, 2011

Happy Spring to you



Dear Coordinators and Facilitators in the Asia/Pacific. First of all, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your concerns, sympathy and condolences for the loss of "The 2011 off the Pacific coast of Tohoku Earthquake" which happened on 11 March. Although the cherry blossoms are now in full bloom in Tokyo, which is a symbol of happy occasion for everybody especially school kids and freshmen, the mood is little different this year because of 3.11 earthquake. This is the worst tragedy Japan has ever experienced in the past. The damage scale was more than three times as much as Kobe's earthquake (death toll is 6,433) in 1995. Very sad news this is, I featured this tragedy in detail at the end of this issue.



In this issue, I received the wonderful article from Cambodia who now celebrates the Happy Khmer New Year from 14 to 16 April. Cambodia coordinators featured Phnom Penh International Airport, Siem Reap International Airport and Sihanoukville International Airport. Since there are many mysterious tourist spots in this country, I hope you will enjoy reading it.

Happy Khmer New Year – Year of Rabbits



Wish You All The Best! New Year New Success!

Let's celebrate together from 14 April 2011 to 16 April

Country of Cambodia

The Kingdom of Cambodia is located in Southeast Asia. It has borders with Thailand to the west and northwest, Laos to the northeast, Vietnam to the east, and the Gulf of Thailand to the southwest. The geography of Cambodia is dominated by the Mekong River and Tonlé Sap Lake.



The Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy with King Norodom Sihamoni as Head of the State, and Prime Minister Hun Sen as Head of Government. Phnom Penh is the Kingdom's capital and largest city, and the center of political, commercial, industrial and cultural activities as well. Siem Reap is the gateway to the UNESCO World Heritage Angkor temples archaeological complex, the country's main tourism destination. Battambang, a city located in northwestern Cambodia is known for its rice production. Sihanoukville, a coastal city, is the primary deep sea port and beach resort.

Cambodia has an area of 181,035 square kilometers and a population of 14,494,293 people. A citizen of Cambodia is usually identified as "Cambodian" or "Khmer", although the latter strictly refers to ethnic Khmers. Theravada Buddhism is the official religion of Cambodia, which is practiced by around 96.4% of the Cambodian population. The country's minority peoples include Vietnamese, Chinese, Cham (or Muslim) and various hill tribes. About 54.6% of Cambodia's population comes from ethnic Khmer origin.

Agriculture has long been the most important sector to the Cambodian economy, with around 67.9% of the population relying on agriculture for their livelihood (with rice being the principal crop). Other important sectors include garments, construction and tourism - foreign visitors to Angkor Wat numbered more than 4 million in 2007. In 2005, oil and natural gas deposits were found beneath Cambodia's territorial waters, and once commercial extraction begins in 2011, oil revenues could significantly affect Cambodia's economy.

Tourism in Cambodia

The tourism industry is the country's second-greatest source of hard currency after the textile industry. In 2007 visitor arrivals were 2 million, an increase of 18.5% over the same period in 2006. Most visitors (51%) arrived through Siem Reap with the remainder (49%) through Phnom Penh and other destinations. Other tourist destinations include Sihanoukville in the south east which has several


Angkor Wat

popular beaches, and the area around Kampot and Kep including the Bokor Hill Station. Tourism has increased steadily year on year since the 1993 elections overseen by the United Nations.


Royal Palace -Throne Hall


National Museum of Cambodia

Phnom Penh International Airport (PNH)

Phnom Penh International Airport (IATA: PNH, ICAO: VDPP) is the largest and busiest airport in Cambodia. It is located 7 km (3.8 NM) west of Phnom Penh, the nation's capital. There is one runway, which is 3,000 m (9,843ft) and its orientation is 05/23.

On July 6, 1995, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) signed a concession agreement with the French - Malaysian joint venture company named Société Concessionnaire de l'Aéroport (SCA), to operate Phnom Penh (PNH) - Phnom Penh International Airport. The concessionaire was appointed, within the framework of a Build-Operate-Transfer (B-O-T) contract, to design, finance, build, operate and maintain the airport.



In return for a 20-year concession, SCA - 70 percent owned by France's group VINCI and 30 percent by a Malaysian-Cambodian consortium called Muhibbah Masteron Cambodia - committed to an ambitious improvement program. Up to date, a new 20,000-square meter international and domestic terminal, a USD 32 million investment, was built; the apron has enlarged to accommodate 14 aircraft parking stands and a new 6,500-square meter cargo terminal was erected. The airside capacity has been upgraded, including: the enlargement of the runway width to 45 meters, and a new 1,300-meter parallel taxiway. The airport's passenger capacity is currently 2 million and could ultimately reach over 8 million passengers.

From 1995 to 2002, passenger traffic at PPIA experienced an increase of 54 percent, going from 650,000



passengers (arrivals and departures) to nearly one million passengers (arrivals and departures). The million mark was crossed in 2004 and double-digit growth experienced up to 2007. In 2010, passenger output totaled 1.7 million passengers. To cope with the growth, SCA has invested amounting to over USD 105 million.

Siem Reap International Airport (REP)

Siem Reap International Airport (IATA: REP, ICAO: VDSR) is the country's second busiest airport but overtook Phnom Penh's one for two years in 2006 and 2007. It is located near the city home to the Angkor Wat temples complex. The airport joined SCA's concession perimeter in September 2001.

Official inauguration of Siem Reap Angkor International Airport's new 13,000-square meter terminal was on August 28, 2006. The terminal can be further extended in the coming years. The airport resides at an elevation of 60 feet (18 m) above mean sea level. It has one runway designated 05/23 with a concrete surface measuring 2,550m by 45 m (8,366 × 148 ft).

The main upgrading works involved the enlargement of the runway to 45 meters and a new 700-meter taxiway commissioned in 2004. The apron has been significantly enlarged and has currently 16 aircraft parking bays (from 5 initially). The ILS, allowing safe aircraft approach under any weather conditions, was also installed in 2009.

A new VIP terminal is under way. The works have started and it should be completed in the beginning of year 2012. Also, a new 6,500-square meter building completed in 2007.



From 2000 to 2008, passenger traffic at SRIA had experienced a strong increase and was multiplied by 4 (from 200,000 pax/year to 1.7 m pax/year). In 2010, passenger output amounted to 1.6 million. The airport capacity is 6 million passengers per year. SCA has incurred an investment amounting to USD 85 million to date.

Sihanoukville International Airport (KOS)

Sihanoukville International Airport (IATA: KOS, ICAO: VDSV), located 18 km east of Preah Sihanouk Province, is Cambodia's third international airport. The IATA code KOS dates from Sihanoukville's former name Kompong Som.



The airfield was originally constructed in the 1960"s with assistance from the Soviet Union. After a long period of dormancy during and after the Khmer Rouge era, the airport formally reopened on January 15, 2007. The airport's runway had been extended to 2,500m, which will allow it to accommodate jet airplanes such as the Boeing 737 and A 320. Studies are carried-out to build a new 4,000-meter-runway.

The airport was incorporated within SCA concession contract in 2006 and with it the overall contract term has been extended to year 2040. Up to 2010, the concessionaire has invested USD 30 million. The terminal floor plan has doubled since SCA took over the concession of the airport. Surface plan is 1,000 square meters and passenger handling capacity is 700,000pax/year.

Traffic is sporadic and currently relies on charter flights. Potential demand conflicts with lack of offer by airlines. Also the destination needs strong promotion to compete against other established resort destinations such as Phuket, Langkawi or Bali, to name a few.

To address that issue, SCA has been organizing a series of "Fam Trips" to attract Korean or Japanese tourists and is planning to invite French tourists in the next coming months. Due to the immense potential of Sihanoukville, which both caters tourism and commercial activities, the airport, declared international in 2009, is to become the kingdom's busiest airport with a capacity of 10 million passengers a year.



Self Introduction of our staff members

Cambodia has never had a National Air carrier since Royal Air Cambodge (RAC), which began operations in 1994, entered into bankruptcy in October 2001 due to heavy losses and ceased all operations. RAC was a major to manage the Airport slot time and ground handling services in Siem Reap and Phnom Penh international Airports.

In response to the operational requirement, The State Secretariat of Civil Aviation (SSCA) Cambodia has assumed the role of Cambodia Slot Committee for Schedule Coordination of Cambodia International Airports (CIAs) since July 2004 under the division of Flight Operation and Air Safety department to take up the schedule coordination function to covers all flight schedule/ non-schedule including ad-hoc flights which operate to/from both three airports: Phnom Penh International Airport, Siem Reap International Airport and Sihanoukville International Airport.







FIRST ROW: (From left to right)

Mr. Chhun Sivorn - Deputy Director of Flight Operation and Air Safety Department and Chairman of Slot Committee

Mr. KEO Sivorn - Director of Flight Operation and Air Safety Department and Head Delegation of Slot Coordination

SECOND ROW: (From left to right)

Mr. OUK Soben - Deputy Manager of Slot Coordination

Miss. ROS Sreynoch - Slot Coordinator Assistant

Introduction of our computer system

Currently we are using a Self-created slot management system.

Location Map of our office

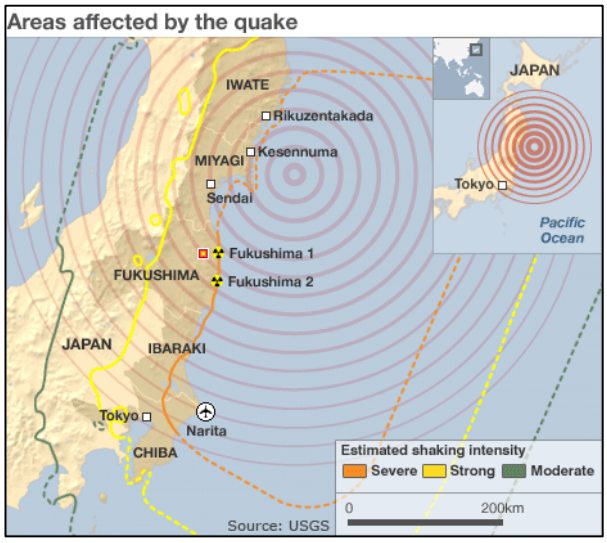
The Slot Committee office is located in The Phnom Penh International Airport with address of PO Box 1256 - National Road No4, Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia.

The location map is shown right: (Please refer to the second blue building)



Earthquake and Tsunami in Japan

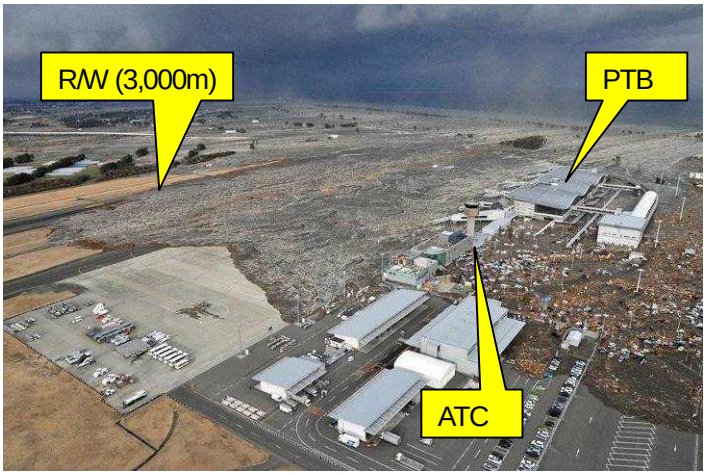
"The 2011 off the Pacific coast of Tohoku Earthquake" was a 9.0 magnitude undersea mega-thrust earthquake off the coast of Japan that occurred at 14:46 JST (05:46 UTC) on Friday 11 March, 2011. The epicenter was approximately 72 km (45 mi) east of the Oshika Peninsula, with the hypocenter at an underwater depth of approximately 32 km (20 mi). The probability of the earthquake of this magnitude is said to be once in thousand years. Severely damaged areas were Iwate, Miyagi, Fukushima, Ibaraki and Chiba Prefectures whose coast line is almost 800Km assaulted by Tsunami.



The earthquake triggered extremely destructive Tsunami waves of up to 23.6 m (77 ft) that struck Japan minutes after the quake, in some cases traveling up to 10 km (6 mi) inland, with smaller waves reaching many other countries after several hours. Tsunami warnings were issued and evacuations ordered along Japan's Pacific coast and at least 20 other countries, including the entire Pacific coast of North America and South America.

It is reported today that death toll is 13,538, injured 4,920 and missing is 14,589. The number of death is still increasing, since Tsunami washed out the whole villages and towns in these areas. It is also reported 90% of the cause of death is drowning and 10% is earthquake implying how strong Tsunami wave was.

The worst hit was Miyagi Prefecture (death toll: 8,275) which is the closest to the epicenter. Sendai Airport which is located in Miyagi Prefecture and about 1.5km from the Pacific coast was assaulted by Tsunami. The aerial picture of Tsunami attack on Sendai Airport is shown left. Tsunami is washing out the runway (3,000m), taxiway, apron, terminal building and ATC tower. Tsunami carried away all the aircraft, cargo containers, ground handling equipments and all the cars parked in front of the terminal building. After Tsunami assault, passenger terminal building was left isolated in water for whole two days leaving about 1,400 passengers and building staff in the building. They were rescued by Japan Self Defense Forces (JSDF) on 13 March.



The satellite pictures of Sendai Airport before and after Tsunami are shown in the next page. As shown, the

runway, taxiway and terminal building were covered with dirt and debris. You will also notice that all the houses and windbreak forest have gone entirely in the area. As salt water was pumped out and the dirt and debris were removed from the runway by JSDF with a help of US military, 1,500m runway was successfully recovered for transporting of relief goods and foods with VFR operations on 16 March. Then, the commercial jet service has resumed on 13 April. It took whole month to reopen 3,000m runway, since the terminal building, access railway, such navigational aids as ILS and VOR/DME and ATC radar and communication equipment had to be repaired.





Second hit was Iwate Prefecture (death toll: 3,900) where there are many fjords (fiords) or notched shaped ports and harbors along Pacific coast. There are many towns and villages specialized in fishing and fishery deep inside these fjords. Deeper inside fjord Tsunami wave reaches, much higher Tsunami wave gets which destroyed the whole towns and villages in these areas. At one town, one third of municipal government employees including a town headman lost their lives by Tsunami which makes it extremely difficult for the town to make restoration plan.



Third hit was Fukushima Prefecture (death toll: 1,300) where the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant No.1 operated by Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO) is located. There are six separate boiling water reactors at this plant where 4, 5 and 6 reactors had been shut down prior to the earthquake for planned maintenance. The remaining 1, 2 and 3 reactors were automatically shut down after the earthquake, but the subsequent 14 meters Tsunami flooded the plant, knocking out emergency generators needed to run pumps which cool and control the reactor.

The JSDF, Tokyo and Osaka Fire Department dispatched many fire engines to project water to cool down the spent nuclear fuel storage pools inside the 3 and 4 reactors units. In parallel with the projection of water by fire engines, the power transmission line was restored to run the original pump inside the reactor units.

While the repairing work for original pumping system to cool down the reactor is still undergoing, 1, 2 and reactors has been stabilized now. Although there was a leakage of radioactive material from this plant at the beginning of this accident, the effect of radiation to human body in Tokyo was negligible since Fukushima is 220km apart.



International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and International Air Transport Association (IATA) made the following statements in conjunction with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Maritime Organization (IMO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), on 18 and 19 March, 2011. International flight operations can continue normally into and out of Japan's major airports. These six organizations confirmed that there are no restrictions to normal air transport operations at Japan's major airports, including both Haneda and Narita.

In addition, Japan Civil Aviation Bureau (JCAB), Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), has officially opened the special website which regularly updates radiation levels and operational status not only at Narita and Haneda, but also at other major airports in Japan. (http://www.mlit.go.jp/koku/flyjapan_en/)


Narita International Airport


Haneda International Airport

WWACG/15 and APACA/2 meeting at SC128

The fifteenth Worldwide Airport Coordinators Group (WWACG) meeting will be held from 13:30 to 15:30 on Wednesday 22 June at SC128 in Gothenburg. The meeting room for WWACG/15 is Room G3 on 1st Floor of Svenska Massan/ The Swedish Exhibition & Congress Center. This WWACG/15 meeting is very important

because there will be an election of Core Group Members (7 countries) and the chairman of WWACG. Much attendance as possible from Asia/Pacific regions is desired for this meeting.

The second Asia/Pacific Airport Coordinators Association (APACA) meeting will be held from 18:00 to 19:00 on Thursday 23 June. The meeting room for APACA/2 is Room G3 on 1st floor of the Swedish Exhibition & Congress Center. The agenda of APACA/2 meeting will be circulated soon.

Reminder of WWACG web update

It was agreed with IATA management that from now on the SHL and SAL distribution date for your airports should be posted directly on the WWACG website. Since the SHL deadline is now approaching, it is very important that all Coordinators and Schedule facilitators in the world have their identification (ID) and password (PW) in order to access the members' area of the website. Those who have not sent their wished ID and PW to WWACG secretary should do so very quickly now. Ms. Audrey SANGLIER is going to help in the administration of the WWACG and she can be reached by mail at the following Email address: secretary@wwacg.org

From the Chief Editor

Thank Cambodia for your valuable contribution for this issue. You must be enjoying the Happy Khmer New Year right now. As you have many nice tourist spots, I would like to visit your country in the future.



One month has already passed since 3.11 earthquake. It is reported that 135 countries and regions as well as 39 international organizations have expressed their intentions to extend their assistance for the reconstruction of the stricken areas.

In addition, a government has set up the Reconstruction Design Council that started on 14 April to draw up ways to revive the devastated Tohoku area. It will present its final proposals by the end of June. Cabinet members will then draft a reconstruction plan based on the proposals. Japan is now united into one to overcome this unprecedented tragedy. I hope Japan will revive again as soon as possible. I really appreciate your understand and support.